NATIONAL

President U Win Myint receives representatives from ASEAN, Ministers from China, Japan, ROK

U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received representatives from ASEAN countries attending the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime and related meetings at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 2pm yesterday.

During the meeting, President U Win Myint expressed his delight, saying that the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime was a success, since cooperation between the countries in the ASEAN region is important and supporting dialogues between ASEAN partners is also important, as transnational crimes are very serious, and was discussed in the ASEAN leaders meetings, noting that terrorism is also threatening the security and stability of the region.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Ministers Rear Admiral Myint Nwe, Maj-Gen Than Htut and other officials were present at the meeting.

The delegates from ASEAN countries included Minister for Defence of Brunei Pehin Datu Lailaranaj Major General (Retired) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Halbi bin Haji Md Yussof, Secretary of State Gen. Meach Sophana from Cambodia, Police General Prof. H. Muhammad Tito Karnavian from Indonesia, Vice Minister for Public Security of Lao Police Major General Somvang Thanmasith, U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, receives representatives from ASEAN countries attending the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime and related meetings. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Ki visits Popa Taung Kalat to inspect the long-term development and greening works on Mt. Popa yesterday. PHOTO: KO THAR BYAW

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi paid homage to the Pyitaw Aye Pagoda on Popa Taung Kalat, and inspected the long-term development and greening works on Mt. Popa yesterday.

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi paid homage to the Pyitaw Aye Pagoda on Popa Taung Kalat, and inspected the long-term development and greening works on Mt. Popa yesterday. PHOTO: KO THAR BYAW

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party visited other pagodas on Popa Taung Kalat, where they observed the area’s development and the status of the greening work on Mt. Popa, while the Chief Minister and officials provided explanations.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party then went to Popa Taung Kalat Aung Dhammayone, where Myanmar Geosciences Society secretary U Than Tun explained about the organization of the society, their aims, geological survey findings, field visits conducted in cooperation with various organizations, the status of developing Khakaborazi, Indawgyi, Twin Taung (Monywa), Mt. Popa, Pindaya, Inle Lake and Mt. Zwegabin as “Mother Earth Sites”, and discussed the future plans of the society.

Next, Myanmar Geosciences Society Vice President U Sone Han and member U Cho Oo explained about...
President U Win Myint receives representatives from ASEAN, Ministers from China, Japan, ROK

FROM PAGE-1

Secretary General Dato’ Alwi Bin Hj Ibrahim from Ministry of Home Affairs of Malaysia, Undersecretary General Bernardo C. Florece, Jr. (Retd.) from the Department of Home Affairs of Philippines, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Singapore Amrin Amin, Deputy Minister of Interior Suthee Markboon from Thailand, Deputy Minister of Public Security of Viet Nam Senior Lieutenant General Le Quy Vuong, Deputy Minister of Public Security of China Du Hang Wei, Matsumoto Mitsuhiro from Japan National Police Agency, Vice Minister of Justice of Republic of Korea Kim O-su and Secretary General of ASEAN Lim Jock Hoi. —MNA (Translated by Myat Thandar Aung)

Hluttaw meetings’ organizing central committee, work committees hold coordination meeting

THE coordination meeting (4/2018) of the central committee and work committees in charge of organizing Hluttaw meetings was held at the Hluttaw Building Zabuthiri Hall yesterday.

At the meeting, U T Khun Myat, patron of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, said that the Hluttaw meetings are to be resumed on November 12, noting that the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw has already sent invitations to Hluttaw representatives to attend regular sessions of the Hluttaw, no earlier than 10 days and no later than 11 days. The incoming Hluttaw meetings will be prioritized for the process of discussion and approval of bills, as well as Hluttaw procedures. Moreover, an announcement regarding the duration of the Hluttaw will be published, and reorganization of organizing of the Hluttaw meetings’ central committee and work committees are to be made, in line with present conditions. Also, open discussions are welcomed regarding the difficulties of the work.

Also, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Maha Win Khaing Than said that Hluttaw meetings had been successfully held, with the help of Union Ministries, and they can successfully hold Hluttaw meetings, such as the previous Hluttaws, if the central committee and working committees can coordinate the relevant work requirements.

Then Union ministers, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries and officials from respective committees clarified the conditions of the sector-wise work committees. Following this, the Hluttaw Speaker made his remarks about the proposals and concluded the meeting. Also present at the meeting were Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Development Chairman U Tun Tun Aung, alias U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe, deputy ministers, work committee secretaries and officials from Hluttaw offices. —MNA (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein receives AVP East Asia Director

PYITHU Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Joint Coordination Committee on Hluttaw Development Chairman U Tun Tun Hein received Australian Volunteers Program (AVP) East Asia Director David Sharman Selvidge at the Nay Pyi Taw Hluttaw Building, in the Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker’s Office, yesterday morning.

During the meeting, matters relating to AVP providing effective help for development works and increasing cooperation with the Joint Coordination Committee on Hluttaw Development were discussed and views exchanged. —MNA
State Counsellor inspects Mt. Popa long term ...

FROM PAGE-1

Popa Taung Kalat, the reason for landslides, works conducted to prevent landslides in the future, as well as preventive and maintenance works still be done. The State Counsellor urged the group to think in terms of the future when conducting preventive and maintenance work, after asking questions.

This was followed by Forest Department Director General Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw offering more information about development work on Mt. Popa, establishment of the Mt. Popa garden, the existing bio-diversity, arrangements made to the proposed UNESCO Global Geoparks, the location of ground water outlets in the garden, the status of conducting maintenance works and research projects, the status of establishing nature-based travel businesses, as well as the difficulties being faced during the ongoing development of the area.

Later, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her party, led by the Myanmar Geosciences Society Vice President, met with groups led by Mt. Popa Lovers Association chairman U Toe at the Sagawa Garden Hotel and discussed matters relating to sustained existence of Mt. Popa and the greening of the Popa region. After this meeting, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party left NyaungU by special plane, returning to Nay Pyi Taw in the afternoon. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

10th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE 10th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (10th ASEM) was held, under the theme “Promoting lifelong learning for ASEAN region through conducting qualified education and training classes”, on 31 October at the Kempinski Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi acted as Chair at the meeting.

The participants took part in the discussion regarding the education sectors in the ASEAN nations, SHARE EU Project of the ASEAN Education Sector for youths, scholarship privileges, risks and benefits of a fourth industrial revolution for the ASEAN regions, technology, professions, education, training courses, founding of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) project in ASEAN, and Regional Cooperation Programme to improve the Quality and Labour Market Orientation of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (RECOT-VET). Other topics included the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Education for out-of-school Children and Youths, measures on equality in education in the ASEAN region, emergence of a framework of equality for basic education in ASEAN countries, increasing educational productivity for out-of-school children, dissemination of knowledge, and improving literacy and arithmetic. The participants also discussed the founding of a people-centered ASEAN community, ensuring they would build safe and secure schools for students, the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM), peace and human rights education in the ASEAN region, the formation of ASEAN awareness in high school education in ASEAN member countries, the founding of the first ASEAN-Russia Executive Committee and ASEAN-China Educational process.

During the meeting, SEAMEO, RIHED, the Asian University Network (AUN), ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net), ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQUN), ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework Committee (AQRF) and the results of the ASEAN Foundation (AF) were recorded. The 11 ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (11th ASEM) will be held in the Philippines in 2020. — MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)
National Land Use Council holds 2nd coordination meeting

Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivers the speech at the 2nd coordination meeting of the National Land Use Council in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

NATIONAL Land Use Council Chairman Vice President U Henry Van Thio addressed the second coordination meeting of the National Land Use Council held at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. The meeting was held to implement the aims, guidelines and basic principles in the national land use policy.

This was the second meeting of the National Land Use Council, that has been formed to carry out laws related to land use policies.

The first meeting was held on 6 April 2018, when decisions were made to effectively implement the work of the National Land Use Council by forming land use committees in states, regions and the Union Territory (Nay Pyi Taw); drawing up a national land law; forming supporting work committees, such as the committee to ensure land management laws are in line with one another; a committee to draw up and implement Myanmar’s national land map system; and a committee to draw up and coordinate land use projects. Other recommendations were to form a national advisory group on land use management and relevant ministries, state/region government members and the Nay Pyi Taw Council to propose numbers of committee members and representing organizations, duties and responsibilities.

“In this second meeting, it was determined that relevant ministerial departments, state/region governments and the Nay Pyi Taw Council are to submit and explain their proposals, in accordance with the decisions made at the first meeting,” said Vice President U Henry Van Thio.

Similarly, the first meeting decided on holding a workshop to set up the future priority work of the National Land Use Council. As per that decision, a forum on National Land Use Policy was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw from 2 to 3 October 2018, where strategies and work processes to effectively implement the duties and works of National Land Use Council were discussed and coordinated, the national land law drawn up based on the national land use policy, and a discussion took place regarding the management of land resources.

“Based on the outcome of the forum, National Land Use Council’s duties and responsibilities, which are in line with the national land use policy, are to be firmly implemented to establish a systematic and appropriate land management system in Myanmar; and to draw up a national land law,” said U Henry Van Thio.

About 70 per cent of the population of Myanmar resides in rural areas and depends upon agriculture and livestock breeding. An agriculture development strategy was drawn up for Myanmar’s agriculture sector development, and the aim of the strategy is to raise the living standard of small plot farmers in rural areas through a high yield weather resistant agriculture sector in Myanmar that is sufficient in food and nutrition, and can compete in the world market by 2030, he added.

Therefore, the management of farmland, as well as vacant, fallow and virgin land, needs to be improved, noting that small plot farmers and landless farmers have farm land use and rights and is a priority, with an agriculture policy and agriculture development strategy that seeks to conduct the main work processes strategically.

For the main work processes to be conducted effectively, it is required to form one of the National Land Use Council’s support committee agriculture development work committees, said the Vice President.

Four priority work processes will be conducted for the effective implementation of National Land Use Council’s duties and responsibilities, which will establish a proper land administration and management system to implement the aim, guidelines and basic principles of the National Land Use Policy.

The four work processes to form land use committees for regions, states and the Union Territory (Nay Pyi Taw), as well as form a national advisory group on land use and management, form supporting work committees, as well as strengthen the organization of a national land use council, drawing up a national land law, land management laws to be in accord with one another, drawing up and designating national land use projects and land use zones, and establishing a land information management system.

When carrying out these work processes, it is to be in accord with the aims, guidelines and basic principles of National Land Use Policy. During the day’s meeting, relevant ministries, state/region government members and the Nay Pyi Taw Council submitted works conducted on decisions made at the first meeting, and discuss future work processes. For the successful implementation of the National Land Use Council’s works and duties, members are to strive to perform their sector wise, region wise and assigned works, said the Vice President.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order No. 81/2018
5th Waning of Thadingyut 1380 ME
(29 October 2018)

Reorganization of UEHRD (Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine) Committee

1. The Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine Committee which has been established by Order No. 86/2017 dated 17 October 2017 by the Office of the President, has been reorganized with the following persons:

(a) Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Chairperson
State Counsellor
(b) Dr. Win Myat Aye Vice-Chairman (1)
Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
(c) U Khin Maung Tin Vice-Chairman (2)
Deputy Minister
Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor
(d) U Kyaw Lin Member
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Construction
(e) Dr. Aung Tun Thet Member
Chief Coordinator UEHRD
(f) U Toe Oung Member
Advisor to the UEHRD Chairperson
(g) U Kyaw Myaing Member
Information and Communications Director UEHRD
(h) U Soe Aung Secretary
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
(i) U Zaw Than Thin Joint Secretary
Permanent Secretary
Office of the Union Government

2. Duties of the UEHRD Committee are as follows:
(a) To carry out the effective provision of humanitarian aid.
(b) To coordinate the resettlement and rehabilitation efforts.
(c) To carry out regional development and work towards cessation of conflicts and durable peace.
(d) As the tasks would be carried out using cash assistance funded not only by the State but also by local and foreign donors, the committee must arrange for its financial accounts to be audited not only by the Union Auditor-General but also by an international audit firm.

3. The Chairperson may form a group of consultants as needed.

4. The Secretary is to establish the Committee Office and carry out administrative matters with the knowledge and approval of the Chairperson.

5. The administrative affairs of the committee are to be jointly carried out by the Office of the President and the Office of the State Counsellor.

(sd/-) Win Myint President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State and regional consultations on National Aquaculture Development Plan held yesterday in Mandalay

By Nyein Nyein

ENTREPRENEURS plan to contact European embassies to request the EU not revoke GSP, said Daw Khine Khine Nwe, the joint general secretary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The GSP is the Generalised Scheme of Preferences, a designation in which the EU allows developing countries to pay fewer or no duties on exports to the EU. “We are going to contact the European embassies soon,” she added.

Among the products sent to the EU, Myanmar's garment sector accounts for 72 per cent of the total exports. Should the EU revoke the GSP, it could adversely affect the entire environment related to the garment sector, according to business leaders.

Moreover, there are over 500,000 labourers in the garment sector, who are remitting US$ 32 million from their salaries to their families. In the event of the EU revoking the GSP, it could have a dramatic impact upon these opportunities, said Daw Khine Khine Nwe.

“The labourers are remitting certain portions of their earnings, amounting to $65 or $70 each, to their families. Most of the labourers are working in Yangon. Among them, 19 per cent of labour comes from Rakhine State. When we do the calculations, an estimated $6.1 million are being remitted to Rakhine State. So, we want them to know that the garment sector, which is a great source of income, is contributing materially to the families,” he added.

There are over 500 garment factories in Myanmar, 65 per cent of which are owned by foreign investors. Among them, 60 per cent of the garment owners are Chinese citizens and export garments mainly to European countries.

In 2018, Myanmar exported $930 million in garments to Germany, $523 million to the UK, $294 million to Spain, $266 million to France, $158 million to Denmark, $157 million to Italy and $145 million to the Netherlands.

The EU granted the GSP to Myanmar in 2013. However, EU trade commissioners announced on 5 October that they will send a commission to Myanmar to evaluate the lifting of the GSP due to the affairs in the Rakhine State.

An EU Trade investigation team visited Myanmar during the last week of October to observe human rights issues, as well as review trade disputes between employees, and working conditions. During the visit, they met with government ministries, the garment labourers, labour unions, members of UMFCCI and other societies and organizations.

The EU Trade investigation team will submit for discussions their findings to the EU Parliament, after which the EU will make a decision in regard to GSP matters based on their findings, evaluations and recommendations.

Once before the EU revoked the GSP for Myanmar in 2003. After 10 years, they granted GSP privileges again in 2013.
**Myanmar to speed up repatriation of returnees from Bangladesh**

U KYAW Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, attended coordination meeting 6/2018 of the Repatriation and Resettlement of Returnees Committee, held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

He noted that cooperation is also important, since the social issue has continued for years and is related to state politics and security.

He added that affairs in Rakhine State are being handled by the Central Committee on Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State, chaired by the State Counsellor, the UEHRD, the Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State, and the Working Committee for Repatriation and Resettlement of Returnees, with a similar committee to be formed, as necessary.

The Union Minister also called for the systematic implementation of decisions made during the first to fifth coordination meeting of the committee.

Next, Committee Vice-Chair 2 U Khin Maung Tin, who is also Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, discussed preparations for the repatriation process and the need to submit punctual reports about unusual occurrences.

Afterwards, Chairman of the Working Committee for Repatriating Returnees Deputy Minister U Soe Aung discussed the status of the Hla Poe Kaung Transit Centre and the resettled villages, including providing for education, healthcare and livelihoods. He also urged cooperation from all relevant departments.

The meeting continued with the attending committee members and secretaries submitting discussions for ongoing tasks, requirements and future plans, while union ministers responded to the discussions.—MNA

**Complaints can be made**

1. If a citizen’s Constitutional rights, rights prescribed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, rights prescribed in human rights related international conventions to which Myanmar has agreed upon are violated, complaint can be made to Chairman, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC), No. 27 Pyay Road, Hline Township, Yangon by registered mail by the violated person or persons themselves or on behalf of the violated person or group of persons. Following are to be included in the complaint.
   
   (a) Name, address and contact address (if available contact phone, mobile phone, fax and email are to be shown).
   
   (b) Full particulars about the violation, information, evidence are to be attached to the complaint.
   
   (c) Self-testimonial about the complaint being true.
   
   (d) Copy of the national registration identification card of the complainant.

2. When reviewing the complaint, if required MNHRC may interview the complainant.

3. In addition to this the complainant will be protected from reprisal in accordance with Commission Law section 38.—MNHRC

**One more political party applies for registration**

REGISTRATION of political parties are being scrutinized by the Union Election Commission (UEC), Arakan Front Party (AFP) came to UEC to register itself as a political party on 31 October 2018, it is learnt.—MNA

**Public Announcement for remonstration**

In accord with Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules, it is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party’s name, flag and emblem may submit a complaint along with the supporting evidence within seven days starting from issuance of this announcement. —Union Election Commission

**Union Minister receives Head of Indonesian National Police in Nay Pyi Taw**

U THAUNG Tun, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government received Head of the Indonesian National Police, Police General Prof. Dr. Tito Karnavian and delegation, on the sidelines of the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday at 10 a.m. at the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on Myanmar-Indonesia bi-lateral relations and cooperation on counter-terrorism matters. MNA

Union Minister U Thaung Tun meets with Police General Prof. Dr. Tito Karnavian, head of the Indonesian National Police, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

**ARAKAN Front Party (AFP) (a)**

ARAKAN Front Party (AFP) headquartered at No. Ya Ban, Shwe Ban Road, Oho Tan Ward in Sittway, Rakhine State, submitted an application for registration as a political party in accord with the Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 31-10-2018. In their application they mention that they will use the name, the flag and the emblem as described hereunder.

**Flag**

**Emblem**

COMPLAINTS can be made by the violated person or persons themselves or on behalf of the violated person or group of persons. Following are to be included in the complaint.

(a) Name, address and contact address (if available contact phone, mobile phone, fax and email are to be shown).

(b) Full particulars about the violation, information, evidence are to be attached to the complaint.

(c) Self-testimonial about the complaint being true.

(d) Copy of the national registration identification card of the complainant.

When reviewing the complaint, if required MNHRC may interview the complainant.

In addition to this the complainant will be protected from reprisal in accordance with Commission Law section 38.—MNHRC

**Photo: MNA**
Myanmar, Bangladesh agree to commence repatriation of first batch of verified displaced persons by mid November at the Joint Working Group Meeting

MYANMAR delegation led by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar visited Dhaka, Bangladesh from 29 to 31 October 2018 to attend the Third Meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) between Myanmar and Bangladesh on the Repatriation of Verified Displaced Persons. The delegation includes representatives from various Ministries and Rakhine State government.

The Third JWG Meeting was held at the State Guest House of Bangladesh on 30 October 2018. The Meeting was co-chaired by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh.

At the Meeting, both sides exchanged views and reviewed the repatriation process, including conducive environment, safety, security and confidence building for the prospective returnees, preparation for resettlement, verification process, dissemination of information among the returnees on information about National Verification Card (NVC), involvement of the United Nations Agencies, INGOs and international partners in the processes of repatriation, resettlement and reintegration.

At the meeting, both sides agreed to commence the repatriation of first batch by middle of November 2018. Both sides also discussed the situation of displaced persons staying on Myanmar territory close to the international boundary line between boundary pillar 34 and 35.

The Myanmar side informed the Meeting on its concerted efforts and preparations for the repatriation and resettlement process, including the UEHRD's ongoing activities, village plans, construction of villages, livelihood opportunities, education and healthcare services for the returnees, verification process, and the issuance of the National Verification Card (NVC).

Myanmar side also briefed the rapid need assessment by UNDP and UNHCR to village tracts in northern Rakhine State in September and October 2018 to support Myanmar Government’s efforts to improve the livelihood of all affected populations, build trust and promote social cohesion among all communities.

The Myanmar side reaffirmed its readiness to receive the verified displaced persons from Bangladesh in accordance with the bilateral agreements reached between the two countries for the repatriation of verified displaced persons from Bangladesh.

The Myanmar side stressed that mutual understanding and constructive cooperation based on the principles of objectivity, mutual respect and bilateral agreements will bring about positive outcome in the repatriation process.

Myanmar side sought cooperation of the Bangladesh side to take actions against ARSA terrorists including those verified as terrorists from the list of 8032 persons provided by Bangladesh.

On 31 October 2018, Myanmar members of JWG, accompanied by Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque and Bangladesh members of JWG, paid a field visit to Kutupalong Camp in Cox’s Bazar. Myanmar delegation met with the representatives of displaced persons and explained in detail on Myanmar Government’s efforts in the repatriation process, including safety and security for the prospective returnees, UEHRD’s activities for resettlement, rebuilding villages, livelihood opportunities, education and healthcare services for the returnees, issuance of the National Verification Card (NVC), and the benefits of holding NVC cards. Myanmar delegation also visited the Balukhali Camp in Ukhiya, Cox’s Bazaar.

The Myanmar delegation also met with the representatives of Hindu people who expressed their desire to return to Myanmar.

The Fourth Joint Working Group meeting will be held in Myanmar and the dates and venue will be communicated through the diplomatic channel according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

—MNA

100 Myanmar Classic Books Series expected to come out in December

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint held a coordination meeting with officials on publishing the three volumes of 100 Myanmar classic book series, seeking advice from the participants about publishing the series in a timely manner, as well as about setting the price for the books.

The series, arranged by the Sarpay Beikman of the Printing and Publishing Department, is a compilation of literature from the time of the Bagan era to successive eras, and is expected to be available in December.

The publishing of the books is also aimed at conserving rare and well-written literature, and to cultivate the reading habits of the youths of Myanmar.

Speaking at the coordination meeting on publishing the series, he also urged the participants to make suggestions about publishing another series of short stories, poems and plays.

At the meeting, Director General of the Printing and Publishing Department U Aung Myo Myint suggested changing the prices for the three 100 Myanmar classic book series, since the number of pages exceeded the earlier expectations.

The participants of the meeting took part in the discussion and the meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the Union Minister.

In the afternoon, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint and Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun visited The Global New Light of Myanmar Daily newspaper office on Nga Htet Gyaw Pagoda Road.

At the meeting with officials of the daily newspaper, the Union Minister called for revitalizing the editorial team, and publishing more articles and interviews in the newspaper.

Following the meeting, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint visited the newsroom and urged members of the editorial team to improve the quality of the newspaper.

The Union Minister and Deputy Minister met with staff and officials from the Global New Light of Myanmar, observed the workflow of the newsroom and urged the writing of colorful articles and interviews, while focusing on promoting the available human resource.

—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)
ANCIENT men were in the habit of writing on stone slabs, obelisks and stone walls about ways of life—culture, art and traditions—not to disappoint completely. These styles of writing are known as records in writing or stone inscriptions. By studying these stone inscriptions, their primitive beliefs, art and culture, and social backgrounds he guessed to help a lot to the history of a country.

A stone inscription can be found on a stone slab, obelisk or stone walls on which the habit of writing on stone slabs, obelisks and stone walls about ways of life—culture, art and traditions—not to disappoint completely. These styles of writing are known as records in writing or stone inscriptions. By studying these stone inscriptions, their primitive beliefs, art and culture, and social backgrounds he guessed to help a lot to the history of a country.

With the emergence of coffee growing countries in South-East Asia, such as in Indonesia, Thailand and Indonesia, Myanmar’s coffee sector had been hiding due to its weakness in techniques, a lack of education, advanced methodologies, and information, and the lack of proper infrastructure and financing in growing the coffee crop.

Coffee has found the global market and the prospects for Myanmar’s coffee sector is bright.

With the emergence of coffee growing countries, locally-grown coffee has found the global market and the prospects for Myanmar’s coffee sector is bright.

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10 great hornbills set free in Magway Region village

Ten great hornbill birds were released back to their reserve on 31 October, after being cared for by the Forestry Department. The hornbills were initially caught near milepost 53 on the Minbu-An Lan Highway, west of Goatgyi Village in Ngaphe Township, Minbu District, Magway Region.

There are many protected hornbills in the Natyaykan Mountain area. The birds we just released had been caught by a merchant from Magway Township. The collaboration was between the regional Forestry Department and A Lin Dan Group of young people from the mountainous region, made up of residents working to preserve the hornbill species,” said Ko Yan Naung Tun, an Asho Chin ethnic.

Present when the birds were released were Director U Myint Thein Khine and Assistant Director U Thein Naing Kyaw from Magway Region Forestry Department; Assistant Director U Khin Maung Soe from the District Forestry Department; Police Captain Aung Ko Naing from the regional Police Force, along with police officers; Deputy Administrator of Ngaphe Township U Tin Win; Head of Township Forestry Department U Moe Arkar Kyaw; and 75 local residents. The officials also discussed forestry conservation with the local residents. —Than Naing Oo (Ngaphe) (Translated by Myat Thandar Aung)

Yaba, drugs related items seized in Tachilek

A combination of teams of officers and staff members seized 75 Yaba tablets and drug-related items from a Myanmar citizen and four Thai citizens at Wan Kyauk Lone Village, Tachilek Town, Shan State (East) on 31 October. According to the investigation, the team searched the house of Sai Than at Wan Kyauk Lone Village and found 75 Yaba tablets. Four Thai citizens, identified as Sawitree A Aee, Jutharat Junjaila, Thump Sai Suphan and Jetsada Inphuk, were arrested, along with the host. Police have filed charges against them under section 19(A) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Lin Lat (MYu) (Translated by Hay Mar)

Drugs seized on ship in Buthidaung

Acting on a tip, anti-narcotics police from Buthidaung Township seized 975,000 Yaba pills weighing 975 kilograms from a cargo ship identified as the Aung Kyaw Moe on 1 November. According to the investigation, police searched the cargo ship, which is berthed at a jetty in Meikyatgar Seik ward, and found 975,000 Yaba pills weighing 975 kilograms and valued at Ks 1.9 billion. The pills were mixed with ice and fish inside containers.

The ship’s cargo clerk, U Kyaw Tin, 60, from Sittway Town, admitted that the U Aung Kyaw Tun (sittway) loaded those ice containers. The police have filed charges against the suspects, under sections 19-A /21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Township (IPRD) (Translated by Hay Mar)

Highspeed vehicle overturned in Myittha Tsp, 33 injured

A car overturned at mile post 44-45 on the Myingyan-Mandalay highway near Htet Htein Village, Myittha Township, Mandalay Region according to the information department of Myanmar Police Force.

The car, driven by Aung Zaw Moe, 42, skidded and overturned as it travelled at high speed. Thirty-three people were injured as a result. A case has been opened against Aung Zaw Moe at the Yitkan Police Station with Vehicle (Pa) 18/2018 under section 332/337 of the Penal Code.—GNLM (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)
Gov’t, Tatmadaw, EAOs, political parties discuss dialogue framework

**Results will be sent to UPDJC**

A meeting for reviewing the framework for political dialogue and guidelines to proceed was held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) on Shwe Li Street in Yangon yesterday.

The meeting will continue for three days, from 1 to 3 November, and those attending include members from government and Tatmadaw groups, ethnic armed organizations who have signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), and political parties.

Representing the government and Tatmadaw at the meeting was Peace Commission member U Aung Soe, representing the NCA signatories’ group was Dr. Salai Hljan Hmone Sar Khang, and representing the political parties’ group was U Myint Soe, all of whom delivered opening speeches.

In his speech, U Aung Soe said the meeting will consider methods of negotiation for amending the framework and discussing ways to improve it to ensure greater success.

He expressed his hope that all three groups present at the day’s meeting will be able to formulate the best guidelines for the UPDJC (Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee), secretaries, working committees and national-level political discussions for the upcoming 4th Session of the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong.

55 other countries.

Most Ven. Master Yan Jue, the Vice-Chair of the Buddhist Association of China, led the blessing ceremony and Mr. Yan Quan from the Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of China delivered the opening speech.

Next, Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko read a message of appreciation from the President of Myanmar and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sandima Bhivamsa and Sitagu Sayadaw Dr. Ashin Nyissara participated in discussions.

In the evening, Deputy Minister Mr. Wang Zuoan from the State Religious Affairs Department held a meeting with government representatives from the Mekong Region countries of China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Viet Nam and Cambodia.

At the meeting, attendees discussed the formation of a central Buddhist association overseeing six countries in the Lancang-Mekong area and the Union Minister said Myanmar will actively cooperate in the formation of the association. He said the association will ensure the proliferation of Buddhism and regional assistance for social affairs and natural disaster if it is formed, to which the Mekong Region representatives expressed agreement.

On 30 October, the delegation led by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sandima Bhivamsa and the delegation led by the Union Minister arrived at Kaiyuan monastery in Quanzhou and paid obeisance to Head Abbot Tou Yan before touring the monastery’s compound. Kaiyuan monastery was built in AD 686, during the Tang dynasty 1,300 years ago.

Afterwards, the Myanmar delegations attended the closing ceremony of the 5th World Buddhist Forum and departed from China on 31 October. They landed in Yangon in the evening of the same day. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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**Record of discussion signed for Dawei SEZ two-lane highway**

The Department of Highways and the Neighboring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency (NEDA) signed the Record of Discussion (ROD) in a ceremony yesterday for conducting a survey and detailed design project for the two-lane highway linking Dawei Special Economic Zone in Myanmar with Thailand.

The signing ceremony was held in Office No. 11 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw spoke at the ceremony and said the signing of the ROD will bring in technological assistance for building the highway. He said the project will be undertaken with loans provided by NEDA.

Dawei SEZ is among three economic zones in Myanmar and will garner socio-economic development for Taninthayi Region, said the Union Minister. He said Dawei SEZ will allow easier transportation of fishery products from Taninthayi Region to Thailand and other countries, in addition to developing tourism. He concluded his speech by saying relevant ministerial departments will cooperate with the NEDA to swiftly implement the effective, beneficial project.

Next, NEDA President Mr. Perames Vudthitornetiraks addressed the ceremony and said the project is mutually beneficial and equally important for both Myanmar and Thailand. He expressed his hope for the project to be quickly implemented successfully and then thanked organizations from both countries involved in the project.

Afterwards, Director-General U Ohn Lwin from the Department of Highways and the NEDA President officially signed the ROD. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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THE 5th World Buddhist Forum opened in Putian, southeast China’s Fujian Province, on 29 October.

The Myanmar delegation led by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sandima Bhivamsa, Secretary of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko attended the forum along with government organizational representatives, esteemed guests and Buddhist associations from 55 other countries.

Most Ven. Master Yan Jue, the Vice-Chair of the Buddhist Association of China, led the blessing ceremony and Mr. Yan Quan from the Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of China delivered the opening speech.

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In his speech, U Aung Soe said the meeting will consider methods of negotiation for amending the framework and discussing ways to improve it to ensure greater success.

He expressed his hope that all three groups present at the day’s meeting will be able to formulate the best guidelines for the UPDJC (Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee), secretaries, working committees and national-level political discussions for the upcoming 4th Session of the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong.

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Afterwards, the Myanmar delegations attended the closing ceremony of the 5th World Buddhist Forum and departed from China on 31 October. They landed in Yangon in the evening of the same day. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)
**12th AMMTC concludes, approves action plan on fighting terrorism**

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe attends the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

The 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime met the press following the conclusion of the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting approved the outcome of the 22nd DG-ICM and related meeting where citizens of ASEAN member countries in a third country are to be assisted by ASEAN special groups in that third country, said Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe.

According to the statement released at the ceremony, the ASEAN work project (2018-2025) to prevent and eradicate emergence of terrorism and extremists, that was first drawn up in 2012, was approved.

The 13th AMMTC in 2019 is approved to be hosted by Thailand.

The result of the 18th SOMTC and related meeting held in Malaysia on September 2018 decided that the 19th SOMTC will be held in Myanmar and will discuss and work toward establishment of effective prevention programs against terrorism, human trafficking, cyber-crime, arms smuggling, poaching and trading of wild animals.

In correlation to the ASEAN work project (2018-2025), a decision was reached to explain and discuss yearly wise and country wise implementing projects in 19th SOMTC.

On 1 November, the 9th AMMTC+3 was continued and was attended by ministerial levels of the ten ASEAN member countries, ASEAN Secretary General and dialogue partners China, Japan and Korea. The meeting approved three matters and made decisions on one matter.

In eradicating transnational crime, ASEAN member countries and dialogue partner China, Japan and Korea’s cooperation against terrorism, cyber-crime and human trafficking will continue implementing the work processes that were approved of earlier.

An approval was made to submit Korea’s cyber capacity raising proposal for 2019 to the ASEAN Secretariat and to gain the comment of the member countries.

Thailand was approved to host the 10th AMMTC+3 in 2019.

It was decided that the 2019 work programs of dialogue partner China, Japan and Korea are to be distributed to member countries through the ASEAN Secretariat General office and comments of the member countries are to be sent in a timely manner.

Requirements to prevent and eradicate transnational crimes that are occurring in ASEAN region and associate countries, challenges and work methods and arrangements were first discussed at the working group level, and then submitted to SOMTC (Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime), an alternating country host, the SOMTC yearly and discussion outcomes of SOMTC and work projects were submitted to AMMTC.

TRADEMARK CAUTIONARY NOTICE

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in respect of Class 3: "Cosmetics; hair colorants; hair dyes; hair bleaches; soaps and detergents; shampoos; hair conditioners; hair waving preparations; hair styling agent; hair lotions; cakes of toilet soap; bleaching powders; washing preparations; polishing preparations; polishes; grinding preparations; perfumery; essential oils; cosmetics for skin care; dentifrices; bleaching preparations [decolorants] for cosmetic purposes".

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For KABUSHIKI KAISHA DARIYA (trading as DARIYA CO., LTD.)

Dow Khin Khin Zaw, LL.B, LLM, Advocate

LawPlus Myanmar Ltd.

Phone: +9 43046833

Dated: 2nd November 2018

Myanma Port Authority “Notice of High Tide”

Exceptionally high spring from 20.15 feet to 20.30 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of November 7th to November 9th, 2018. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

**M.V BLPL TRUST VOY. NO. (1823 N/S)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL TRUST VOY. NO. (1823 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-11-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE**

**M.V ANAN BHUM VOY. NO. (229 N/S)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ANAN BHUM VOY. NO. (229 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-11-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIM'S NOTICE**

**M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0265-482 W/E)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0265-482 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-11-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185
Flippin’ hard: Myanmar’s sea turtles fight against the odds

THAMEEHLA ISLAND (Myanmar) — Peril plagues the lives of Myanmar’s baby turtles: if crabs don’t get them before they scramble from beach to sea, then poachers or fishing trawlers might finish them off instead.

Myanmar’s waters boast five of the world’s seven sea turtle species, including the critically endangered hawksbill, the endangered green turtle and the olive ridley, leatherback and loggerhead turtles – all listed as vulnerable.

“If we don’t conserve the turtles properly, they will all disappear in the near future,” head ranger Phone Maw tells AFP on Thameehla island in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta.

The 56-year-old has devoted most of the last two decades to the creatures, scouring the island’s 1.5-mile (2.5-kilometre) long coastline three times a night for nesting females.

The reptiles, which can grow to more than a metre in length and weigh as much as a large piano, lay around 100 eggs in a hole dug with their hind flippers before covering the clutch with sand and returning to the water.

Poachers are the first danger, even at this conservation site dedicated to the marine reptiles. Turtle eggs can sell for a dollar each, around 10 times the price of a chicken egg.

Crab gauntlet

So Phone Maw and his colleagues dig up the newly laid eggs and rebury them in a protected area until they hatch 50 to 60 days later. Putting them back at the right depth is crucial.

Sea turtles have temperature-dependent sex determination — warmer temperatures produce more females while cooler temperatures result in more males.

Once hatched, the rangers release the baby turtles onto the beach and into the sea, where myriad predators await.

AFP watched as an army of red crabs scuttled towards the hatchlings only to be driven away by some Hatchlings while more fortunate siblings floundered to the frothy waters, the first hurdle of their existence completed.

But trawler nets are the biggest culprit in the turtles’ dwindling population, entangling the creatures which must surface to breathe.

Illegal dynamite fishing and sand dredging are also lethal and the effect of marine pollution has been devastating.

Southeast Asia’s waters are choked with plastic and more than half of the eight million tonnes dumped into the world’s oceans each year comes from just five countries: China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand.

In June, a dead green turtle washed up on a Thai beach, its stomach jammed with plastic shreds, rubber bands and other debris.

Days before, an autopsy of a pilot whale revealed 80 plastic bags inside.

This week a WWF report warned that unbridled human consumption had destroyed much wildlife worldwide, wiping out 60 percent of all fish, birds, amphibians, mammals and reptiles in the last half century. Just two out of every 1,000 turtle hatchlings used to survive until adulthood, Phone Maw says. “Now it’s even lower because of all the pollution,” he adds sadly. —AFP

EU countries back single-use plastics ban

BRUSSELS — EU countries backed single-use plastics ban on Wednesday the outlawing of single-use items such as straws, cutlery, cotton buds and balloon sticks.

Work will begin next week to draft detailed legislation with a view to agreeing a text in December and having it enter into law in 2021.

The European Council, which groups the member states, supported ending the use of plastic products for which there are sustainable alternatives and wants to go further in apportioning responsibility for clearing up waste.

While the European Commission, the bloc’s executive arm, has suggested that clean-up costs should be paid by plastic producers, the council wants to see companies which import and sell the products pay a share as well.

The council also called for national targets to cut the consumption of single-use plastics where there is currently no environmentally-friendly alternative.

The commission has said single-use plastics account for some 70 percent of the waste in the oceans and beaches, and research last year appeared to show for the first time the widespread presence of plastics in the human food chain.

—AFP
Pregnant Meghan the star as Pacific royal tour ends

Hollywood Film Festival goes global in “two-way street”

Japan’s ‘usho’ keep alive the ancient art of cormorant fishing
Older dads’ kids run higher health risks at birth: study

PARIS (France)—Newborns of fathers 45 and older are more likely to be underweight or wind up in intensive care, researchers reported Thursday, adding to the list of problems associated with older dads.

For fathers 55 and up, infants tended to score worse in a standardized test used to assess the baby’s health immediately after birth.

Even more startling—and harder to explain—was a heightened risk for women carrying the child of a man 55 and older of diabetes arising during pregnancy, according to a study published in the medical journal BMJ.

All these conclusions, the researchers cautioned, are based on an analysis of medical records rather than a controlled experiment, which means no firm conclusions about cause-and-effect can be drawn.

The overall risk of such outcomes also remained low, they added. But the findings held true even after other factors that might skew the results—age of the mother, maternal smoking, level of education—were taken into account, they said.

“A significant number of these negative birth outcomes were estimated to be prevented if older fathers had elected to have children before the age of 45,” the scientists concluded.

“The risk associated with advanced paternal age should be included in discussions regarding family planning and reproductive counselling,”

The average age of fatherhood has been steadily rising in western Europe. In England, for example, fathers over 35 accounted for 40 percent of all births in 2003, compared with 25 percent in 1993.

To date, most research on the link between the age of parents and health outcomes in children has focused on older mothers.

But recent studies suggest that being a father later in life may also be associated with higher risks in offspring of autism, genetic abnormalities and mental

Breakthrough treatment helps paralysed patients walk

TOKYO (Japan)—A breakthrough treatment involving electrical stimulation of the spine has enabled paralysed patients to walk again, apparently reactivating nerve connections and providing hope for people even years after accidents.

A team including neurosurgeons and engineers used targeted electrical pulses to achieve the results, triggering individual muscles in a sequence, the way the brain would.

The pulses are produced by an implant placed over the spine in careful alignment with areas that control the muscles in the lower body. And so far, the results are promising. “This clinical trial has given me hope,” said Gert-Jan Oskam, 35, who was told he would never walk again after a traffic accident in 2011.

After five months of treatment, he can now walk short distances using a walker, using electrical stimulation, or take steps over shorter distances with the targeted stimulation.

Reconnecting nerve pathways

Footage from the study shows clearly the way the targeted stimulation differs from the continuous pulses. With the targeted stimulation, a patient walks in an almost ordinary fashion, his feet rolling down and up as he steps. The continuous stimulation, by contrast, produces jerky movement, with his feet dragging and unbalancing him.

And the targeted pulsing, combined with a programme of extensive physiotherapy, was apparently able to reactivate nerve connections that became dormant when patients were injured.

David Mizes, 29, suffered full paralysis of his left leg after an accident in 2010, but after the five-month programme, he can walk for up to two hours with a walker using electrical stimulation, or take steps over shorter distances by himself.

Newborns of fathers aged 55 and over tend to score worse in standardised health tests. PHOTO: AFP

Children born of fathers 45 or older were on average 20 grammes lighter, and had a 14 percent higher risk of low birth weight—less than 2.5 kilograms (5.5 pounds)—than infants born to younger dads.

These children were also 14 percent more likely to be admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit, and had 18 percent higher odds of experiencing a seizure compared with infants of fathers aged 25 to 34.—AFP

Galaxy ‘mega-merger’ 10 bn years ago forged Milky Way

PARIS—The Milky Way’s signature halo is mostly stellar rubble from a cosmic collision 10 billion years ago with another galaxy a quarter of its size, scientists stunned by their own discovery reported Wednesday.

The slow-motion crash with Gaia-Enceladus — named after the giant of Greek mythology born of Earth and Sky — not only provided the halo’s raw material, equivalent to 600 million Suns, it also filled out our galaxy’s distinctive disk, they reported in the journal Nature. “We have basically unravelled the formation of the Milky Way,” lead author Amina Helmi, an astronomer at the University of Groningen’s Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, told AFP.

“The merger led to what we now call the halo of our galaxy, and — because it was so massive — to the puffing up of the disk that was already present at the time.”

“We didn’t expect to find that most halo stars have a shared origin,” she added. Large galaxies get that way by absorbing lesser ones. But astronomers have long argued as to whether the Milky Way bulked up on a diet of baby star clusters, or by merging with a single Big One. Until this year, theories from either camp were supported mostly by thin reeds of speculative inference.

But that all changed with a massive data dump in April from the Gaia satellite mission. Put into orbit by the European Space Agency in 2013, Gaia has produced an unprecedented 3-D mapping of 1.7 billion stars, including more than a billion — one percent of the total — in the Milky Way. Repeated measurements by the satellite make it possible to calculate precise distances, and with the velocities with which each star is streaking through the Universe.

Crashing galaxies on rewind

Looking for tracers of galactic mergers with the Milky Way’s halo, the researchers found to their surprise that most of its stars were from the same immediate family. “The chemical signature was clearly different from the ‘native’ Milky Way stars,” Helmi said. “And they are a fairly homogenous group, which indicates they share a common origin.” Adding in measurements across the light spectrum, the researchers were able to reconstruct in three dimensions the precise motions of the invading stars over time.

“Playing these videos backwards allows astronomers to study how our galaxy was assembled, and how it has evolved,” noted Kim Venn, an astronomer at the University of Victoria in Canada, commenting on the study.—AFP
First-ever criterium bike race to be held in Mandalay

JOINTLY-organized by MSP CAT, Myanmar Cycling Federation and Ministry of Health and Sports, first-ever invitational criterium bike will be held in Mandalay Region on 11 November.

The race will cover Men’s U-23, Men’s Junior U-19, Open and Masters Categories.

Six participants each from Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, India and Myanmar will participate in the Men’s U-23 and Men’s Junior U-19 Categories. Some 100 local cyclists are to participate in the Open U-40 and Masters U-40 and above Categories.

“We are thrilled to host the first Criterium Bike Race in Myanmar. This event will be another noteworthy milestone for MCF as we look to continue enhancing the vibrancy of the local cycling scene. Our goal is to create a high-level event that will introduce the criterium cycling competition format, engage the community and ultimately promote cycling to more people,” said U Khin Maung Win, President of Myanmar Cycling Federation.

Cash prizes will be awarded to first three winners of each race category. The first prize for Men’s U-23 and Men’s Junior U-19 is US$ 2,000, the second US$1000 and the third US$ 500. The first prize for Open is Ks 500,000, the second Ks 300,000 and the third Ks 200,000. The first prize for Masters is Ks 300,000, the second Ks 200,000 and the third Ks 100,000. —Htut Htut (Twantay)

Myanmar Futsal to play debut against Indonesia in AFF Futsal Championship 2018 on 5 November

MYANMAR Futsal squad is going to play its debut against Indonesia in AFF Futsal Championship 2018 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 5 November. Indonesia will host AFF Futsal Championship 2018 from 5 to 11 November.

AFF Futsal Championship 2018 has been divided into two groups. Myanmar is in the Group-A together with host Indonesia, Malaysia and Cambodia. The Group-B is comprised of Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei and Timor Leste. Myanmar will play against host Vietnam on 5 November; Cambodia on November 6 and Malaysia on 7 November. Semifinal events will be held on November 9 and the final on 11 November.

As part of preparation for participating in the AFF Futsal Championship, Myanmar went on a friendly tour to China, took part in Jinsu International Friendly Futsal Cup at Zhonglain Lohas Park Sports Center in Qingdao from 16 to 19 October and secured the third-place prize. —Htut Htut (Twantay)

MYANMAR Football Federation (MFF) will sell advance tickets for the match of Myanmar and Cambodia of AFF Suzuki Cup 2018 starting on 7 November.

The match between Myanmar and Cambodia will be held at Mandalar Thiri Stadium in Mandalay at 6 pm on 12 November. The MFF will start selling advance tickets at Bahtoo Sports Ground and Mandalay Football Academy in Mandalay from 7 to 11 November. A grandstand ticket costs at K 5,000 and an ordinary ticket at K 3,000. Myanmar is in the Group-A together with Viet Nam, Malaysia, Cambodia and Laos. Myanmar will play home matches against Cambodia and Vietnam and away matches against Laos and Malaysia. —Htut Htut (Twantay)

Last-minute funding deal, Calgary vote keep alive Canada’s Winter Olympics bid

OTTAWA (Canada)—Calgary voted Wednesday to keep alive Canada’s bid for the 2026 Winter Olympics, after a last-minute funding deal was struck between Ottawa and the province of Alberta. The next hurdle is a plebiscite on 13 November.

After more than eight hours of often acrimonious debate, city councillors voted 8-7 in favor of a recommendation from the city’s Olympic committee to end their pursuit of hosting duties over a lack of cash from the central and provincial governments.

But it was not enough (10 were needed) to kill the bid.

Overnight Tuesday a deal between federal and provincial officials resulted in a proposal to fund most of the public costs, and effectively reduce Calgary’s share of the burden.

The agreement—which would see the original Can$3 billion (US$2.3 billion) public portion of the Games budget reduced by 10 percent and, along with it, each party’s share of the costs—has been validated by federal Sports Minister Kirsty Duncan and Alberta Premier Rachel Notley.

Hundreds of supporters of Canada’s bid, including former Olympians—most wearing Canada’s red and white colors—flooded into the Calgary city council chamber for the crucial vote.

Outside, they waved placards that read “Go Olympics” and “Don’t Luge this Calgary” at times breaking into chants of the national anthem. —AFP

In this file photo taken on 13 February 1988 fans cheer and wave flags as the Canadian delegation (lower right) parades during the opening ceremony of the XVth Winter Olympic Games 13 February 1988 in Calgary. PHOTO: AFP

2 NOVEMBER 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR