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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Wildlife conservation training held in Yinmabin

THE Forest Department opened a basic training course on the rule of law and wildlife conservation in Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park on 5 November, in cooperation with the Global Conservation.

The training will be conducted from 5 to 13 November with 26 attendees, including 19 staff members from Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park and seven local residents.

The opening ceremony included officers from the district-level related departments, township-level departments and trainees.

At the ceremony, Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division Director U Win Naing Thaw said the national park is one of the sites for foreign travellers to relax, as well as local visitors. By providing training courses, officials seek to reduce



Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division director U Win Naing Thaw and Mr. James Jeffrey Morgan from the Global Conservation explain about the basic training course at Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park yesterday.

PHOTO: SUPPLIED

the impact on the development of the tourism industry.

The training will provide the technology for administrators and staff of the national park to prevent illegal logging and hunt-

ing, the monetary management for garden conservation and the means to create sustainable income for local people.

Also, Mr. James Jeffrey Morgan from the Global Conserva-

tion explained the purpose of the training, while Freeland Thailand group provided hidden cameras and other forest related items.—
Than Htay Aung (Kani) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

FDA develops laboratories as part of project

By May Thet Hnin

THE Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is developing laboratories as part of an ongoing project.

"We are drawing up the project to ensure the development of laboratories. We are also producing skilled labouratorian. Therefore, the development of laboratories continues step by step", said Dr. Htin Lin, the Deputy Director-General of FDA.

Currently, the FDA's main laboratories are located in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

Among the three laboratories, Nay Pyi Taw laboratory is recognized as operating at internationally accepted levels. Therefore, Yangon and Mandalay laboratories need to upgrade to reach international levels. FDA laboratories are also being built in other states and regions, he added.

"Laboratory equipment and appliances have already been purchased in other states and regions. Construction will also be completed soon. Currently, we are making arrangements to conduct training courses for the staff," he added.

To receive internationally recognized certificates for agricultural and fisheries products, which are exported, products have to undergo laboratory tests in foreign countries because there are only a few international standard laboratories in Myanmar. Therefore, it is needed to develop internationally recognized laboratories in Myanmar.

In 2019, plans call for the National Health Laboratory under the Ministry of Health and Sports to set up a High Security Laboratory and laboratory equipment building, in cooperation with

Agency Francaise Development (AFD). They will also renovate the National Health Laboratory (Yangon) and Public Health laboratory (Mandalay) building, promote professional research and raise technical skills among the staff of the National Health Laboratory, and implement a network of public health laboratories.

Currently, laboratories are being opened within some ministries. Also, UMFCCI and other associations have opened laboratories. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated patrols

A coordinated patrol between Myanmar and Bangladesh was conducted from border post 42 to 43 from 10:50 am to 12:40 pm on 4 November, according to the Myanmar Police Force.

The Myanmar patrol was led by Police Major Myo Myint from No. 1 Border Police Force, Area 2, Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State, and the Bangladeshi side was led by Naib Subedar Md. Mahbubur Rahman of No. 11 Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB).

Similarly, troops led by Police Inspector Kyi Soe, of Kyee

Kyun police post, Maungtaw Town, area 3, No. 1 Border Police Force on two water crafts conducted a coordinated patrol along the Naf River with troops led by Subedar Md. Shaik Adul Jalil of BGB NO. 2 on two speed boats on the morning of 4 November.

The four boats met up on the border of the two countries in the middle of the Naf River at Nautical mile 15 and patrolled along the river up to Nautical mile 18 where the two sides met on boat 004. —
GNLM ■

(Translated by Thanda)

Myanmar and Bangladeshi security forces conducting a naval patrol by boats along the Naf River. **PHOTO: MYANMAR**

Mutual understanding, constructive cooperation can bring positive outcomes in repatriation process

REPATRIATION and resettlement are important responsibilities for those committees that have been working to resolve the Rakhine issue, which has continued for years and is related to Myanmar's politics and security.

The first group of over 2,260 displaced persons are to be accepted at a rate of 150 per day, beginning 15 November. We have been prepared to receive them since January 23.

The announcement came after the third Joint Working Group Meeting between Myanmar and Bangladesh in Dhaka on 30 October 2018, as the two sides exchanged views and reviewed the repatriation process, including ensuring a conducive environment, safety, security and confidence building for prospective returnees, along with preparation for resettlement, a verification process, the dissemination of information among returnees about the National Verification Card (NVC),

involvement of United Nations Agencies, as well as INGOs and international partners in the processes of repatriation, resettlement and reintegration.

... We have sought cooperation from the Bangladesh side to take action against ARSA terrorists, including those verified as terrorists from the list of 8032 persons, previously provided by Bangladesh.

The Union Government of Myanmar and UN agencies also reached an agreement in June to create conditions that would allow returnees to voluntarily and safely return to Rakhine State.

Earlier, Myanmar had repeatedly said that the country attaches great importance to the need to create peace, stability and development in the repatriation process and, therefore, it signed the MoU with UNDP and UNHCR.

Myanmar hoped that the undertakings of the UNDP and UNHCR would not only involve repatriation, but also to seek sustainable peace and development in Rakhine State through suggestions and cooperation.

At the recent meeting, the two countries also discussed the situation of displaced persons found on Myanmar territory close to the international boundary line between boundary pillars 34 and 35.

Myanmar has made 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, as well as a verification process and the issuance of the National Verification Cards (NVC).

We do believe that mutual understanding and constructive cooperation, based on the principles of objectivity, mutual respect and bilateral agreements, will bring about a positive outcome in the repatriation process.

Meanwhile, we are facing the threat of terrorist activities which was the initial cause of events leading to the humanitarian crisis in Rakhine State. The danger of terrorism remains a real and present danger in Myanmar.

Hence, we have sought cooperation from the Bangladesh side to take action against ARSA terrorists, including those verified as terrorists from the list of 8032 persons, previously provided by Bangladesh.

National Development will be achieved through Private Sector Development

Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo (Ministry of Commerce)

Dialogue titled "Nation Building through Ease of Doing Business"

By Shin Min, Photo by Aye Than

Myanma Radio and Television presents the dialogue under the title "Nation Building through Ease of Doing Business" in which Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo, Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation General Manager U Tin Aung, Yangon City Development Committee Secretary Daw Hlaing Maw Oo and Executive U Zeya Thura Mon of Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry are participating.

Facilitator: Today's talks will focus on "Nation Building through Ease of Doing Business." First of all let us hear on your talks on "Ease of Doing Business Index."

Deputy Minister: Ease of Doing Business Index is one of the indexes practiced by the international community. It is an index created by a researcher of World Bank in 2002, and was used worldwide in 2004 and thus it is now about 15 years since the use of the index was first seen. Its purpose is to display the higher the ranking in the index, the better for doing businesses. In other words, in doing business there are regulations to be followed.

Doing business will be difficult if there is a rigid regulation. Therefore the index was introduced for ensuring ease of doing business by cutting down the red tapes.

The higher ranking in the index indicates having a great potential for achieving more success in business, and stronger protection of property rights. In international comparison, the investors put more trust in countries with

high ranking index. So, it can be deduced from the fact that high ranking index will surely attract more investment thereby resulting in economic development.

Myanmar saw reforms in 2011. In making reforms, the private sector plays a vital role in the economic sector of the State. With the aim of progressing the private sector, we have been cooperating in calculating the index after signing MoU with World Bank in 2014. World Bank for its part, attached its experts and consultants and gave suggestions on how to improve the index.

Myanmar's participation in the index indicates her unwavering commitments to the idea that the State is encouraging businesses run by private sector. We accept the concept that national development will be achieved through private sector development.

The State has vowed to improve the index. When started calculating the index, Myanmar stood at the rank of 182. In 2018, the rank improved reaching 171.

The Vice-President who is



also the chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee has been giving guidance to improve the index to reach below 100 in 2021. In accord with this guidance, we are striving our utmost to improve Ease of Doing Business Index. There is no bias in calculating the index, but objective. We calculate the index based on regulations which are faced in the ten sectors.

For example, what is the need for a start-up? First, a company must be established. What amount of capital is needed for a start-up? What steps are to be taken for a start-up? How much time it is needed to register a company? The index is to show the answers.

And another thing is that after establishing a company, buildings and warehouses are to be built. Then, what is required to do the job? There needs a construction permission. To obtain permission, what steps are to be taken? What recommendation needs? How much it will cost for applying permission? How much it will take time for the process? The above-mentioned are the example of calculating the index.

There are also many other steps. For example, after building

a warehouse, there needs an electricity. So, there needs to apply for power supply. The fact that whether there is power outage or not contributes to calculating the ease of doing business. There are also other matters concerning property rights. The rights are to be registered at Registration Office. The index will show how to register, how much it will cost and how much time it will take.

Capital is needed to run a business. Investing one's own money in the business is one of the ways and means, and getting loans from bank is the other. What is needed to get a loan from the bank? What steps are to be taken? How much time it will take? Is there any Credit Bureau for bank loan? All these questions are to be considered.

Moreover, if we run a business, it may be not invested by a sole person but with stock and shares. In such cases, it is important to include the fact in the index that if a person who buys a share can easily sell or transfer his share or not.

There will surely be profits in doing business. Then, tax will follow. Is the process of paying tax is easy or not? There are voices concerning paying tax complain-

ing will take? To take such actions, it needs to consider if there is a bankruptcy law or not. Therefore, the index means how easily we can take steps in the above-mentioned ten sectors from the start of a business to liquidation.

Countries with higher index in the ease of doing business will have more potentials for economic development. Increase in the business will surely bring about economic development. With this end in view, the state is trying hard to promote the rank in ease of doing business index while in comparison with others in the international community.

Business score is another methodology in the ease of doing business index in addition to ranking. For example, in our schools 100 marks is the highest marks of a subject. A student can pass his exam if he gets 40 marks. He will have credit if he gets 80 marks. There also is such a system in ease of doing business index. Although there is not a rise in ranking there may be a rise in score. For example, Myanmar won over 44 scores in 2018. That means she got the passing score but not had the credit.

If we look at the nations in the Asia-Pacific region, their average scores are over 60. As we are the member of the region we need to try hard to get over 60 from over 40. I would like to express here is that it is better to have credit with over 80.

New Zealand is currently topping the 2018 list of ease of doing business index in. The first runner-up is Singapore. Malaysia stands at 24; Thailand, 26; Brunei, 56; Vietnam, 68; Indonesia, 72; the Philippines, 113; Cambodia, 135; and Laos, 141. As mentioned above, Myanmar stands at 171. As we retain the lowest point comparing with them, we need to try hard as there are many opportunities for us.

(To be continued)
(Translated by Wallace)

Appointment of Ambassador agreed

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Ahmed Abdulla Ahmed Alharmasi Alhajeri as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok.

Mr. Ahmed Abdulla Ahmed Alharmasi Alhajeri got a Bachelor of Law from the Mohamed V University (Morocco) in 1983. Since 1986, he started serving at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. From 1988-2003, he served in different positions at the Embassy of Bahrain in China, Kuwait, France and the United Arab Emirates respectively. In 2003, he served as the Head of Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain. From 2005-2009, he served as the Plenipotentiary Minister at the Embassy of Bahrain in Russian. In 2011, he was the Acting Director of Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bahrain. He was appointed as the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Kingdom of Thailand in 2018. He is fluent in English and French. —MNA

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued on Monday 5 November 2018)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT 09:30 hrs MST: During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Taninthayi Region and Kachin State and weather has been partly cloudy in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions, Shan, Chin and Rakhine states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Yangon Region, (Northern and Eastern)Shan and Kayah states, (2°C) below November average temperatures in Bago and Ayeyawady regions and Southern Shan State and about November average temperatures in the remaining regions and states. The significant night temperatures were (7°C) Haka, (9°C)each in Hsipaw and Heho. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (0.24)inch, Kawthoung (0.12)inch and Machanbaw (0.04)inch.

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is a few cloud over the North Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 6 November 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions, Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and generally fair in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated light rain in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 November 2018: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 November 2018: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 November 2018: Generally fair weather.