IN INDIA AND MYANMAR’S CLOSE, HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP

UNION MINISTER DISCUSSES SYSTEMATIC USE OF FISH-FARMING TECHNIQUES

INDEPENDENT ENQUIRY COMMISSION CHAIR, MEMBER ARRIVE IN MYANMAR

OUR UNION GOVERNMENT WISHES TO REITERATE OUR PLEDGE TO COOPERATE WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE ARTICLES CONTAINED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED AND IMPLEMENTED.

MESSAGE OF GREETINGS SENT BY PRESIDENT U WIN MYINT ON THE OCCASION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (10 DECEMBER 2018)

THIS day marks the auspicious occasion of the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 10th December, the day on which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was issued has been honored and recognized as UN International “Human Rights Day” and have been customarily celebrated all over the world.

Our Republic of the Union of Myanmar gained her independence on 4th January 1948 and became a member of the United Nations on 19th April. It is on record that on 10th December 1948 when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Human Rights Declaration which serves as universal principles for humankind, Myanmar was one of first among member states who voted in favor.

Human rights are not those rights which can be gained only when granted through the generosity or goodwill of an individual or organization. They are inalienable rights possessed by all from the time of conception in a mother’s womb till the time of death.

HEALTH STAFF GET MOBILE TABLETS FOR REAL-TIME INFORMATION

A CEREMONY was held to distribute mobile tablets to health staff in Kayin state yesterday. The Union Minister for Health and Sports, Dr. Myint Htwe, said the tablet distribution program aims to promote public health awareness. “The tablets will hopefully add to the knowledge of the basic health staff and the township and station medical superintendents,” he said.

“The tablets will provide real-time information and data, apart from ensuring greater effectiveness of health undertakings,” he said.
Police sharpshooters get prrizes

THE Myanmar Police Force held the 24th Police Chief’s Championship Shield Shooting Contest and prize-giving ceremony at the shooting range of the No. 1 Basic Combat Training Unit (Mingon) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, at 8 a.m. yesterday.

The Union Minister for Home Affairs, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, delivered an address and watched the three final events of the contest.

At the prize-giving ceremony, the MPP Chief and his wife, and senior officers and their wives presented awards to the winners of the women’s 9 mm pistol contest, women’s BA 94 assault rifle contest, men’s 9 mm pistol contest, men’s BA 94 assault rifle contest, and men’s BA 63 assault rifle contest. They also presented the best shooter (men/women) award and team-wise awards.

Afterwards, Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presented the championship shield and prizes to the police communication squad team, which won the 24th Police Chief’s Championship Shield Shooting Contest.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presents the championship shield to the winners of the 24th Police Chief’s Championship Shield Shooting Contest. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister discusses systematic use of fish-farming techniques

THE Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, Dr. Aung Thu, discussed the progress of freshwater fish-breeding through the use of systematic fish-farming techniques in Mandalay on 8 December.

The Union Minister invited suggestions to resolve the difficulties faced by the fish-farming sector during his meeting with breeders from Mandalay and Sagaing regions at the Freshwater Fish-farming Research and Development Bureau in the Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay.

At the meeting, breeders put forward their requirements and problems. In response, the Union Minister said, “The ministry is providing the technology for producing marketable fish and is planning to open a school of fishery science that will be upgraded into a university, to produce experts in the field.”

“Officials are making coordinated efforts to stabilize the fish market and ensure a balance between demand and supply. Cooperation of large cooperatives must be enlisted, to serve mutual interests to control the market and acquire advanced storage methods,” he added.

Afterwards, the Union Minister toured the facility. Officials explained cooperation with the Korea International Co-operation Agency (KOICA) and research on freshwater fish.

At the Natyaygan fish farm in Amarapura Township, the Union Minister heard a report on the production of fingerlings for local demand. Dr. Aung Thu discussed breeders’ requirements for producing high-value fish, establishing model farms for sharing of knowledge, and extended dissemination of techniques. PHOTO: MNA

Prizes presented to winners of photo, postcard contest

PRIZES were presented yesterday to winners of a photo and postcard contest with the theme ‘The Heritage We Cherish’, held to commemorate the 71st Independence Day in Yangon.

The Union Minister for Information, Dr Pe Myint, gave a speech before handing out the prizes sponsored by the Information and Public Relations Department. Afterwards, he presented the first prize to Zaw Zaw Wai (Hsinbyukyun) for the photo contest and Khin Maung Lwin for the postcard contest.

The Director-General of the IPRD, U Ye Naing, and the Director-General of the Printing and Publishing Department, U Aung Myo Myint, presented the second and third prizes for the contests.

The Secretary of the Yangon City Development Committee, Daw Hlaing Maw Oo, the President of the Myanmar Photography Association, U Kyaw Kyaw Win, and the central committee member of the Myanmar Arts and Crafts Association, U Kyi Win, explained the work of the judges in choosing the winning entries.

Zaw Zaw Wai (Hsinbyukyun) gave a word of thanks on behalf of the prize winners.

The Union Minister posed for documentary photos with the prize winners and officials.

A total of 280 contestants sent 1,166 photos for the photo contest, and 17 contestants sent 90 entries for the postcard contest. All the entries will be displayed at the community centres of the IPRD.

PHOTO: MNA

Jade carving, jewellery design contest to be held in Mandalay

THE first Mandalay Yatanar Mall International Gems and Finished Jewellery expo will be held in Mandalay from 15 to 19 January.

The expo will be held at the Mandalay Gems Mall on the fourth floor of the Yadanaarbon Super Center located at the corner of 78 and 34 streets in Chanayetharsan Township, Mandalay.

The event aims to promote technology and develop the finished jewellery market. It will include a jade carving and finished jewelry design competition. Winners for the contest will be chosen by expert jade appraisers. Prizes worth more than Ks20 million will be handed out at the contest.

The award-winning jade carving and jewellery designs will be sold through a tender at the event. The first international gems expo will feature about 400 stalls by international and local entrepreneurs who have been invited for the event—Maung Pyithu (Mandalay). PHOTO: MNA

Translated by Hay Mar
Message of Greetings sent by President U Win Myint on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

FROM PAGE-1
All humans are born with the fundamental principles of noble existence such as justice, freedom, and equality. Therefore these are inherent rights which all humans have the right to enjoy and which cannot be abolished. They are also rights which may be enjoyed by a person without harming or infringing upon the rights of some other person.

Health staff get mobile tablets for real time information

FROM PAGE-1
“We have already provided tablets to 312 township and station doctors and 8,343 basic health staff in Kayah, Mon, and Chin states and Magway and Sagaing regions through funds from the Union budget,” he said.

Profile of the Spouse of the Indian President, Smt. Savita Kovind

FROM PAGE-1
Smt. Kovind speaks Hindi and Punjabi fluently and is conversant with several North Indian dialects.

Profile of the President of the Republic of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind

FROM PAGE-1
He was Chairman of the Rajya Sabha House Committee.

He has keen interest in reading books on politics and social change, law and reader, the President has keen interest in reading books on politics and social change, law and
MR to run Mandalay-Myitkyina express trains starting 29 Dec

THE Myanmar Railways (MR) under the Transport and Communications Ministry said it will run express trains on the Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad section from the end December. The first train will leave the Mandalay station at 1 p.m on 29 December. New express train coaches have been built at the Carriage and Wagon Workshop in Myitnge, a town in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region.

THE coaches will be handed over to the MR at a ceremony on 28 December. "The new coaches are more comfortable than their predecessors. The MR will replace train No. 33/34, which previously operated on the route and was stopped, with the express trains to reduce travel time. Regular trains usually take 19 hours to complete the route," said U Sanda Aung, the Deputy General Manager (operating) of the MR (Mandalay). The express trains will offer the same level of comfort and safety as the trains operating on the Yangon-Mandalay route, he said, adding that the MR is making continuous efforts to provide better services to passengers.

At present, the MR is operating train Nos. 55/56 and 57/58 on the Mandalay-Myitkyina route. The express trains will run the same route and stop at only five railway stations.

An express train includes ten ordinary coaches and one upper coach. Tickets are priced at K 10,000 for ordinary class passengers and K 20,000 for upper class passengers.—Khine Htat Wai (Translated by Khin Thanda Lwin)

Elephant shot in head by poacher in Ohnmone survives

A TIMBER elephant survived after being shot in the head by a poacher in the Ohnmone elephant camp of the Madaya Forest Reserve, according to the Myanmar Timber Enterprise. "The male elephant, named Moe Maung Kyaw, 33, measures 7 feet and six inches. Its tusks measure 2 feet. Its trainer, Mahout Ko Kyaw Kyaw Naing, released it into the forest for grazing on 6 December. When the trainer returned, he found the elephant about four miles to the north of the Ohnmone elephant camp with a bullet wound in the head," said U Tun Win Oo, the General Manager of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise.

A poacher had reportedly shot the elephant using an improvised firearm.

The police are continuing their investigations to apprehend the poacher. —Min Zaw Oo (IPRD) (Translated by Khin Thanda Lwin)

Roadside fuel shops catch fire in Mrauk U

Fuel shops on the Yangon-Sittway road near the Taung Phyu bridge in MraukU Township, Rakhine State, were damaged in a fire on Saturday. One person was injured in the incident.

According to investigators, the fire was caused due to the negligence of a fuel shop employee, identified as Htay Win, from Minbya Township. He reportedly threw a ratio-rite oil measuring cup on the ground after pouring fuel, which sparked the fire. In spite of attempts to contain it, the blaze quickly spread to nine neighbouring shops. A team of 100 firemen and 10 fire engines put out the fire with help from local residents. The loss of property on account of the fire is estimated to be about K18.45 million. One fuel shop employee, identified as Htay Win, was injured in the accident and was taken to the MraukU general hospital for treatment. —District IPSD (Translated by Htay Mar)

Python captured in Kyaunggon Township

A farmer captured a python measuring about seven feet in length and eight inches in girth at a paddy plantation in Kyaunggon Township, Pathein District, Ayeyawady Region, on Saturday evening. Ko Chit Naing, a farmer in Wetsu Village, Wetchaung Township, Ayeyawady Region, on Saturday evening. Ko Chit Naing, a farmer in Wetsu Village, Wetchaung Township, Ayeyawady Region, on Saturday evening.

A poacher had reportedly shot the elephant using an improvised firearm.

The elephant, which had a 9-inch deep wound on the head, was brought back to the elephant camp of the Madaya Forest Reserve. —Min Zaw Oo (IPRD) (Translated by Khin Thanda Lwin)

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports, please email us at globalnewlightofmyanmar.com.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Please be aware that your letter will be edited.

A python captured in Kyaunggon Township. PHOTO: WIN KYAING
Independent Enquiry Commission chair, member arrive in Myanmar

Ambassador Rosario Manalo, Chairperson of the Independent Commission of Enquiry, and Commission Member, Ambassador Kenzo Oshima, arrived in Myanmar by air yesterday at 5.55 p.m. and 4.30 p.m., respectively.

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar established the Independent Commission of Enquiry as part of its national initiative to address the reconciliation, peace, stability, and development in Rakhine.

Ambassador Rosario Manalo is the former Deputy Foreign Minister of the Philippines and former Chair and current Representative of the Philippines to CEDAW. Ambassador Kenzo Oshima is the former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Emergency Relief Coordinator, and former Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations.

The chair and the member of the commission were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by U Zaw Phyo Win, the Deputy Director-General of the Strategic Studies and Training Department, U Zaw Tun Oo, the Deputy Director-General of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other officials.—MNA

Mandalay to implement 15 river bank erosion control, 4 waterway maintenance projects

A TOTAL of 19 projects will be implemented in Mandalay in the fiscal year 2018-2019. Of these, 15 projects will be undertaken to prevent river bank erosion, while the remaining four projects will focus on maintaining waterways.

“Waterway maintenance work will be conducted using Union funds, while measures to prevent river bank erosion will be undertaken with the Regional government’s funds. Seven projects will be carried out by the department concerned, while the remaining eight projects will be implemented through tenders. We have invited tenders for the projects and the tenders have to be submitted by 26 December,” said U Toe Aung Lin, the regional director of the Region’s Water Resources Utilization Department.

“From the regional government’s budget, K5,000 million has been allotted for the 15 river bank erosion control projects, which will be implemented in Madaya, Amarapura, Ngazun, Myingyan, Tada U, Singu, and Pathingyi townships. From the Union government’s budget, K620 million has been allotted for the four waterways projects, which will be implemented at the Singu, Madaya, Myingyan, and Katha jetties,” he said.

“The projects to control river bank erosion will involve changing the waterway and dredging in the region to prevent landslides, which were caused by the change in the course of the Ayeyawady River, on the Dothawady riverside and the Ayeyawady riverside. Dredging will be carried out in Sitha village. Waterway maintenance will be undertaken, and dams will be constructed. All the projects will be implemented till mid May,” he added.

“Most river bank erosions are caused by humans, who fell trees and do gold prospecting. The river bank erosion prevention project will cost a lot. Trees are being planted, beginning October, in villages near the rivers in cooperation with the forest department.

In the last fiscal year, with the use of funds from both the regional government and the Union government, the department spent just over K7 billion on 22 projects,” he said.—Khine Sat Wai

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Decline in Muse exports drags down Sino-Myanmar trade value in current FY

THE value of Sino-Myanmar border trade plunged sharply in the first two months of the current fiscal year due to a drastic drop in exports through the Muse gate, which usually sees the largest trade among the border points, according to data released by the Commerce Ministry.

The decline in trade at the Muse gate has been attributed to China’s trade suspension on some agro products since the second week of October. About 75 per cent of the trade between China and Myanmar is conducted through Muse. It also handles the majority of the country’s rice exports.

China has set import quotas on some agro products, including rice, this year. Tax is exorbitantly high for merchants once the import volume exceeds the quota limit, resulting in illegal flow of rice into China. Therefore, China has been confiscating rice brought in illegally in the border areas.

In the last two months, the Muse gate registered exports worth US$400.9 million and imports worth $248.2 million, totalling $649 million. During the same period last year, the total trade through the gate stood at $967.38 million. In the current fiscal year, Myanmar’s border trade with China stood at $779.7 million, decreasing sharply from $1 billion during the same period last year, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar exports rice, various varieties of peas, sesame seeds, corn, fruits, and vegetables, dried tea leaves, fishery products, rubber, minerals, and animal products to China. It imports machinery, plastic raw materials, consumer products, and electronic tools.—Ko Khant

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Maritime trade up 5.7% in current fiscal year

MYANMAR’S external trade via sea exceeded US$84 billion in the first two months of the fiscal year 2018-2019, an increase of $219 million, or 5.7 per cent, from the same period last year, according to data released by the Commerce Ministry.

From 1 October to 30 November, the country’s total maritime exports totalled $1.435 billion and imports stood at $1.275 billion. During the same period last year, the total value of trade through shipping totalled $8.848 billion, with exports worth $1.275 billion and imports worth $2.5 billion. The country’s maritime trade topped $11.7 billion during the mini-budget period from April to September this year, an increase of over $2 billion compared with the same period last year. Over the first 61 days of this FY, Myanmar’s total international trade exceeded $5.5 billion, with border trade amounting to $1.438 billion, an increase of $133 million from the same period last year.


(Translated by Khin Thanda Luin)
Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint inspects Copyrights and Registration Division

THE Union Minister for Information, Dr. Pe Myint, met with staff of the Copyrights and Registration Division of the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) on Win Gabar Street, Bahan Township, yesterday.

During the meeting, IPRD Director-General U Ye Naing reported on the organizational set-up and functions of the division and Director of the Copyrights and Registration Division, Daw Yu Yu Win, reported on the issuance of licenses to printing and publishing services and news agencies and registration services, current functions related with the publishing in the ethnic languages, functions related to religious affairs, the situation on drafting law for related works with the CRD, and the preparation for running the services once the Literature and Art Copyrights Law is enacted.

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint urged the officials to raise public awareness about the progress of the news and publishing sectors in Myanmar.

He also called for settling disputes related with literary property rights in accordance with the law, and the division being in readiness ahead of the enactment of the copyrights law for literature and art.

Afterwards, U Maung Hein of Megalink Advanced Technology Co. Ltd. reported on upgrading the application and web portal of Myanmar Digital News, which is a joint venture online media between the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the MOI and Megalink Advanced Technology Co. Ltd.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

PHOTO: MNA

Statement by Myanmar National Human Rights Commission to mark the 70th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights which falls on 10 December 2018

Statement No (11/2018)

1. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, along with the international community celebrates the auspicious occasion of the 70th Anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which falls on 10 December 2018.

2. This auspicious day commemorates not only the International Human Rights Day but also the 70th Anniversary of the proclamation of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly. On such occasion it is most appropriate to present the activities of promotion and protection of human rights carried out by the Commission during 2018 to the general public.

3. The Commission has been extensively carrying out promotion and awareness raising activities to make the public aware of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the impacts of these rights on the public in their daily lives. For broader dissemination of UDHR it has been translated into Myanmar language and (12) other ethnic languages. Human rights talks have also been conducted at (23) townships in the States and Regions. In addition, with the purpose of disseminating human rights education not only to the urban but also to the rural public, round-table talks were held at (12) villages in Ayeyawaddy and Yangon regions. To further incorporation of human rights standards in carrying out their duties and functions by district level government officials MNHRC held three types of awareness raising activities in Yangon, Taungoo, Meiktila, PyinOoLwin, Kawthaung and Pakokkdistricts with the cooperation of CSO groups. The three types being, human rights workshops, trainings for township level child rights committee members and a one-day training course for CSOs. Likewise, lectures on human rights were given in the training courses conducted at the National Defence University, the Staff College, Military Training Centres and Police Training Centre (Mandalay). Lectures were also given in trainings conducted at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar and Upper Myanmar).

4. The Commission handled complaints on human rights violations in accordance with procedures of the MNHRC Law. From January to November 2018 the Commission received 2018 complaints of which action was taken on 966 cases which met the requirements of complaint mechanism. Field visits were conducted on 11 occasions. In addition, the Commission undertook inspection visits to 25 prisons, 22 labour camps, 32 police lock-ups, 32 court lock-ups, 15 hospital guard-wards and 5 homes for the aged poor. The findings together with the recommendations were forwarded to the central institute. The findings together with the recommendations were forwarded to the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar and Upper Myanmar).

5. The Commission visited Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships in Northern Rakhine State to look into the human rights situations there and also visited refugee camps in Putao, Myitkyina, Moeynghin, Moeguang townships in Kachin State. Findings of the visits were reported to the President’s Office.

6. The Commission teams led by the Commissioners monitored the by-elections in six constituencies held on 3 November 2018 and issued a statement. A detailed report of the findings together with the recommendations was forwarded to the President’s Office and the Union Election Commission.

7. With regards to legal matters, the Commission undertook studies of the existing Laws and Bills from the human rights point of view and recommendations were forwarded to the relevant institutions.

The recommendations on the 2nd revised draft Bill of the Penal Code was submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in 2018.

8. In order to commend the government departments to fulfill the obligations accepted by Myanmar during the second cycle of UPR on Myanmar, the Commission organized a workshop in cooperation with one INGO. A workshop on “Business and Human Rights” was organized in cooperation with UNDP and the outcomes together with the recommendations were submitted to the President’s Office.

9. As Myanmar is a State Party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the Commission liaised with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) to hold an awareness raising forum on the submission of Myanmar’s national report.

10. With the purpose of enhancing the capacity of the Commission in carrying out the promotion and protection activities, the Commission in collaboration with UNDP, OHCHR and APP undertook a Capacity Assessment of the Commission.

11. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission pledges to promote and protect the human rights of the citizens in accordance with the provisions of the Commission Law.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Date: 10 December 2018
World in state of transformation, Russia needs to keep up — Putin

MOSCOW — The world is a state of transformation and Russia should do its best not to lag behind, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a congress of the United Russia party on Saturday.

“The world on the whole is in a state of transformation. It is a very powerful and dynamically evolving transformation. Given we fail to find a way around in due time, given we fail to grasp in due time what and how we need to act, we might always end up in lagging behind,” the Russian president said.

“It is a very dramatic situation in the history of our country. This dramatic situation is unfolding across the world as well as in our fate,” he noted.

The United Russia party should employ its legislative and administrative potential and its human resources to unite and consolidate the citizens and to find solutions to nationwide problems, Putin concluded.— Tass ■

Italy’s Salvini hails six months in power with Rome rally

ROME (Italy) — Italy’s far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini spoke to thousands of supporters in a packed square in Rome on Sunday as his surging League party celebrates six months in power.

Organizers said around 80,000 people attended—many travelling from around the country—waving flags and banners with slogans such as “Italians first”, “Italy raises its head” and “Six months of common sense government”.

The 45-year-old Salvini, who is also deputy prime minister, referenced the “yellow vest” protests rocking neighbouring France.

“Those who sow poverty reap protests, those who sow false promises reap the response of those on the margins and the countryside,” he told the cheering crowd.

Salvini also lashed out at the European Union, which is in a stand-off with his government over Rome’s anti-austerity budget that has been rejected by Brussels because it sharply increases spending and the deficit. “We are afraid of nothing and nobody,” Salvini said of the dispute.

Taxi driver Stefano Feli ziani, 63, who was wearing a yellow vest in the crowd, said he was a “Salvinian” who stands with those fighting against the “usurcracy, the government of banks, the single mindset of globalisation”.

Salvini’s League has surged in popularity since taking power in a coalition government earlier this year, with opinion polls put the party on 30 percent, up from the 17 percent it won in March elections.

Gabriele Accornero, a 49-year-old online marketing specialist from the northwestern town of Avigliana, said the anti-migrant Salvini had “managed to stamp out immigration, he is the first who kept this promise”.

“It’s not racism, it’s just that we could not end of up with all of those delinquents,” she said.— AFP ■

Pushed out, but Soros foundation won’t give up on Hungary

BERLIN (Germany) — The foundation started by US billionaire George Soros may have been forced to leave Budapest after the Hungarian government’s relentless campaigning, but it is vowing not to give up on its work there.

Despite being hounded out of the country where its first office opened in 1984, Open Society Foundations said it has not failed in its mission.

“I’d say that our mission is really tested and challenged, but we’re not about giving up,” said Goran Buldioski, who heads the foundation’s new regional hub in Berlin.

“What we have done is that we’ve moved our hub office but our work in Hungary has not decreased,” he said, adding that “mentally and programme-wise, we didn’t move”.

What has changed drastically for Buldioski and his team is their working and living environment.

Over the last year, employe es at the foundation and the Soros-founded Central European University have faced unprecedented pressure from Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who himself once received a Soros scholarship to study at Oxford.

Accusing the Budapest-born Soros of orchestrating huge flows of migrants to Europe, Orban branded as “mercenaries” 2,000 people he said worked for the philanthropist.

“It became not comfortable for some people to tell schools or kindergartens where they work because they were afraid in light of the public campaign, bashing and stigmatising that they would be attacked,” said Buldioski.

‘New attack every day’

“There were days we felt like it was Groundhog Day,” the bespectacled Macedonian said, referring to the Hollywood comedy in which the lead character keeps reliving the same day.

“Because we were attacked baselessly... And each day brought a new attack, a new campaign,” the Russian president said.

The foundation also began questioning if confidential data it was holding on its partners, including contact or bank account details, were safe in Hungary.

“If you don’t trust the system and the democracy, or the eroding democracy in which you operate, you start thinking ‘I’m also responsible towards our partners. I don’t want to leave their data in a place where we can’t secure its integrity’,” said Buldioski.

In May, the foundation, which has a global annual budget of just over a billion dollars and which funds groups working on human rights, justice and democracy, finally decided to close operations in Hungary and relocate to Germany.

In response, the Hungarian government said it “won’t be shedding any crocodile tears” over the move.—AFP ■

Thousands rally against Italy-France high speed train link

TURIN (Italy) — Tens of thousands rallied Saturday in Turin to protest against a high speed train project to the French city of Lyon, fiercely opposed by environmentalists, as a waste of public funds.

The scheme involves construction of a 57.5 kilometre (35.7 mile) tunnel across the French and Italian Alps to cut travel time to two hours from the current four hours.

The cost is estimated at $8.6 billion (7.5 billion euros) with the bill split 40 percent, 35 percent and 25 percent between the European Union, Italy and France.

The organisers claimed “a sea of some 70,000 people” had attended the rally but police did not give any estimate of numbers.

The demonstrators held placards saying “No TAV”, or “No high speed train”, “We are against waste” and “Yes to protecting the territory and the environment”.

“There are more important things to invest in such as hospitals, schools and roads,” said Maurizio Alfiero, 60, adding that he had to wait until next September for a hospital appointment because it was vastly overstretched.

“It’s sufficient to use the existing (train) line which is underused,” he said.

On November 10, up to 40,000 people backing the project rallied in Turin.

The Italian government itself is divided on the issue: the far-right League of Interior Minister Matteo Salvini backs the project but the Five Star Movement opposes it.—AFP ■
Roundtable Discussions on ways and means for the economic development of the nation

By Zaw Zaw
PHOTO SHOT

When the total amount of cash received from the import trade and foreign exchange being received from other sources is more than the amount being given out as payment, then our nation’s economy could be termed as both solid and sound”. Managing Director U Aye Han

MRTV aired a live program on the development ways and means for the economic development of the nation in which officials of Custom Department under the Ministry of Finance and Planning and Finance and the business people from private sector have participated.

The panellists are U Kyaw Hnin, Deputy-General of the Custom Department; Daw Hnin Su, Deputy-General of the Custom Department, Daw Khin Khing Nwe; Joint General Secretary UMCPCU Dr. Aung Zaw, Vice President of Myanmar Pharmaceutical Medical and Biological Enterprises Entrepreneurs Association; U Aye Han, Managing Director of United Paints Group of Companies; Daw Khin Khing Nwe Aung, Managing Director of Progroup Co., participated in the talks. They touched the topics such as the tasks and performances of the Custom Department in the development of the nation; types of taxes and revenue; income tax levied during one year period; the involvement of the Custom Department in the ASEAN Economic Community; the functioning of the trade; the importation of crude oil; the development plan of SEEs; the difficulties in connection with the promotion of investment in the importation of substitute and relevant valuable things; the cooperation between the Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association (MPCUA) and the Custom Department.

(Continued from Previous Page)

Daw Khing Khing Nwe

Dr. Aung Zaw

U Aye Han

U Than Htike Lwin

“People-to-people relations are an integral part of international relations. Both people’s mutual desire for prosperity and development are crucial for strengthening bilateral relations.”

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The New Light of Myanmar is inviting young writers for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the Global New Light of Myanmar (GNNL) editorial department. The submitted articles should be original, and the name of your School/College/University, degree, name of your School/College/University, Department, the New Light of Myanmar (GNNL) editorial department. The submitted articles should be original, and the
Global demand for gas to grow by 46% by 2040 — Global Gas Outlook

VIENNA—The Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) forecasts global demand for gas to increase by 46% to 5.43 trillion cubic meters by 2040, according to the Global Gas Outlook 2040 issued by GECF on 7 December.

“Global demand for natural gas will grow by 46%—from 3.7 trillion cubic meters in 2017 to 5.43 trillion cubic meters in 2040,” the document said. Generating electricity and the industrial sector will contribute the most to the growing demand. The share of natural gas in the global energy balance will increase from 22% to 26% by 2040. “Total production growth is expected at 1.7% annually until 2040. The United States, Russia, China and Iran will be the main contributors,” the report said.

Natural gas production in GECF countries is projected to increase by one-third, reaching around 2 trillion cubic meters by 2040. The GECF also forecasts oil prices to remain above $60 per barrel at least until 2040. According to the report, oil prices are projected to decline and hit $61 per barrel by 2022, resuming growth after that.

In 2030 oil prices will reach $70 per barrel and remain around this level until at least 2040. The GECF is an inter-governmental organization that brings together world’s leading natural gas producers. GECF members include Algeria, Bolivia, Venezuela, Egypt, Iran, Qatar, Libya, Nigeria, the United Arab Emirates, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, Equatorial Guinea. These countries account together for 70% of world’s gas proven reserves. Iraq, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Norwat, Oman and Peru hold observer status in the organization.—TASS

Chinese, American businessmen in Houston emphasize economic cooperation

HOUSTON—Bilateral economic cooperation between the United States and China was emphasized by political and business leaders at a gathering on Friday evening in Houston in the US state of Texas.

More than 300 officials and business executives of Chinese and American companies attended the third annual gala and award ceremony of the China General Chamber of Commerce-Houston (CGCC-Houston). Delivering a speech, Chinese Consul General in Houston Li Qiangmin said China and the United States are going to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. “Facts have proven that cooperation is the best option for both sides, and win-win can lead to a better future,” he said.

He also encouraged the Chinese business community in the United States to expand their business and fulfill their social responsibilities. David J Firestein, president and CEO of George HW Bush Foundation for US-China Relations and inaugural executive director of China Public Policy Centre in the University of Texas at Austin, said his organizations want to “advance a constructive vision for the relationship that is focused on action solving real problems.”

“Despite real differences, the United States and China actually do have much in common and much to work on together,” he said, adding the business community in the United States and China are going to lead the way to get US-China relationship “back to where it needs to be for both countries to proper and benefit from it.” At the gala, PetroChina International (America) Inc won the Outstanding Member Award. Ernst & Young and Sanhua international Inc shared the Outstanding Community Champion Award, while China Communications Construction (USA) Inc and Satellite Petrochemical USA Corp were named the Most Influential Company of the Year.

Before the gala, “Better Angels”, a documentary produced by American and Chinese filmmakers, was screened. Directed by Oscar-winning director Malcolm Clarke, “Better Angels” features stories of several Chinese and American individuals who it called “accidental diplomats.”—Xinhua

China-Viet Nam border fair records 695 mln USD in transactions

KUNMING—The 18th China-Viet Nam Border Trade Fair concluded on Saturday in southwest China’s Yunnan Province with a transaction volume of 695 million US dollars. The 5-day fair, held in China’s border county Hekou, features some 1,220 Chinese and Vietnamese stalls displaying electronics, ceramics, agricultural products, food, garment and furniture, its organizers said. This year’s transaction volume marks an increase of 18.2 per cent over that in 2016, when the fair was also held in Hekou, the organizers said.

The fair has also attracted exhibitors from countries including the Republic of Korea (ROK), Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia and Thailand.—Xinhua

US stocks close sharply lower amid soft data

NEW YORK—US stocks closed sharply lower on Friday as investors digested a batch of economic data. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 558.72 points, or 2.24 per cent, to 24,388.95. The S&P 500 fell 62.87 points, or 2.33 per cent, to 2,633.08. The Nasdaq Composite Index fell 219.01 points, or 3.05 per cent, to 6,969.25. US job growth slowed in November amid fears of a possible economic slowdown. Total non-farm payroll employment increased by 155,000 in November, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.7 per cent, the US Labor Department reported on Friday.

Job gains occurred in health care, in manufacturing, and in transportation and warehousing, said the department. Stocks had seen volatile trading during the week as investors grew concerned about the pace of economic development as well as interest rate hikes. The US three-year treasury note yield surpassed its five-year note on Monday. The inverted yield curve caught investors’ attention because historical statistics showed that when short-term yields trade above longer-term rates a recession could follow.

Anxiety around a potential yield curve inversion sent the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note to 2.688 per cent on Friday. The yield was above 3 per cent at the start of the week.—Xinhua

Traders work at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, the United States on 7 December, 2018. PHOTO: XINHUA
Trump picks US Army chief Milley as next Joint Chiefs chairman

WASHINGTON—US President Donald Trump on Saturday named General Mark Milley as the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, replacing Marine General Joseph Dunford.

Trump announced separately that White House chief of staff John Kelly will step down at the end of the year, apparently as part of a shakeup of the administration focusing on the president’s 2020 re-election campaign.

Milley’s nomination requires Senate confirmation. If confirmed, he would face a host of challenges for the United States such as an increasingly assertive Russia, China’s military buildup, as well as North Korea’s nuclear and missile programmes.

In a Twitter post, Trump said Dunford will be retiring, and that the date of the transition will be determined.

Milley, who commanded troops during several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, has served as the US Army’s top officer since August 2015.

“I am thankful to both of these incredible men for their service to our Country!” Trump wrote. Speaking to reporters at the White House, Trump said Kelly “will be leaving at the end of the year,” and that he will announce a successor “over the next day or two.”

Nick Ayers, Vice President Mike Pence’s chief of staff, is Trump’s top choice to replace Kelly, US media reported.

The appointment of a president’s chief of staff does not require Senate confirmation.

The personnel announcements came as Trump reshuffled senior administration officials following November’s midterm elections in which his Republican Party lost a majority in the House of Representatives.

On Friday, Trump nominated William Barr as the next US attorney general and State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert as the new ambassador to the United Nations.

Both nominees would require Senate confirmation as well, a move that is unlikely to occur until 2019.

Israel says located second ‘Hezbollah’ tunnel from Lebanon

JERUSALEM—Israel’s army said on Saturday it had located another tunnel crossing into its territory from Lebanon, the second such find since launching an operation to expose and destroy alleged Hezbollah “attack tunnels”.

“Should be a very serious threat,” journalist Peter Beinart quoted PM Benjamin Netanyahu as saying. The PM instructed the army to “continue to act till its completion,” Beinart wrote.

The IDF has located an additional Hezbollah cross-border attack tunnel,” spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Conricus said, refusing to give details on its precise location or dimensions. “The tunnel crosses into Israel, like the first tunnel it is not yet operational and does not pose an imminent threat to Israeli communities,” he said in a briefing with journalists.

Conricus said the army believes the second tunnel, located in the south of Lebanon, leads back to a small aerodrome, was pronounced dead on the scene despite efforts to resuscitate him.—Xinhua

US Army Chief of Staff General Mark Milley attends a news conference at the Pentagon on 13 July, 2018. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

French PM calls for ‘dialogue’ after fresh ‘yellow vest’ protests

PARIS, FRANCE—French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe called on Saturday for fresh dialogue with representatives of the “yellow vest” movement staging protests across France, promising the government would address concerns over rising living costs. “The dialogue has begun and it must continue,” Philippe said in a televised statement. “The president will speak, and will propose measures that will feed this dialogue.”

Interior Minister Christophe Castaner added that 125,000 “yellow vest” protesters had turned out to demonstrate around France on Saturday. Police detained 1,385 of them.—AFP

Six die, 14 injured in Philippine traffic accident

MANILA—A truck carrying metal bearings had slammed into vehicles and a bakery in Laguna province south of Manila, leaving at least six people killed and 14 injured, local police said on Sunday. Police said the 10-wheeler truck was going downhill on a highway in the town of Santa Rosa around 11:30 pm, local time on Sunday when it lost control and plowed into the vehicles and crashed into the bakery. According to the police, among the dead were two girls aged one year old and two years old respectively. The victims were either sleeping inside the bakery or walking on the side of the highway, police said. Initial police investigation showed the truck lost its brake, moving too fast in slow traffic. Photos uploaded on Facebook also showed the truck was embedded inside the house and several cars were completely wrecked. Police are now hunting down the truck driver who fled after the accident.—Xinhua

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Mongolia, DPRK agree to further expand ties

ULAN BATOR—Mongolian Foreign Minister Damdin Tsogtbaatar and his Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) counterpart, Ri Yong Ho, have agreed to further strengthen bilateral ties between their countries, the Mongolian Foreign Ministry said on Sunday.

Ri arrived in the Mongolian capital of Ulan Bator on Saturday for a two-day visit at the invitation of the Mongolian foreign minister. The two foreign ministers exchanged views on expanding bilateral cooperation at the regional and international levels and in various sectors such as politics, trade, sports and education, and other issues of mutual concern, the ministry said in a statement.

During the talks, Tsogtbaatar said that all relevant parties should cooperate closely to realize a completely denuclearized Korean Peninsula and solve any controversial issues in the region through negotiations.

For his part, Ri said that the DPRK adheres to the denuclearization of the peninsula, noting that strengthening mutual trust is now crucial in the region.

Mongolia and the DPRK established diplomatic ties in 1948.—Xinhua

Four killed, over 200 displaced as floods, landslides hit Indonesia’s East Java

JAKARTA—Four people were killed and as many as 236 villagers were forced to flee home as landslides and floods struck East Java province of western Indonesia, disaster agency official said on Sunday.

The landslides occurred after soils of a hill slid down and hit a house, where the four were staying, situated in Sidomulyo village of Kebonagung sub-district in Pacitan district, said Rahmat Salasa, official of the disaster management and mitigation agency in Pacitan district.

“All the fours, most of them elderly were dead,” he told Xinhua over phone from Pacitan district.

Heavy downpours have triggered floods in Kebonagung district with the height of up to 50 centimetres, forcing over 200 local villagers to evacuate from home to safer grounds, said Rahmat.

Indonesia has been frequently hit by landslides, floods and flash floods when heavy rains pour down.—xinhua

Japan’s empress-in-waiting ‘insecure’ but vows to serve

TOKYO (Japan)—Japan’s Crown Princess Masako on Sunday pledged to do her best despite feeling ‘insecure’ about becoming empress in mere months, in a candid statement released on her 55th birthday.

Emperor Akihito will step down on 30 April, 2019—the first abdication in the Japanese imperial family in more than two centuries. His eldest son and Masako’s husband Naruhito will ascend to the throne the next day. “Even though I feel insecure about how helpful I will be when I think about the days ahead... I want to devote myself to the happiness of the people so I will make an effort to that end,” said the crown princess.

The Harvard- and Oxford-educated Masako left a promising career as a diplomat to marry into the imperial family in 1993. She gave birth to Princess Aiko in 2001 but continued to face pressure to produce a son as only male heirs can take the throne under Japanese law. The pressure eased in 2006, however, when she gave birth to Prince Hisahito, now 12.

In her birthday statement, Masako revealed she was recuperating from a stress-induced illness ahead of the imperial succession. “I am delighted at the fact that I can perform more duties than before as I have tried to improve my physical condition,” she said.

But her doctors warned in a separate statement that it is important for the crown princess to continue treatment as she remains vulnerable to fatigue, especially after a large ceremony or successive duties.—AFP

China summons Canada envoy over detained Huawei exec: state media

BEIJING (China)—China on Saturday summoned the Canadian ambassador over the “unconscionable and vile” detention of telecom giant Huawei’s chief financial officer in Vancouver, state media reported, in Beijing’s latest angry response to the hot-button case.

Meng Wanzhou has been held since 1 December in Canada on an American extradition request and faces US fraud charges related to sanctions-breaking business dealings with Iran.

The 46-year-old executive was arrested in Vancouver while changing planes, ratcheting up tensions between the US and China just as the countries’ leaders agreed to a truce in their trade war. In a statement cited by official news agency Xinhua, China’s Vice Foreign Minister Le Yucheng said Meng’s detention was a “severe violation” of her rights and interests as a Chinese citizen. “Such a move ignores the law and is unreasonable, unconscionable, and vile in nature,” the news agency quoted Le as saying in the statement.

Le summoned Canadian ambassador John McCallum in protest and urged Ottawa to release Meng immediately or face “grave consequences that the Canadian side should be held accountable for”, Xinhua said.

Meng—the daughter of Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei, a former engineer in China’s People’s Liberation Army—is set to remain in custody until at least Monday, when a Canadian court is expected to decide on bail.

In a hearing that was adjourned on Friday, Canadian government lawyer John Gibb-Carsley asked for bail to be denied, saying Meng has been accused of “conspiracy to defraud multiple financial institutions.” He said if convicted, she faces more than 30 years in prison. Meng is specifically accused of lying to a US bank, identified by her lawyer as “Hong Kong Bank”, about the use of a covert subsidiary to sell to Iran in breach of sanctions.

Extradition treaty

The extradition process could take months, even years, if appeals are made in the case.

Canada has a long-standing extradition treaty with the United States, requiring it to cooperate with US Department of Justice requests to hand over suspects. The offence for which extradition is being sought must also be a crime in Canada, and a Canadian court must decide if there is sufficient evidence to support the extradition.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau defended Canada’s arrest of Meng, saying politics played no part in the decision. A spokesman for Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland told AFP on Saturday that Ottawa had no further comment on the case. Huawei said on Friday that it would “continue to follow the ball hearing”, expressing “every confidence that the Canadian and US legal systems will reach the right conclusion”. Meng’s detention in Canada came on the day of a summit between US President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, at which they agreed to a truce in their tit-for-tat tariff battle. The world’s top two economies have exchanged steep tariffs on more than $300 billion in total two-way trade, locking them in a conflict that has begun to eat into profits.—AFP

China’s empress-in-waiting ‘insecure’ but vows to serve

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Emperor Akihito will step down on 30 April, 2019—the first abdication in the Japanese imperial family in more than two centuries. His eldest son and Masako’s husband Naruhito will ascend to the throne the next day. “Even though I feel insecure about how helpful I will be when I think about the days ahead... I want to devote myself to the happiness of the people so I will make an effort to that end,” said the crown princess.

The Harvard- and Oxford-educated Masako left a promising career as a diplomat to marry into the imperial family in 1993. She gave birth to Princess Aiko in 2001 but continued to face pressure to produce a son as only male heirs can take the throne under Japanese law. The pressure eased in 2006, however, when she gave birth to Prince Hisahito, now 12.

In her birthday statement, Masako revealed she was recuperating from a stress-induced illness ahead of the imperial succession.

“I am delighted at the fact that I can perform more duties than before as I have tried to improve my physical condition,” she said.

But her doctors warned in a separate statement that it is important for the crown princess to continue treatment as she remains vulnerable to fatigue, especially after a large ceremony or successive duties.—AFP

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She has made few public appearances since 2003 and has struggled with adjustment disorder. In her birthday statement, Masako revealed she was recuperating from a stress-induced illness ahead of the imperial succession.

“I am delighted at the fact that I can perform more duties than before as I have tried to improve my physical condition,” she said.

But her doctors warned in a separate statement that it is important for the crown princess to continue treatment as she remains vulnerable to fatigue, especially after a large ceremony or successive duties.—AFP
Thousands march for climate in Paris despite ‘yellow vest’ unrest

PARIS (France)—Up to 25,000 people marched through Paris on Saturday urging greater action on climate change, despite fears that their protest would be suppressed by “yellow vest” demonstrations.

Police estimated the number of green activists heading onto the streets at 17,000 while organisers counted 25,000 urging world governments to better protect the environment. The numbers were similar to previous climate marches in Paris, despite sporadic violence in the city on Saturday among thousands of “yellow vest” demonstrators who want more help for France’s poor. Organisers had to change the route of the climate march, marching instead from Place de la Nation to Place de la Republique, due to the yellow vest demonstrations, but refused a request by Interior Minister Christophe Castaner to postpone it. “It was unthinkable to cancel this march. It’s important to talk about problems related to the end of the world as well as the end of the month,” Elodie Nace, a spokeswoman for green NGO Alternatiba, told the crowds. Thousands also marched in other French cities, including an estimated 10,000 in Marseille, 3,500 in Montpellier and 3,000 in Lille. The “yellow vest” movement has been spurred by anger in small-town and rural France at rising fuel taxes which were aimed at helping the country transition to a greener economy, but which protesters say hurts the poor.

But green activists at the climate marches urged people to find solutions for both environmental problems and the financial struggles of France’s poorest. “Yellow vests, green vests—same anger,” they chanted. Some “yellow vest” activists, clad in their emblematic high-visibility road jackets, joined the Paris march after breaking off from their own demonstration. —AFP

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION
ADB Loan 3724 and Grant 0671

CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AGRIBUSINESS VALUE CHAINS SECTOR PROJECT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Package No. CS-03: International Procurement Specialist
Package No. CS-04: International Financial Management Specialist

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan and grant from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Global Agriculture Food Security Program (GAFSP) towards the cost of the Climate-Friendly Agrivulture Value Chains (CFAVC) Sector Project. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) is the executing agency (EA). To support the EA and implementing agencies during the project start-up period, MOALI is planning to recruit qualified and experienced Start-up Specialists in Procurement and Financial Management.

2. Interested candidates may obtain further information and Terms of Reference (ToR) from office address below during office hours 09:30 to 16:30 hours (Monday through Friday) or through ADB Consulting Opportunities, Consulting Services Recruitment Notices (CSRNR).

Start-up Procurement Specialist:
https://selfservice.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/xxcss/jsp/ADBCsrnFwd.jsp?sel=147936

Start-up Financial Management Specialist:
https://selfservice.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/xxcss/jsp/ADBCsrnFwd.jsp?sel=147939

3. The interested candidates are required to register and apply through ADB’s Consultant Management System (CMS) at https://uxdmz06.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/adpostsjsp/aPDCMSLogin.jsp on or before the deadline of submission of EOI on 15 January 2019.

Further Information: Please contact U Aye Ko Ko, Deputy Director General, DOA & Project Director, CFAVC Sector Project, Office Address: Project Management Unit (PMU), Ground Floor, Office No.15, Deputy Director General Office, Department of Agriculture (state and division), MOALI, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, Tel #+95 67 3410411, +959 42 8306725, E-mail: dydpko@gmail.com.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION
ADB Loan 3724 and Grant 0671

CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AGRIBUSINESS VALUE CHAINS SECTOR PROJECT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Package No. CS-01: Recruitment of Consulting Firm (Project Implementation Consultants)

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2. MOALI is recuiting the Project Implementation Consultants (PIC) to provide management and technical assistance in project implementation, strengthen technical and management capacity of project stakeholders and ensure compliance with ADB loan and grant agreements and government policies.

Interested firms may obtain further information from office address below during office hours 09:30 to 16:30 hours (Monday through Friday) and Terms of Reference (ToR) for the respective assignment through ADB Consulting Services Recruitment Notices (CSRNR).

https://selfservice.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/xxcss/jsp/ADBCsrnFwd.jsp?sel=146149

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CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1094 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1094 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.TT/M.I.P 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: MS NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO. (1833-1834)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO. (1833-1834) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.TT/M.I.P 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: MS MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE)

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC DHAKA VOY. NO. (1817/1818)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC DHAKA VOY. NO. (1817/1818) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.TT/M.I.P 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.

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Phone No: 2301185

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Giant “Pacman” rock in Japan drawing climbers

MIYAZAKI (Japan)—A giant rock that resembles video game character Pacman is drawing climbers to a mountain in southwestern Japan, with visitors eager to capture images to share on social networks.

A 90-minute hike from the Shishigawa campground in Nobeoka, Miyazaki Prefecture, takes mountain climbers and tourists to “Pakkun Iwa” (Pacman Rock). The boulder, around 7 metres in diameter, lies on a trail leading to the top of 1,277-metre-high Mt Hoko.

The large opening in the lower part of the rock prompts visitors to strike funny poses, as if they are being devoured like the dots that Pacman eats in the video game. The rock is located in the Sobo-Katamuki-Okue mountain range that was designated as a biosphere reserve by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization last year.

According to Masao Toda-ka, head of a local environmental conservation group Forest Mandorukawa, images of the boulder have been shared many times on social networking sites such as Instagram since the spring of last year.

The rock’s popularity has kept the group busy dealing with inquiries about directions, in addition to improving roads and setting up signs.

While welcoming the increasing number of new visitors, Toda-ka, 64, warns people to properly equip themselves with mountain gear as a river has to be crossed to reach Pacman Rock. “We want you to enjoy yourselves while acting responsibly as mountain climbers,” Toda-ka said.

The video game became a huge hit in Japan and other countries after its initial release in 1980 by a predecessor of Bandai Namco Holdings Inc.

Richard Gere to star in Apple remake of Israeli series ‘Nevelot’

LOS ANGELES—Veteran actor Richard Gere is in negotiations to star in an untitled Apple drama series

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the series is based on Israeli show “Nevelot”, and executive produced by Howard Gordon and Peter Traugott, Alon Shtruzman, Rachel Kaplan, Peter Traugot, Yoram Mokady, and Miri Toovi.

Richard Gere is in negotiations and Lee Yardeni. It was based Dror Sabo with Daphna Levin years ago is killed by a car. Notorious lives upended when best friends who find their modish Vietnam veterans and the tech giant.

Veteran actor Richard Gere. PHOTO: PTI

Netizens blast Singapore Miss Universe’s Trump-Kim summit gown

SINGAPORE—Singapore’s Miss Universe representative to the upcoming Miss Universe pageant plans to wear a dress depicting a key moment of the US-North Korea summit that Singapore hosted earlier this year, but the design of her gown has raised hackles in the wealthy city-state.

The outfit, which shows two hands draped in the flags of the United States and North Korea locked in warm handshake on an electric blue background lined with iconic tourist attractions in Singapore, has drawn flak on social media since it was unveiled last week. An online petition has been launched to prevent the costume from being paraded by 23-year-old Singaporean model Zannah Khanum from Mexico as a national costume at the pageant in Bangkok later this month, with many criticizing it as not representative of Singapore. “There is nothing about this distasteful costume that truly represents Singapore. It is totally non-representative, inappropriate and ridiculous to say the least.”

However, Khanum has defended the costume and was quoted by the state-run Channel News Asia as saying that it “just a representation of what Singapore stands for, which is world peace, and the fact that Singapore is reaching out to other countries to create positive relationships.” Moe Kasim, 48, the creative director of Moephosis Concepts (Singapore) who designed the costume, was undeterred by the criticism.

Miss Mexico crowned Miss World in Sanya

SANYA—Twenty-six-year-old Vanessa Ponce de Leon from Mexico was crowned Miss World after she won the final competition of this year’s beauty pageant of the same name and produced for the Israeli cable network HOT.

The Apple series would be written by Howard Gordon and he will also executive produce the project alongside Gere, Warren Leight, Sabo, Yardeni, Avi Nir, Alon Shtruzman, Rachel Kaplan, Peter Traugot, Yoram Mokady, and Miri Toovi.

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The Apple series would be written by Howard Gordon and he will also executive produce the project alongside Gere, Warren Leight, Sabo, Yardeni, Avi Nir, Alon Shtruzman, Rachel Kaplan, Peter Traugot, Yoram Mokady, and Miri Toovi.

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However, Khanum has defended the costume and was quoted by the state-run Channel News Asia as saying that it “just a representation of what Singapore stands for, which is world peace, and the fact that Singapore is reaching out to other countries to create positive relationships.” Moe Kasim, 48, the creative director of Moephosis Concepts (Singapore) who designed the costume, was undeterred by the criticism.

Miss Mexico crowned Miss World in Sanya

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The video game became a huge hit in Japan and other countries after its initial release in 1980 by a predecessor of Bandai Namco Holdings Inc.

Netizens blast Singapore Miss Universe’s Trump-Kim summit gown

“Would it truly be a sad day to have Singapore represented with the American and North Korean flags,” said the petition, which was started by Sandra Galistan, and has attracted more than 1,700 online supporters. “There is nothing about this distasteful costume that truly represents Singapore. It is totally non-representative, inappropriate and ridiculous to say the least.”

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**NASA’s InSight lander ‘hears’ wind on Mars**

TAMPA (United States)—Humans can now hear the haunting, low rumble of wind on Mars for the first time, after NASA’s InSight lander captured vibrations from the breeze on the Red Planet, the US space agency said on Friday.

The strong gusts of wind, blowing between 10 to 15 mph (five to seven metres a second), were captured as they moved over the solar panels on InSight, an unmanned lander that touched down on Earth’s dusty, desolate neighbour on 26 November.

InSight is designed to study the interior of Mars like never before, using seismology instruments to detect quakes and a self-hammering mole to measure heat escape from the planet’s crust. Sensing the wind, which moved from northwest to southeast at around 5 pm local time, was “an unplanned treat,” said Bruce Banerdt, InSight principal investigator at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. NASA’s Viking 1 and 2 landers also picked up signals of the Martian wind when they landed in 1976. They were measuring at lower sampling rates, however, not frequencies that would be audible, and did not return sounds that people could listen to. “Personally, listening to the sounds form the pressure sensor, reminds me of sitting outside on a windy summer afternoon, listening to the turbulent gusts come and go and whistle through your ears,” said Don Banfield, a researcher at Cornell University. —AFP

**Acknowledgement**

U Maung Thein Khang (Mrauk/Sittwe)
Retired High School Teacher
Pyithu Hluttaw Representative (Sittwe)
(01-11-2018)

The family members of the late U Maung Thein Khang would like to offer our heartfelt thanks and great appreciation to the doctors and nurses from Nay Pyi Taw 1000 bedded hospital and Sittwe General Hospital for their kindness during his illness; Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw, Union Information Minister and Madame, all the staff members of the Information Ministry, Speaker and Representatives of Rakhine State Hluttaw, Members of Arakan National Party and friends and students near and far for messages of sympathy and condolences during our time of bereavement. We regret our inability to thank each and everyone individually.

Research shows frequent sauna bathing reduces risk of cardiovascular mortality for elderly

HELSINKI—A study conducted by researchers from the University of Eastern Finland and the University of Jyvaskyla has shown that frequent sauna bathing can lower the risk of death from cardiovascular disease (CVD) in middle-aged and elderly people. The research, which has recently been published in the open access journal BMC Medicine, found that the mortality from CVD among people taking saunas four to seven times a week is 73 per cent lower than those using saunas once a week, according to the press release issued by the University of Eastern Finland.

The findings were based on self-reported questionnaire and death cases from cardiovascular causes recorded in documents of death. A total of 1,488 people living in eastern Finland were involved in the research.—Xinhua

**Drinking orange juice reduces dementia risk by almost 50 per cent: study**

NEW YORK—Drinking a glass of orange juice daily could significantly reduce one’s risk of getting dementia, a new study has suggested.

The study, published in the journal Neurology, tracked nearly 28,000 US men over their consumption of fruit and vegetables from 1986 to 2002 and subjective cognitive function for nearly three decades.

The mean age of men when data were first collected was 51 years.

The study found that men who drank a small glass of orange juice were 47 per cent less likely to develop poor thinking skills than those who drank less than one serving per month.

The study involved 27,000 men who ate the average US diet—over 34 per cent less likely to report having experienced a reduction in memory function. “Fruits and vegetables are rich in vitamins and nutrients, including antioxidants, that can help protect the brain,” said Hannah Gardner, a researcher at the University of Miami who was not involved in the research, according to the Daily Mail.—Xinhua

**Slow recycler Turkey seeks better uses for its trash**

**ISTANBUL** (Turkey)—Turkish woman Tulay Gercik stands in front of a vending machine at a busy Istanbul metro station but instead of putting coins into a slot, she crams plastic bottles into a hole. Every bottle or can Gercik places in the machine gives extra credit on her Istanbul card—the universal ticket for using public transport in the city—in a pilot project by the municipality to promote recycling. “I’m bringing plastic bottles every day,” she said at Sishane station, where she had brought a large bag of bottles and cans.

“In the past I used to throw them into the bin. This is a very good project. There should be more,” she said. “I believe it will help raise public awareness a little bit.” The machines are in place at 12 stations in Turkey’s mega city and officials hope to expand to more in the future. It’s so far a relatively rare step in a country of over 80 million people with a notoriously bad record on recycling and waste.

Activists say this must change fast and there are signs, albeit tentative, that the authorities are starting to understand the need to change profligate habits.

“Polluting the soil”

Turkey ranks 108th with a score of 52.96 in the 2018 Environmental Performance Index (EPI), produced by the Yale Centre for Environmental Law and Policy, that analyses the environmental performance of 180 nations. Top of the eco-chart is Switzerland, with a score of 87.42, indicating a strong showing across most issues, especially climate, energy and air pollution.

Oya Guzel, of the Mind Your Waste (Copune Sahip Cilo) foundation, said Turkey was producing around 31 million tonnes of waste annually, out of which 11 per cent was recycled. “We are polluting the soil and the environment with plastics, metals and glass which remain in the natural environment for years,” she told AFP. “We have a target of 35 per cent (of all waste to be recycled) by five years from now, which is also low but we believe progress can be made” in that time. She said it was consumers in the end who have to decide what is recyclable. “We could turn it into raw material, or throw away litter and make it trash,” Guzel said, urging consumers to give up on disposable materials. “We use a plastic bag for an average time of 12 minutes. It becomes trash 12 minutes later.”

The Istanbul municipality told AFP that, of the non-recycled waste, 61 per cent was burned to produce electricity and the remaining 28 per cent buried with no use.

**End to free bags**

Green policies do not appear as yet to be a major vote winner in Turkey but there are signs the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is now paying some attention to the issue. Environment and Urbanisation Minister Muammer Kurum said there would be a compulsory charge for plastic bags from January, bringing Turkey into line with other European countries. That would be a revolution in a country which uses plastic bags massively.

Kurum said that every Turkish citizen uses, on average, 440 bags a year, adding the aim was to reduce this to 40 by 2025. —AFP

**Slow recycler Turkey seeks better uses for its trash**

Tulay Gercik puts plastic bottles into a vending machine in Istanbul in a pilot project to promote recycling. —AFP

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Myanmar Wushu player Aye Thitsar Myint performs in the tournament. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT

Myanmar secures gold medal in Wushu at 19th ASEAN University Games

MYANMAR grabbed the gold medal in the Wushu competition of the 19th ASEAN University Games, held at the Wanna Theikdi in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Myanmar’s Aye Thitsar Myint secured the gold medal in the women’s Wushu Nandao competition with 9.61 points, while a Malaysian player won the silver medal with 9.60 points.

Sandi Oo, Hnin Thiri Maung, Saung Hnin Phyu, and Zaw Htet Aung from Myanmar also took part in the competition but did not win medals.

In the Men’s Taijijian competition, Myanmar’s Nyein Chan Ko Ko secured the first place with 9.62 points, Khant Min Htet took the second place with 9.61 points, while a Singaporean player stood third with 9.56 points.

In the competition, only one medal will be awarded for Taijiquan and Taijijian tournament. The Men’s Taijiquan tournament will be held today.—Nyi Myat

Myanmar prepares for U-21 football tournament in Viet Nam

MYANMAR’S national U-21 football team is preparing for an international tournament which will be held in Vietnam from 12 to 18 December, according to a statement released by the Myanmar Football Federation.

National football teams from Myanmar, Malaysia, Viet Nam, and Gimpae FC from the Republic of Korea will compete in the tourney, which will be held at the Tu Do Stadium in Hue City, Viet Nam.

Myanmar’s squad for the tournament has 20 star players, including goalkeeper Bhone Thitsar Min, defenders Aung Wunna Soe, Thet Paing Htwe, and Soe Moe Kyaw, midfielders Pyae Sone Naing and Myat Kaung Khant, and strikers Win Naing Tun and Zim Min Tun.

The Myanmar team will leave for Viet Nam from the Yangon International Airport on 10 December. They will be accompanied by head coach U Kyi Lwin.

Myanmar will play against Viet Nam on 12 December, Gimpae FC on 14 December, and Malaysia on 16 December.

Depending on the points scored, two teams will play the final match and two teams will play for the third place on 18 December.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Thitsar Arman retains top spot in MFF Women’s League

THE Thitsar Arman FC is still leading the standing table of the MFF Women’s League 2018-2019 season, supervised by the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) and Myanmar Women’s League (MWL).

The ISPE, the Sports and Education, and Myawady teams are next in the standing table, with goal differences with the Thitsar Arman.

In earlier matches in the last week of the tourney, the Thitsar Arman trounced the University team 11-0, while the Myawady FC defeated the YERO FC by a narrow 1-0 win, the Sports and Education team beat Gandamar FC 2-0, and the ISPE team cut out the Zwekapan FC with a big score of 7-0. The Myanmar Women’s League has been a top professional league in Myanmar for women’s association football clubs since its establishment in 2016.

Eight teams are participating in the 2018-2019 tourney, including the Sports and Education FC, the Myawady FC, the Gandamar FC, the Zwekapan FC, the YERO FC, the Thitsar Arman, the University team, and the Institute of Sports and Physical Education FC.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Liverpool top after Chelsea inflict Man City’s first league defeat

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Chelsea inflicted champions Manchester City’s first Premier League defeat of the season with a 2-0 win at Stamford Bridge that allowed Liverpool to go top of the table on Saturday, N’Golo Kante and David Luiz were on target for Maurizio Sarri’s men as City paid for failing to take advantage of their first-half dominance. “I am very happy with the win because it is not very easy to win against Manchester City,” Sarri said.

Chelsea boss Maurizio Sarri. Liverpool now lead City by a point after

However, it was the hosts who enjoyed the better of the second period and sealed a huge victory 12 minutes from time when Luiz’s looping header from Hazard’s corner dipped in via the crossbar. “It is difficult for us to find motivation but when we are (motivated), we are a very strong team,” added Sarri. “Today we played with a very good level of application, determination and the right level of aggressiveness.”

Salah back to his best

Salah had been rested from the start for Wednesday’s 3-1 win at Burnley that

Klopp’s men on City’s coat-tails, and the Egyptian looked to have benefited from a break as he looked more like the player who netted 44 goals in an incredible debut season at Anfield. The visitors were slightly fortunate to take the lead on 25 minutes when Asmir Begovic fumbled Robert Firmino’s long-range shot and Salah’s follow-up effort was allowed to stand despite appearing to be marginally offside. Salah made the game safe by showing determination to stay on his feet despite being fouled before finding the bottom corner early in the second half.

Steve Cook’s own goal then made it 3-0 before Salah sealed his hat-trick by remaining remarkably cool to dribble past Begovic twice before prodimg home.—AFP