

NATIONAL

Hluttaw central committee, work committees meet to hold meetings

PAGE-2

NATIONAL

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends 2019 Naga New Year ceremony

PAGE-5,6

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 275, 11th Waxing of Pyatho 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Wednesday, 16 January 2019

President U Win Myint attends 67th Kayah State Day ceremony



President U Win Myint poses for the commemorative photo together with attendees at the 67th Anniversary of Kayah State Day in Kandahaywun Park in Loikaw. **PHOTO: KO THA BYAW**

PRESIDENT U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, U Min Thu, Dr. Aung Thu, U Ohn Win, U Win Khaing and Nai Thet Lwin and officials left Nay Pyi Taw by a special Tatmadaw flight and arrived in

Loikaw, Kayah State yesterday morning.

The President and party were welcomed by Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho, State Hluttaw Speaker U Hla Htwe, State Chief Judge U Kyaw Lin Maung, state ministers, State Advocate, State Auditor

and officials at the airport.

From there the President and party attended the 67th Anniversary Kayah State Day ceremony held on the platform in Kandahaywun Park, Loikaw.

Also present at the ceremony were Union Ministers, Kayah State Chief Minister,

Eastern Command commander, State Hluttaw Speaker, State Chief Judge, state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, State Advocate, State Auditor, departmental heads, representatives of political party, ethnic national leaders, ethnic national culture groups and social organizations,

students and the local people.

First, Kayah tribal leaders and members of the chair took up their respective places and together with the attendees saluted the national flag, martyred leaders and soldiers.

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY



NATIONAL
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
Myanmar Police Force holds graduation for Sub-Inspectors
PAGE-7



NATIONAL
Japan's State Minister for Foreign Affairs visits Maungta
PAGE-10



Hluttaw central committee, work committees meet to hold meetings

THE coordination meeting (1/2019) of the central committee and work committees in charge of organizing Second Hluttaw meetings was held, yesterday, in the Hluttaw Building Zabuthiri Hall, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, U T Khun Myat, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, said that the second Hluttaw regular sessions had been successfully held and which was convened from the first meeting to 10th meeting. Moreover, the



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat addresses the Myanmar Parliamentary Union (MPU) Meeting 1/2019 in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than.

work process of the Hluttaw has been facilitated due to the support provided by relevant work committees.

The Second Hluttaw eleventh regular session would be held on 21 January, 2019 and invitation letters had been sent to the Hluttaw representatives to contact not earlier than 19 January and not later than 20 January.

As for the officials from the Hluttaw meeting organizing central committee and work committees, they were urged to openly discuss necessary matters.

Then Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than said that much experience had been gained through the holding of the second Hluttaw meeting, which has been convened from

the first time to tenth time successfully.

Later, relevant Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers and officials explained and discussed work-committee wide tasks. The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw then commented on the explanations and discussions, after which the meeting came to a close following the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker's closing re-

marks. The meeting was attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein, Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, work committee secretaries and officials from the Hluttaws. — MNA (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein delivers the speech at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting over Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council Bill sent by the President with comments at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D, second floor meeting hall yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended

by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, Joint Bill Committee Chairman U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein, deputy chairmen, secretary, joint secretary and committee members from Joint Bill Committee, invited Hluttaw representatives, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special

Cases Assessment Commission members, officials from Ministry of Health and Sports, Union Attorney General Office, Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council, Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Association and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo receives Mr. Subhrendu Chatterji from PWC Consortium

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo received a delegation led by Mr. Subhrendu Chatterji from the PWC Consortium, yesterday, at the Office of Union Attorney General in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, the Union Attorney-General discussed the role of his office in the legislation, executive and judiciary sectors, the rule of law, investment, improvement of financial framework, and cooperation with international organizations to combat money laundering.

Mr. Subhrendu Chatterji also discussed the matters

relating to improvement of economic cooperation with Myanmar, technical support to develop financial market, schemes for intellectual property projects and conducting training classes and discussions to make improvement of intellectual property laws.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Attorney General U Win Myint, Directors-General of the Office of the Union Attorney-General Daw Khin Cho Ohn and Dr. Thida Oo.

— MNA ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

circulation@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
သတင်းစာဖတ်သူတို့လိုပါကဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
Circulation order is in easier way. HOTLINE 09-974424114

President U Win Myint attends 67th Kayah State Day ceremony

FROM PAGE-1

Next, the message sent to the 67th Anniversary Kayah State Day by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was read by Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho.

unique colors are coloring and making the union beautiful. Our Union government doesn't differentiate between states and regions or hills and plains and is striving towards a balanced development of all. At the same time, we are also ensuring that our

good intention through establishing a peaceful and developed union that will bring forth socio-economic development of all ethnic national brothers and sisters. A union that will exist as long as the earth exists and all ethnic nationals are urged

Our Union government doesn't differentiate between states and regions or hills and plains and is striving towards a balanced development of all.

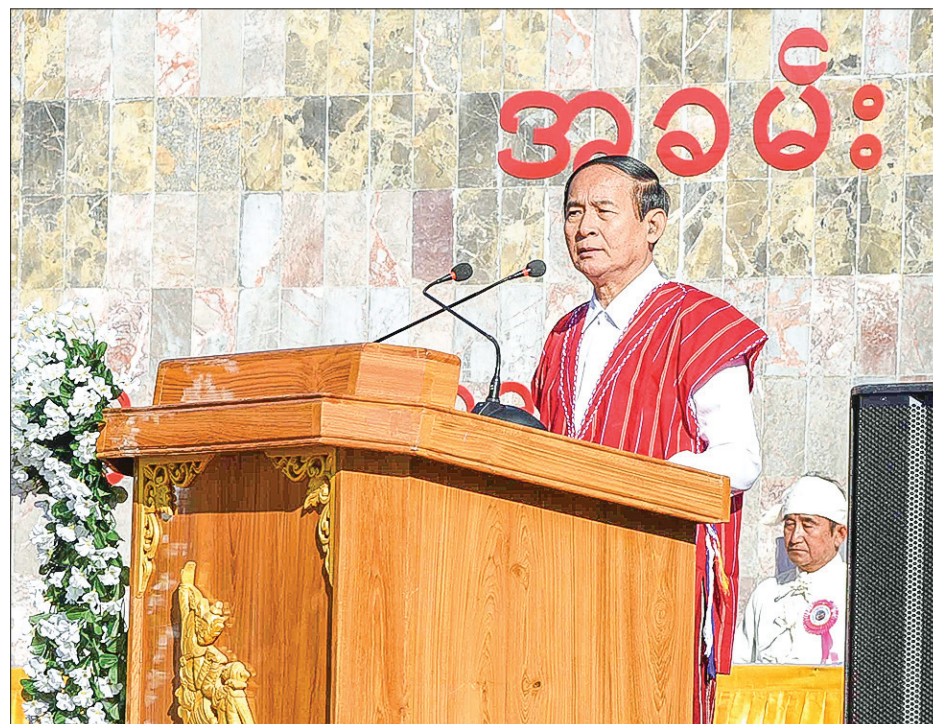
Afterwards President U Win Myint delivered a speech on the occasion of the 67th Anniversary of Kayah State Day. The President said the fact that State Days were being held in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is an indication or symbol of the Union. The attendance of ethnic brothers and sisters in wide ranging colored dresses according to tribes is also an image of the Union. Each state and region has its own unique beauty. In the same way ethnic national tribes and races also had their own unique beauties. These

ethnic national brothers and sisters acquire their rightful rights as a priority. We're implementing toward maintaining and retaining the languages, literatures, traditions and cultures of our ethnic national brothers and sisters. The languages, literatures, traditions and cultures of our ethnic national brothers and sisters are multi-colored flowers that are blooming beautifully and beautifying the garden which is our Union. For the eternal existence of these beauties, we are adding up the beauty by mellowing it with our good mind and

to participate in it.

After the ceremony the President and party took commemorative group photos with Kayah State Chief Minister, Eastern Command commander, State Hluttaw Speaker, State Chief Judge, state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, representative of political party, ethnic national leaders, members of the chairs and state government members.

After the President had cordially greeted the local people, the President and party visited the 67th Anniversary Kaya State Day exhibitions



President U Win Myint delivers the greeting speech at the 67th Anniversary of Kayah State Day. **PHOTO: MNA**



President U Win Myint looks around the celebration of 67th Anniversary of Kayah State Day in Kandahaywun Park in Loikaw yesterday. **PHOTO: KO THA BYAW**



President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho are welcomed by Kayah ethnic dance troupe at the 67th Anniversary of Kayah State Day ceremony in Loikaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

and traditional sports/games competition held in Kayah State Day festival field.

Later the President and party went to Dimawhso Township Panpet Village where Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Saw Sein Tun, Hluttaw representatives and the local people welcomed them.

There the President cordially greeted the local Kayan ethnic nationals, inspected the shops selling ethnic national products and local products and took commemorative group photos with ethnic national cultural troupes.

From there the President and party went to

Ngwe Taung Dam and observed the natural surroundings of the dam and storage of water in the dam.

After completing the observation, the President and party were explained about Ngwe Taung Dam project particulars by State Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department head U Wei Lwin and State Chief Minister added on follow up work programs. In response to the explanation the President said agriculture is central in a country's development and socio-economic development of the people.

SEE PAGE-4



President U Win Myint and his entourage observe the Baluchaung hydro power plants from the view point in Loikaw, Kayah State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA/ KO THA BYAW**

President U Win Myint attends 67th Kayah State Day ceremony

FROM PAGE-3

As such for the suc-

cess of agriculture in the region, sufficient amounts

of irrigation water must be provided at the required

time. There is also a requirement to retain the

beauty of natural surroundings of the dam. State Government and relevant departmental organizations are to cooperate hand in hand when there is a requirement, said the President.

In the afternoon, the President and party arrived at the Baluchaung Power Station briefing hall where Union Minister for Electricity and Energy

ter for the long term sustainability of Baluchaung Power Station 1, 2 and 3 is to maintain Inle Lake and the long term existence of Moebyel Dam and relevant ministries are to cooperate in these works.

After the explanation and briefing in the briefing hall, the President observed the Baluchaung hydro power plants from the view point, inspected



President U Win Myint inspects Baluchaung Hydro Power Station in Loikaw, yesterday. **PHOTO: KO THA BYAW**

As a national priority, we are also ensuring that our ethnic brothers and sisters are guaranteed of their complete rights.



President U Win Myint greets ethnic people at dinner to mark the 67th Kayah State Day in Loikaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Win Khaing explained about the status of yearly increase in electricity generation and distribution, power requirement of the Union, electricity generation projects implemented for 55 percent of the country obtaining electricity in 2020-2021 and the entire country to have electricity by 2030.

This was followed by Electric Power Supply Enterprise Managing Director U Khin Maung Win explaining about Baluchaung Power Station 1, 2, 3 and upper Baluchaung electricity projects particulars.

The President remarked that in striving towards the entire country having electricity by 2030, the most important mat-

hydro-electricity generated at Baluchaung hydro power station 3 and 2 and then took commemorative group photos with power station personnel.

Later in the evening the President and party attended a dinner commemorating the 67th Anniversary Kayah State Day held at the Kayah State Hall in Loikaw.

At the dinner State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho spoke words of greetings. The President and party then had dinner together with ethnic nationals while being entertained by ethnic national dances and then presented commemorative gifts and cash presents. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends 2019 Naga New Year ceremony

UNION Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe from the Office of the the State Counselor attended the 2019 Naga traditional New Year ceremony held at the Naga traditional culture ground, Leshi town, Ahmuhtan Ward, Naga Self-Administered Zone, in Sagaing Region, yesterday morning.

The ceremony started off with saluting the flag and ceremony chairman Naga ethnic national U Aung Win delivered the opening speech.

Next, U Kyaw Tint Swe delivered a message of greetings. He said today was the 2019 New Year ceremony of Naga ethnic nationals. On this auspicious day he said he wanted to say Mingalabar to Naga ethnic nationals and union born ethnic nationals living in Myanmar and wished that all of them were blessed with auspiciousness, happiness and peace in mind and body.

He said he was very happy for being able to attend the Naga traditional New Year ceremony held for this year. It is learnt that Naga traditional New Year ceremony is held after traditional farm work for the year ends

with the harvesting of the crop and before starting of the next farming season.

Naga traditional New Year ceremonies were held annually village-wise and starting from 1956-1957 under the leadership of Naga ethnic national leaders, township level New Year festivals were held. After discussing and consulting with Naga tribal leaders in 1990, January 15 was designated as the Naga traditional New Year Day.

Starting from 1993, the Naga traditional New Year ceremony was conducted with the support of the Union. Starting from 2001, the Naga traditional New Year ceremony was celebrated at the Union level in Naga regions of Leshi, Lahe and Nanyun towns and this was the 19th anniversary of the Union level Naga traditional New Year ceremony.

May the Naga ethnic national brothers and sisters share the experience of the year that had went by. May they be able to set-up arrangements to overcome possible problems they might encounter in the coming year.

According to the 2018 Constitution there are six self-ad-



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe delivers the opening speech at the 2019 Naga traditional New Year Festival at Naga Self-Administered Zone, Sagaing Region yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

ministered zones and regions. The Naga self-administered zone is in Sagaing Region while Shan State has five zones and regions. According to the history of Naga nationals there were 4 major tribes with more than a hundred small tribes. Naga traditional culture and literature groups were also found to be formed to protect and maintain the culture and literature. These developments in the Naga re-

gion show the peace and stability of the Naga region. The Union Government was also placing much emphasis on reducing differences in development between states and regions.

Ever since the incumbent government took over the responsibility of the Union, it had set and implemented three aims which are as follows:

(1) Rule of law and socio-economic development of

the people

(2) National reconciliation and internal peace

(3) Amending the Constitution as a basic foundation for the establishment of a Democratic Federal Union

According to the aim of socio-economic development of the people, programs were setup and implemented to raise the living standard of the people in remote and far-off places like the Naga self-administered zone.

As for the expectation of the people to establish a Democratic Federal Union, the major requirement at the moment is to have complete and total internal peace. A true and genuine peace will be achieved only when there were no armed conflicts in the entire country. Rule of law could be fully established only when peace was obtained. Arrangements and works could be conducted for development of economy, health, education and road transport sectors only when there was rule of law.

Due to these facts to cease the 70 years long internal armed conflicts Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong meetings were being held to resolve political problems through political means by taking the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) path. At the moment, good results were being achieved by signing 51 basic principles in two parts of the Union Accord.

SEE PAGE-6



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe and party together with Naga people beating a traditional drum at Naga New Year Festival. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends 2019 Naga New Year ceremony

FROM PAGE-5

In continuing to work towards inclusiveness for all, not only ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) that had signed the NCA but EAOs that had not signed NCA were being met in informal talks to maintain the momentum of the meetings and discussions.

In fact it is only through the collective strengths of our ethnic nationals born of the union can our union exist and develop as a Democratic Federal Union that was on par with other countries in the region. Only then would the image of the country improve and the status of the country in the international arena be raised.

The Naga self-administered zone where the Naga ethnic nationals live was a region that had a good natural environment with mountain, hills, lush green forests, and mountain streams; it was a region that was extremely beautiful. These natural beauties and the traditions and cultures of Naga ethnic nationals are a huge opportunity for the development of local and foreign travel business. Everyone should join in and work to raise the socio-economic life of the ethnic nationals in the region based on tourism.

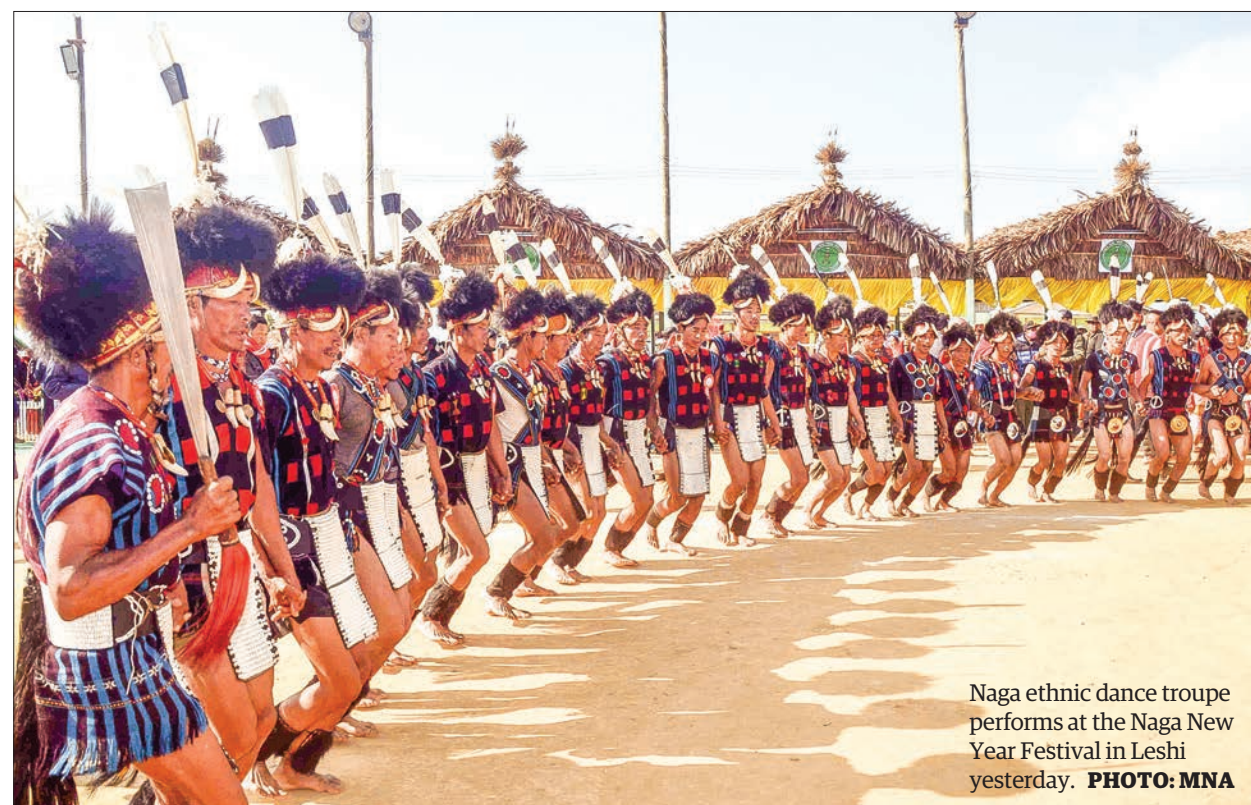
As such the Union government would continue in its efforts towards making the Naga self-administered zone to become modern

and developed and Naga ethnic nationals and public servants who were serving in this region were urged to continue to cooperate and participate in these efforts.

In conclusion, he said he prayed that may Naga ethnic nationals would come together on the path of the peace process, a path that the Union Government was walking on. Share the experiences of past years and make better arrangements for the next year. He prayed that the weather would be fine in the New Year and that there would be bounteous crops. May harms and dangers stay away and may all be healthy and well, said the Union Minister. Next, Sagaing



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe (Right) accepts Naga traditional spear presented by Naga-Self Administered Zone Chairman U Kay Sai as a new year gift at the Naga New Year Festival yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Naga ethnic dance troupe performs at the Naga New Year Festival in Leshi yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Naga ethnic people and guests enjoying the bonfire as they celebrate the Naga New Year Festival. **PHOTO: MNA**

These natural beauties and the traditions and cultures of Naga ethnic nationals are a huge opportunity for the development of local and foreign travel business.

Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing delivered a message of greetings and Naga traditional literature and culture (center) committee chairman U Aung Htut delivered a New Year greeting and U Tun Naing Thu explained about the history of Naga traditional New Year festival.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe was presented with a New Year gift by the Naga-Self Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman U Kay Sai.

Following this, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Than Htut and officials presented region development support materials to Naga-Self Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman U Kay Sai and officials.

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing, Region Hluttaw Speaker and officials were

then presented with commemorative gifts by Chairman U Kay Sai and Naga traditional literature and culture (center) committee officials.

After that chairman of the ceremony Naga ethnic national U Aung Win delivered a concluding speech. Next, Naga tribes performed traditional dances.

U Kyaw Tint Swe then visited the hand looms, ethnic medicine, and other traditional exhibits and presented gifts to the Naga traditional dance troupes.

Later in the evening U Kyaw Tint Swe attended the Naga traditional New Year bonfire event.

The event was started by Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing and Naga traditional literature and culture (center) committee chairman U Aung Htut lighting the bonfire and Naga tribes dance troupes performed traditional dances. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Mr. Robert Duglin from the American society of Travel Advisors (asta) and discussed the matters relating to development of tourism sector in Myanmar, fostering to make known about an actual image of Myanmar's peace and serenity which aims at letting the western countries know through tourism sector.—MNA ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

The graduation ceremony was also attended by Myanmar Police Force Deputy Chief (security/crime) Police Maj-Gen Aung Naing Thu and senior Police Officers. A total of 321 cadet officers of which 208 were policemen and 113 were policewomen graduated, it is learnt. —MNA■(Translated by Zaw Min)

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

(1)	BC 24329 Maj Aung San Win	BC 39706 Maj Win Thet Naing Myint
(2)	BC 43203 Captain Phyo Wai Myint	BC 56671 Captain Htin Oo

(3)	BC 43367	BC 56071
	Captain Phyo Phyo	Captain Nyan Lin Phyo

(4)	BC 45020 Captain Phyu Win	BC 52631 Captain Tin Maung Lwin
(5)	BC 45577 Captain Myo Tun Lin	BC 51849 Captain Nay Lwin Htoo

(6)	BC 21869	BC 37909
	Maj Khin Maung Myint	Maj Aye Lin Tun

(7)	BC 39977	BC 39382
	Captain Kyaw Thu Win	Captain Han Lin Tun

Union Election Commission

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

circulation@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
 သတင်းစာမှာယူစက်ရုံလိုပါက ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
Circulation order is in easier way. **HOTLINE 09-974424114**

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
 သတင်းစာ၊ ဂျာနယ်စာစောင်များ အား နိုင်ငံတကာအဆင့်မီ
 ပုံနှိပ်စက်ဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်ပေးပါသည်။
Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. **Contact: 09-254435478**

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
 ကြော်ငြာရှင်များနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအေဂျင်စီများအနေဖြင့် ကြော်ငြာ
 ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက တိုက်ရိုက်ဆက်သွယ်ဆွေးနွေးနိုင်ပါသည်။
Advertise with us. **HOTLINE 09-974424848**

Join hands to tackle today's challenges

WITH the development of information technology, the world is changing at a rapid pace. Countries, societies, and the information technology sector are co-evolving swiftly, and Myanmar is striving to keep pace with the changes. As we try not to lose sight of developments at home and abroad, to keep abreast of other nations, and to achieve peace, we are faced with some challenges.

The spirit of unity and the collective strength of our ethnic brethren is sine qua non for overcoming the challenges ahead. We believe our people have the capacity to meet the challenges and build collective strength.

Today, we are working to build a Union based on democracy and federalism. Only after we have established unity will we be able to ensure the everlasting dignity of our Union.

With Union Spirit, we built First Empire of Myanmar. We must not forget the fact that we gained our independence with the spirit of unity.

Today, we are working for internal peace and national reconciliation to build a Union based on democracy and federalism. Therefore, now is the time for all ethnic nationals to take lessons from undesirable experiences of the past and march forward with unity, collective strength, and to join hands for the emergence of a peaceful Union.

National reconciliation is the foundation for peace in the Union. National reconciliation wholly depends on how well we incorporate different visions and attitudes in the dialogue process. It can never be implied that people with different views are wrong.

Nothing is achieved easily. We haven't enjoyed peace across the nation since the post-independence period. We are all aware of the battles taking place between and among us. We have the opportunity as

well as the duty to achieve peace. We would like the people of the country to make use of this chance.

Hence, the people of the country need to work strenuously and join hands with the government to overcome all the challenges we are facing.

With collective strength, we can build a strong Union in our lifetime so that generations to come will be able to enjoy the fruits of our present efforts.

Trade Mark Ads
Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355, 09974424848

Round table discussion held in quest of creating pleasant campuses for university students

In higher learning, the curriculum, method of teaching, and learning techniques play a vital role.

U Aung Myat Soe, Principal of Taungoo Education College

By News Team

(CONTINUED FROM
YESTERDAY'S ARTICLE)

The MRTV broadcast round table discussion in quest of creating beautiful, decent and pleasant campuses. The panelists at the discussion are Dr. Kyaw Kyaw Khaung, Rector of East Yangon University, Dr. Maung Maung Naing, Rector of Yadanabon University, Dr. Moe Pwint, Rector, University of Computer Studies in Mandalay (UCSM), Dr. Aung Win, acting Rector of University of Technology in Mandalay (Yatanapon Cyber City), U Aung Myat Soe, Principal of Taungoo Education College.

Moderator: Please share the response of the students over the arrangements of creating a pleasant campus environment.

Dr. Kyaw Kyaw Khaung: The students are very much active and enthusiastic in the pleasant campus environment and for quality education along with their peers.

While entering the 21st century, the students always keep in touch with the ICT and have wide ranging vision, for that we need to encourage them. We are ready to support and encourage them when they bring in the outside educational activities if the tasks are on the right track, and we always keep the door open for them.

On behalf of the government, our university has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Danish Embassy in Yangon for the establishment of Human Rights Resource Center (HRRC) organized by Danish Institute of Human Right (DIHR) at Dagon University and East Yangon University.

The main purpose of the HRRC is to raise awareness on human rights issues and knowledge, and it is so far only two universities have equipped with that facilities and learning. Therefore, the library at the East Yangon University has accommodate the Human Rights Resource of the DIHR, where the law students and other related students and



the faculty members visited there for the purpose of study. The students of other universities that are yet to establish the Human Right Resource Center could visit the Home Page of the Yangon East University to have access on the books.

At the moment, the human rights knowledge is very much vital and critical for the students, and therefore, the law students discussed and agreed with the librarian in having access to Human Rights Resource Center by assigning duty with voluntary tasks for the dissemination of human rights knowledge as well as law and order knowledge among the students.

We are also providing moral support and encouraging them to have good habits and moral characters. Their participations for the creation of a pleasant campus environment are very much plausible.

Moderator: What are the requirements in creating a pleasant learning campus?

Dr. Aung Win: The main requirement in creating decent learning atmosphere is to have physical basic structure; and that it is to be based on the existing educational prototype and the future possible pattern.

The existing long benches, the lined up rows and the division

of columns are not in conformity and accord in support of the 21st century skills, and it is time to transform the class rooms in accommodating the group formation with the aim to fan and roll out the necessary activities.

Aiming at the 21st century skills, the structural format is to be designed with maker-spaces, similar to the universities in the foreign countries with the maker-spaces, the sub-laboratory, and the factory classroom. The maker-space is equipped with 3D printers, laser cutters, various milling devices, and many more.

It is therefore, we need to consider the future patterns and structures of universities in the country with the formal, the informal and the gathering space, keeping in mind that a university is much similar to a small town. Only then it would be beneficial and positive for both the students and the faculty members, and therefore, physical infrastructure modification and reform is needed.

Moderator: We would like to hear from U Aung Myat Soe.

U Aung Myat Soe: In pursuit of higher learning, the curriculum, the effective teaching and learning techniques play a vital role. We must create quality education based on strong and solid physical infrastructure with fine curriculum, syllabus and teaching

– learning paradigm.

The pattern and prototype of teaching – learning aspect should include that of thinking skills, that of more interactions, that of entrepreneurial skills, that of smart mind, that of project oriented learning, that of problem oriented learning, that of case study based learning, so that the students would be able to convert from passive learning to active learning.

In order to make the physical infrastructure more efficiency and instrumental, the necessary items such as chemicals, apparatuses and equipments are to be added to the practical laboratory.

Moreover, it is to back up with the necessary utilities such as Makerspace, metal working, wood working, prototyping, electronic shop, print making, and ceramics in the practical laboratory, and that adding up with the informal gathering space would be much better.

Effective education

Putting together in the course of the integrated design project and diverse learning, it would make the higher education more attractive, as the different and varied subjects and students could interact in positive way of cooperation for beneficial results.

In the allocation of time for the teaching – learning process,

more time must be allowed for the access to library as it would be advantages to students. For instance, when assignments are given on subject wise as necessary, the students may inevitably have to use the normal library as well as e-Library, and most likely they would be using the online resource and relevant information, which would result with better and beneficial higher learning.

In this regards, the educational colleges are fostering and nurturing quality teachers with quality education as they are actually needed at the basic education sphere for the young kids.

Therefore, the curriculum and syllabus should be on a par with the international standard and norm, as the teachers being trained from the educational colleges would be surely assigned at the schools with the methodology of child center approach (CCA).

The students are to be imparted with the learner center approach (LCA), and also to be injected with the hard skills and soft skills, for which they are to be handed down to the young kids in the future.

Moreover, the personalized modular education must also be created in the genuine higher learning, so that cool and nice learning environment and campus could be realized.

Moderator: What are the feedback and assistances being provided from the side of the students?

Dr. Kyaw Kyaw Khaung: In creating a nice and decent campus, it could never be realized by the rector and the faculty members, it needs the cooperation and collaboration of teachers' union, students' union and other social associations to work together in unity.

The students rising up in this world in 21st century have already changed their attitude, approach, mindset and the way of thinking. The faculty members have to shoulder heavier responsibility apart from normal teaching as they now have become the resource person.

Today, the students are hold-

ing the mobile phones and have access to Internet, and understand well on the subjects that they are studying and also the activities that they have involved in the pursuit of higher education.

The university administrative body, the faculty members, and the students must take part with constructive and optimistic approach in the endeavor for the creation of nice and cool campus.

At the moment, all the universities are functioning with the budget allocation of the government, and that the Ministry of Education is trying to pave the way and seeking fine arrangements in making the universities to stand up with independent status.

At a time, when the universities could functions independently, then the role of the students would every much vital and crucial in the campus. Therefore, when they have joined the activities in the task of creating the campus for a nice and cool atmosphere, we welcomed them very cordially.

At this juncture, the relevant ministries are kindly requested to provide necessary assistances and approvals with regards to the welfare and the greater good of the students being requested by the university administration bodies, such as that of housing for the staff members, that of sports facilities, that of teaching materials and teaching aids.

As of now, (134) universities have been shifted to the Ministry of Education, and therefore, the collective force and strength of universities is very much significance for the future of the nation and also very much aspiring.

Therefore, I would like to wrap up with the Myanmar saying that the joining of hands between the teachers and the parents would bring in the quality education, and therefore, the creation of decent, satisfactory environment of campus needs the unity and harmony between the faculty members and the students.

Moderator: Thank you all for sharing the views.

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 4/2019

10th Waxing of Pyatho, 1380ME
(15 January, 2019)

Three Defence Services Personnel representatives substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute three Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following three Pyithu Hluttaw representatives shown in the left column under the Notification 61/2018 of the commission dated 15-5-2018 and the Notification 167/2018 of the commission dated 6-11-2018 with those shown in the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (1) | BC22385 | BC 20726 |
| | Col Moe Min Thein | Col Maung San |
| (2) | Navy 4089 | Navy 3856 |
| | Lt-Cmdr Zaw Min Oo | Lt-Cmdr Chit Nyi Nyi |
| (3) | BC 63112 | BC 63108 |
| | Captain Daw Zin Zin Aung | Captain Daw Theint Theingi Htway Aung |

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 5/2019

10th Waxing of Pyatho, 1380ME
(15 January, 2019)

Four Defence Services Personnel representatives substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute four Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following four Amyotha Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 2/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 27/2016 of the commission dated 14-11-2016, the Notification 62/2018 of the commission dated 15-5-2018 and the Notification 168/2018 of the commission dated 6-11-2018 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------------------|
| (1) | BC 28801 | BC 28733 |
| | Maj Tin Latt | Maj Win Lwin Oo |
| (2) | BC 35357 | BC 28340 |
| | Maj Thet Win | Maj Kyaw Moe Naing |
| (3) | BC 37264 | BC 38066 |
| | Maj Thet Min Oo | Maj Tin Aung Hein |
| (4) | BC 63106 | BC 63098 |
| | Captain | Captain Daw Win Thiri Swe |
| | Daw Pan Ei San | |

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Japan’s State Minister for Foreign Affairs visits Maungtaw

JAPAN’S State Minister for Foreign Affairs Ms. Toshiko Abe, accompanied by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung, visited Maungtaw yesterday and viewed houses which are under construction with the assistance of Japanese gov-

ernment. First, they flew to Kyeinchaungtaung Village in Maungtaw Township by helicopter where personnel of a construction company reported on works related to the construction. Afterwards, viewed the houses which are under construction and earth works.

With the assistance of the Japanese government, 51 houses with steel frames in Kyeinchaungtaung Village, 50 in Oh-htein Village, including each community hall for the two villages.

Afterwards, the two deputy ministers visited the Hla Phoe Khaung Transit Centre where officials concerned reported on readiness for repatriation including for accommodation, security, clinic, mess, drinking water supply, electricity, roads and rations. Following this, the delegation visited the clinic at the centre. Afterwards, Ms. Toshiko Abe and party visited Shwezar Village and viewed Islam children stud-



Mrs. Toshiko Abe has the documentary photo taken together with teachers at Shwezar Village. **PHOTO: MNA**



Ms. Toshiko Abe and Deputy Minister U Soe Aung hear report on readiness for repatriation at Hla Phoe Khaung Transit Centre. **PHOTO: MNA**

ying lessons. Ms. Toshiko Abe met with local ethnic people, Hindu people and Islam people at the village. At the meeting, she told the villagers that the Japanese government would cooperate with Myanmar government in Rakhine issue.

Afterwards, Ms. Toshiko Abe and U Soe Aung went to Pantawpyin (Middle) Village and viewed the distribution of food to local ethnic people and Islamic people living in 12 villages by the volunteers under the program of Japanese gov-

ernment and the Food and Agricultural Organization. They also greeted the local Islamic villagers. Afterwards, they flew back to Sittway. Thence, they left Sittway for Yangon by air. — MNA
(Translated by AMS)

Opening ceremony for the First Mandalay Yatanar Mall International Gems and Jewellery Fair-2019 held

THE opening ceremony for the 1st International Gems and Jewellery Fair-2019 held at Yadanabon Super Center, on the corner of 78th street and 34th street, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay.

Firstly, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe and officials opened the ceremony by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

Afterward, Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung said, gems expos in every country showcase the wealth of the country. Various types of the gem are found in Myanmar and 80 types of precious stones including qualified stones are found in Mogok. High-quality gems and low-quality gems are displayed in the expo so that all levels of people can come and buy. We need to try to hold more such kind of expo in the future. By including program about holding the expo annually in this expo, international audience will become aware of it and will visit without invitation. On the other hand the expo will promote the country’s tourism industry. As such I encourage to work toward

conducting the expo in a sustained manner every year after this expo.

Deputy Minister Dr. Ye Myint Swe said Myanmar is a country rich in natural resources, not the least of which are jade, rubies, and sapphires from Myanmar have consistently ranked as some of the most popular and magnificent gems in the world market. As Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation intends to use natural resources until next generations in accordance with rules and regulations and will reduce selling raw gems and now is giving priority to produce as high-value products. Following this Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association U L Phai Khun Sa and Mandalay Yatanar Mall Gems Entrepreneurs Development Committee

Chairman U Kyaw Thura says words of thanks.

Then, the Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, the Deputy Minister Dr. Ye Myint Swe and officials pressed a button to unveil the expo’s signboard and toured the booths exhibited.

The aim of the event is to penetrate the international market through the exhibition of Myanmar’s gems, to rebuild international gem market in the country and to upgrade development of jade and refined gems market and technology.

The event will be held from 15 to 19 January, 10 am to 7 pm. The expo will feature about 400 booths and about 10,000 gem merchants from 40 countries were invited.—Min Htet Aung (Mann Sub-Printing House) *(Translated by Myat Thandar Aung)*



Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung looks around jeweleries displayed at the 1st International Gems and Jewellery Fair-2019. **PHOTO: AUNG PHYO KYAW**

Foreign trade reaches \$8143 mln in October-December this fiscal year

MYANMAR’S foreign trade totalled US\$8143 million in October-December this fiscal year, with exports valued at \$3598 million and imports pegged at \$4545 million. The value of trade increased by \$126 million from the same period last year. The value of exports rose by \$143 million and imports decrease by \$17 million.

During the same period last year, the value of trade stood at \$8017 million, with exports worth \$3455 million and imports worth \$4562million.

The following table shows Myanmar’s exports this FY compared with the same period last FY:

Sr.	Sector	2018-2019 FY (October-December)	2017-2018 (October-December)	Comparison (+/-)
1	Agricultural products	739.686	737.768	1.918
2	Animals products	170.784	13.206	157.578
3	Marine products	225.100	194.165	30.935
4	Mineral products	293.007	379.279	-86.272
5	Forest products	47.162	50.086	-2.924
6	Manufactured goods	1922.130	1676.540	245.589
7	Other products	199.784	404.135	-204.351
	Total	3597.653	3455.180	142.473

The following table shows Myanmar’s imports this FY compared with the same period last FY:

Sr.	Sector	2018-2019 FY (October-December)	2017-2018 FY (October-December)	Comparison (+/-)
1	Investment Products	1513.250	1536.109	-22.858
2	Raw Materials	1889.320	1955.166	-65.845
3	Articles of use	1142.954	1070.871	-72.083
	Total	4545.526	4562.146	-16.620

Financial support transferred for fallen police officers in Buthidaung

ON 14 January House of Orchid organization presented K 13,000,000 to Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement for 13 fallen police officers in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State and Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye received donated cash and in thanked the donors for the donation.

Deputy Minister U Soe Aung and party then transferred the donated cash to Police Colonel Soe Myint Oo, Chief of No.1 Border Guard Police who accepted it on behalf of the families of the 13 fallen police officers. —MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release No. 2/2019
9th Waxing of Pyatho, 1380 ME
(14 January 2019)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 12 January 2019 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

No	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of selling illegal drugs near northern timber forest of Thetkel Kyin Village, Wuntho Tsp, Sagaing Region.	On 7-1-2019, police searched hut in rubber tree yard near northern timber forest of Thetkel Kyin Village, Wuntho Tsp. Police discovered Tin Aye, 66, together with opium. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Wuntho) MaYa (Pa) 4/2019 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Hla Myaing living in Taung Chaung Pauk Tel Taik, Quengyi Village, Myothit Tsp, Magway Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 11-1-2019, police searched Hla Myaing's house in Quengyi Village, Myothit Tsp. Police arrested Hla Myaing, 36, together with marijuana. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Myothit) MaYa (Pa) 1/2019 under Section 16- of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of selling illegal drugs on the hill in Group (10), Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp, Shan State (North).	So far 32 cases have been opened as of last weeks, 29 men and 3 women have been arrested, together with heroin and stimulant tablets. On 6-1-2019, further investigation led to the patrol in cementery of Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp and police arrested Kyaw Soe (a) Kyar Hway, 32, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kutkai) MaYa (Pa) 4/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. On 9-1-2019, further investigation led to patrol in Karline Village near cementery of Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp then police discovered Gan Aung, 20, and Naw Bauk, 20, from Zwanaung Village, together with '88/1' and '7' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kutkai) MaYa (Pa) 6/2019 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. On 11-1-2019, further investigation led to the arrest of Kawchan, 45, living in Lan Thwel Street (2), Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp then police discovered Kawchan, 45, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kutkai) MaYa (Pa) 7/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of selling illegal drugs in Kyaung Gyi Su Ward, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State.	So far 4 cases have been opened as of last weeks, 10 men have been arrested, together with heroin, stimulant tablets and opium blocks. On 8-1-2019, further investigation led to the patrol at the corner of Monetawa Street and Phayar Gone Street, Kyaung Gyi Su Ward, Taunggyi Tsp then police arrested Zaw Min Htike (a) Kalar (a) Jitkanu, 30, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Taunggyi) MaYa (Pa) 3/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far 456 cases have been opened as of 12-1-2019, and 599 men and 111 women have been arrested with seizures of 5,666.17 g of heroin, 25.01 g of ICE, 38,606.44 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 18,795.28 g of speciosa powder, 7,273.99 g of speciosa, 207,066 stimulant tablets, 3704.03 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 268.06 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 3.45 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 14 firearms, 211 different bullets, and 1 grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.
4. In addition to the investigations and arrests conducted on drug related complaints mentioned above, the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force have also carried out separate investigations on drug complaints, search and arrests at border gates, and searches of vehicles acting upon given information.
- During the previous week, multiple arrests were made in the border regions and joint-surveillance gates. Near Madein Village, Waingmaw Tsp, Kachin State, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then two men were arrested with 3,465 g of heroin and one motorcycle. On the road of Hanhtet-Mangya, near Mangya Village, Mansi Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then two women were arrested with 5,790 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. On the road of (4) Ward, Myawady Tsp, Kayin State, one Mazda car was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 1,980 stimulant tablets and one car. In Phelhtaw Village, Mawlamyine Tsp, Mon State, one

woman was arrested with 2,580 g of speciosa. In Kawhlaing Village, Khawza Sub-Tsp, Ye Tsp, one man was arrested with 97 stimulant tablets. On the road of Taunggyi-Hopong, near (6) Mile Village, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 10,000 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. On the road of Loilem-Taunggyi, near Lwelwohtoke Village, Hopong Tsp, one Revo car was stopped for investigation then two men were arrested with 40,000 stimulant tablets, 4,000 g of ICE and one car. Near Yayyar Village, Kalaw Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then two men were arrested with 2,600 g of opium and one motorcycle. On the road of Ywangan-Kyaukse, near Kyaukgupyin Village, Ywangan Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 53,200 g of opium and one motorcycle. On the road to Narkhone Village and Karla Village, near Narhee Village, Pekhon Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 4,400 g of opium and one motorcycle. Near Pankaytu Village, Mongkai Tsp, one man was stopped for investigation then the suspect dropped one gunny sack and ran away. 38,280 g of heroin and 31,027 g of opium packed with black plastic bag were discovered inside of the gunny sack. In Kharshee Village, Lashio Tsp, two motorcycles were stopped for investigation then two men were arrested with 7,000 g of opium and two motorcycles. In Ward (5), Tangyan Tsp, one man was arrested with 3,000 stimulant tablets and 20 g of heroin. In Honawng Village, Muse Tsp, further investigation led to the seizure of 8,960 liters of Ethyl Ether and 2,080 liters of Methanol from a Dongfeng 12-wheel truck stopped at the foot of Teinlone Village Mountain. In Mingwe Village, Namhkam Tsp, one man was arrested with 1,490 stimulant tablets and 200 g of heroin. On the road of Muse-Mandalay, near Oriental Toll Gate, Nawngkhio Tsp, one AD Van was stopped for investigation then three men were arrested with 20,000 stimulant tablets and one car. On the road of Wangmine Ward, Tachilek Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man and one woman were arrested with 10,080 g of ICE and one motorcycle. In Sanshine (B) Ward, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 1,000 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. On the road if Tonemapwe Village, Indaw Tsp, Sagaing Region, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 132 g of heroin and one motorcycle. In Namgkham Village, Wuntho Tsp, one man was arrested with 2,774 stimulant tablets and 190 g of heroin. Near No.1 Gate, Myanmar-India Border, Tamu Tsp, one man was arrested with 1 g of heroin and 6 Buprenorphine Tablets. In Myoma (12/B) Ward, two men were arrested with 0.5 g of heroin and 36 Buprenorphine Tablets. In No.5 Ward, Khampat Tsp, one man was arrested with 0.3 g of heroin and 8 Buprenorphine Tablets. In Latha Ward, Shwepyitha Village-tract, Nansipon Khamti Tsp, one man and one woman were arrested with 210 g of heroin. In Myintnge Ward, Myeik Tsp, Taninthayi Region, one man was arrested with 20 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. Further investigation led to the arrest of one man with 2,800 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle in Upper Yaypong Ward, Myeik Tsp. In Khayu Taw Ward, Myeik Tsp, one man was arrested with 90,000 stimulant tablets. In Yadanapon Ward, Padaung Tsp, Bago Region, five men and one woman were arrested with 389 stimulant tablets and three motorcycles. On the bypass road in No.3 Ward, Pakokku Tsp, Magway Region, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 180 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. In Thanyat Mhaw (South) Ward, Chanmyathazi Tsp, Mandalay Region, one man was arrested with 1,938 stimulant tablets. At (16) Mile Checkpoint, Patheingyi Tsp, two men were arrested with 80,000 stimulant tablets from a Muse-Mandalay bus. In Kyitaukpork Village, Singu Tsp, one woman was arrested with 2,400 stimulant tablets. In Shwethahtay Ward, Myitha Tsp, one man and one woman were arrested with 2,040 stimulant tablets. At Milepost (38/3-4), Yinmapin Village, Thazi Tsp, a passenger car was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 1,500 g of opium and 650 g of opium blocks. In (Hta) Ward, North Okkalapa Tsp, Yangon Region, one man was arrested with 570 stimulant tablets. In Ngarhtetgyi (South) Ward, Bahan Tsp, one man was arrested with 1,860 stimulant tablets and 228 g of marijuana. In No. 19 Ward, Pyapon Tsp, Ayeyawady Region, two men were arrested with 141 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. There has been one seizure of ammunitions. In (14) Mile Village, Kawthoung Tsp, Taninthayi Region, one man was arrested with 64 stimulant tablets, 1 g of ICE, two home-made guns and one motorcycle.

There have been 219 cases being opened between 6-1-2019 and 12-1-2019, and 282 men and 37 women have been arrested. Seizures were made of 42,667.4 g of heroin, 14,185.1 g of ICE, 5 g of low-quality opium, 100,667.64 g of opium, 20 g of speciosa powder, 2,580 g of speciosa, 283,421 stimulant tablets, 389.49 g of raw marijuana, 650 g of opium blocks, 8,960 liters of Ethyl Ether, 2,080 liters of Methanol, 2 g of Ketamine, 50 Buprenorphine Tablets and two home-made guns.

5. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts
Auto telephone No. — 067-590200
Fax Phone No. — 067-590233
Email Address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Feasibility study underway to upgrade Nyaungnabin Farming Zone

By Aye Yamone

PLANS are underway to convert the Nyaungnabin hall, which previously hosted the National convention, into a training school. A feasibility study is also being conducted to upgrade the Nyaungnabin Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Zone, which is among the Yangon Region government's priority projects, the regional government stated.

When the Nyaungnabin Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Zone was initially developed, lands were occupied without any farming activity. Now, officials will meet with the owners of those lands as part of the plan to upgrade the zone.

"We are preparing to upgrade the zone. We will soon transform the National Convention hall into a training school. The CP Company plans to invest in the project. A pilot project was initiated on 100 acres and reaped fruitful results with the cooperative system. We are conducting a feasibility study during the project's term," said U Phyo Min Thein, the Yangon Region Chief Minister.

"We are thinking of collaborating with the private sector for the development of Nyaungnabin agriculture and livestock breeding. We have allocated the budget to supply irrigation water to the zone," said U Phyo Min Thein at the 23rd regular meeting, led by Vice President U

Myint Swe, with entrepreneurs, held on 12 January.

At present, there are some difficulties in selecting who to award the

the agriculture and livestock breeding zone. We have to meet with owners who left their lands unused. The development of

"We are undertaking a feasibility study to upgrade industrial zones and will do the same for the agriculture and livestock breeding zone."

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein

project to and evaluating the criteria for making the decision as only staff are directly joining the project, but no employers. The regional government will directly supervise the project. "We are undertaking a feasibility study to upgrade industrial zones and will do the same for

the Nyaungnabin zone is on our priority list," said U Phyo Min Thein.

"Earlier, the land in the zone was often flooded. Now, the government is helping farmers to improve their farm, with a budget of K8 billion. There has been no flood now," he said.

Additionally, the government is preparing to foster agricultural revitalization and transformation to improve the farms. Only irrigated farms are being upgraded. The government is trying to work with the local community to improve farms.

"The reason why we left arable lands unused is that sandy soil lacks the ability to store water. Growers do not like that kind of sand silt deposition on their land. Such lands can be farmed if we adopt advanced agricultural methods, such as greenhouse cultivation. If there is fundamental infrastructure such as roads, electric supply, and irrigation water, investors will be interested in the zone,"

said Daw Sandar Myo, the secretary of the Myanmar Fruit, Flower, and Vegetables Producers and Exporters Association.

The Yangon Region's Agriculture Master Plan has been passed. The regional government will inspect the zone to check whether those who propose to carry out the project have the ability to run it. If they are found incompetent, experts will be directly hired for the project.

The area has potential for productivity. The Ngamoeyek Creek can now prevent the incidence of floods, and there are plans to make water from the creek available to the agricultural sector in the region.—(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Over 1.7 mln tons of rice, broken rice shipped in nine months; exports fall 800,000 tons



Workers unloading sacks of rice from a vessel at a jetty in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR exported over 1.7 million metric tons of rice and broken rice from 1 April to 28 December 2018, a decline of over 800,000 tons compared with the corresponding period of 2017, according to data from the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar exported 2.54 million metric tons of rice and broken rice in the April-December period in 2017. The value of rice and broken rice exports in the last nine

months fell to US\$578.8 million from \$789.78 million registered in the same period of 2017.

Myanmar shipped over 1.4 million metric tons of rice worth \$489.9 million to 46 countries. It exported over 298,570 metric tons of broken rice valued at \$88.8 million to 21 countries.

Myanmar exports rice and broken rice through the maritime routes as well as border gates.

The drop in trade through the border channel has been attributed

to China's tight confiscation, said U Min Thein, the vice chair of Muse depot.

Maritime trade capacity is limited owing to shipping problems, port logistics, and financial constraints, coupled with currency fluctuations, said U Than Oo, the secretary of Bayintnaung depot. In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, Myanmar exported 3.6 million tons of rice and broken rice. The export volume was the highest on record in 50 years.—(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar-US trade up 80% in Oct

MYANMAR'S bilateral trade with the US in the first month of the 2018-2019 fiscal year topped US\$63.6 million, an increase of \$28.4 million, or 80.7 per cent, compared with the corresponding period of the 2017-2018FY, according to the Commerce Ministry.

As per official statistics, exports in October totalled \$33.3 million, while imports were valued at \$30.3 million. In October 2017, bilateral trade stood at \$35.2 million with exports of \$23.5 million and imports of \$11.7 million.

Myanmar's exports to the US include marine

products, clothing, beans and pulses, forest-based products, and some agriculture products. It imports medicines, hospital and related equipment, industrial products, transportation products, dairy products, and other commodities.

According to the ministry's annual trade data, Myanmar-US trade in the 2018 mini-budget period totalled \$455.7 million, a slight decrease of \$3.4 million against the corresponding period of the previous FY.

Bilateral trade between the countries

reached its peak of \$718 million in the 2017-2018 FY. Trade between the two countries was registered at \$196.902 million in the 2015-2016FY, \$544.640 million in the 2014-2015FY, \$104.440 million in the 2013-2014FY, \$122.791 million in the 2012-2013FY, and \$293.071 million in the 2011-2012FY.

According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, US investment in Myanmar in the mini-budget period between April and September was recorded at \$55.9 million.—Khine Khant ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

1. MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL SELL TEAK & HARDWOOD ROUND LOGS AND SAWN TIMBERS BY OPEN TENDERS IN US DOLLARS. PARTICULARS OF THE OPEN TENDER SALES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(a) DATE & TIME

(24-1-2019) (09:00) A.M

EX-SITE HARDWOOD LOG ONLY

(25-1-2019) (09:00) A.M

YANGON & EX-SITE TEAK/HARDWOOD (LOG AND CONVERSION)

(28-1-2019) (12:00) Noon

YANGON TEAK LOG ONLY

(b) COMMODITIES & VOLUME

- TEAK LOGS ABOUT (1150) TONS

- TEAK CONVERSION ABOUT(499)TONS

- PYINKADO, IN, KANYIN, THITYAR, INGYIN,

- HTAUK KYANT, HNAW, YEMANE, SAGAWA,

- THITSI, THADI, THITMAGYI, AUKCHINSA-NI,

- THITKHAYA ABOUT(20158)TONS

- HARDWOOD LOGS (2017-2018 EXTRACTION YEAR)

- TAW WIN HALL, GYOGONE, INSEIN TOWNSHIP, YANGON.

2. FOR FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE HEAD

OFFICE AND ALSO VISIT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WEB-SITE (www.myanmar-timber.com.mm).

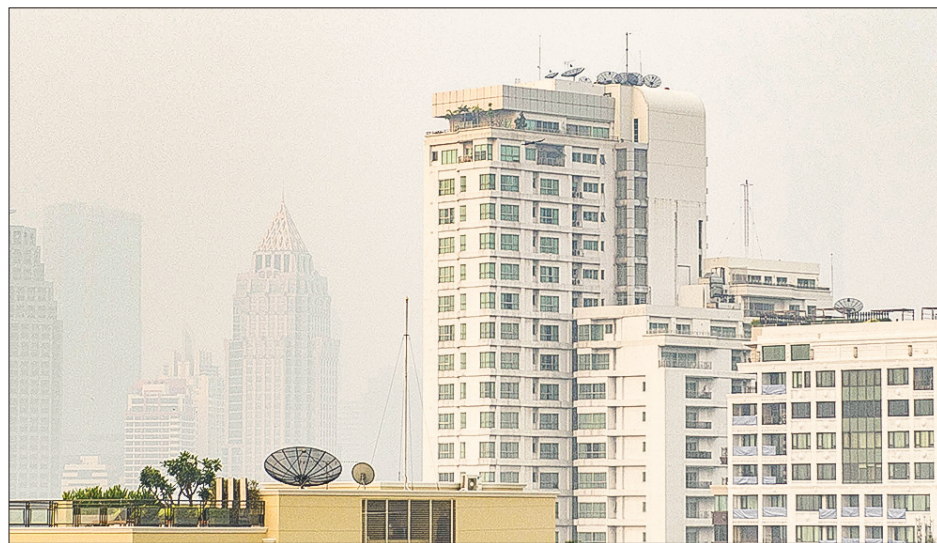
Contacts; Office Ph; 01528771,

E-mail; marketing_1ppy@gmail.com

OPEN TENDER COMMITTEE
MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE

Advertise with us/ Hot Line : 09974424848

Thailand to make it rain as pollution chokes Bangkok



A layer of smog blankets the Thai capital Bangkok on 14 January, 2019. Thai authorities are set to deploy rain-making planes to combat the pall of pollution that has shrouding the capital in recent weeks. **PHOTO: AFP**

BANGKOK (Thailand) — Thailand is set to deploy rainmaking planes to seed clouds in an effort to tackle the pall of pollution that has shrouded the capital in recent weeks.

The weather modification technique involves dispersing chemicals into the air to aid cloud condensation, which should in theory result in rain.

“The Department of

Royal Rainmaking and Agricultural Aviation... expects the rainmaking to be done tomorrow (Tuesday) but it depends on wind and humidity levels,” Pralong Dumrongthai, director-general of Thailand’s Pollution Control Department, told reporters.

As Thais woke up Monday morning to another day of murky air blanketing its bustling

construction-filled capital, environment group Greenpeace said Bangkok was currently the 10th most polluted in the world, rivalling some cities in China.

Reasons for the persistent smog include combustion exhaust from Bangkok’s traffic-strewn roads, the burning of fields from farmers outside the city, and pollutants from factories. Public discon-

tent has surfaced on Thai social media and television, with pollution-related hashtags trending and TV hosts advising viewers on the types of face masks they should wear.

Air Visual, an independent online air quality index (AQI) monitor, pegged Bangkok at “unhealthy” levels measuring 156 AQI on Monday — though numbers have often crept higher in the last two months.

But the Pollution Department played down the dangers of the persistent haze, which the government judges using a different set of measurements to see the concentration of harmful microscopic particles known as PM2.5.

He said Bangkok had recent peak PM2.5 levels of 102 micrograms per cubic metre and on Monday was sitting under 90.

“Our PM figure is high but it is not a crisis yet,” he said. “We are not in the range of 120-150

where all people have to wear masks all the time when they are out.” But Greenpeace’s Thailand director Tara Buakamsri said immediate action should be taken by the authorities, like reducing the number of cars and closing schools in high-risk areas. “The pollution issues are

more and more frequent in Bangkok. We need smarter air quality management.”

In recent weeks, municipal workers have sprayed water along the roads and into the air in Bangkok to help clear the smog, while authorities have urged people to stay indoors. —AFP ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Watts Regulator Co., a company incorporated in the U.S.A and having its registered office at 815 Chestnut Street, North Andover, Massachusetts 01845, United States of America is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

WATTS

Reg. No. 4/14582/2012 (21.12.2012)



Reg. No. 4/14584/2012 (24.12.2012)

All in respect of “Valves of metal for fluid flow control, namely, ball valves, butterfly valves, gate valves, globe valves, pressure control valves, level control valves, tempering valves, altitude control valves, high pressure safety valves, check valves, backflow prevention valves, shut-off valves, and vacuum breakers” in **International Class 6**, and

“Automatic control valves for fluid flow control, namely, pressure control valves, level control valves, flow control valves, tempering valves, altitude control valves, high pressure safety valves, check valves, backflow prevention valves, flow measurement valves, and balancing valves” in **International Class 9**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, H.G.P
For **Watts Regulator Co.**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 16th January 2019 hh@kcyangon.com

Japan to test disaster warning system using satellite in Asia

KOBE — The Japanese government is preparing to test a disaster early warning system for the Asia-Pacific region using one of its quasi-zenith satellites later this year, a Kobe-based international organization said on Sunday.

Preparations are under way for the first test overseas later this year in India and Papua New

Guinea as Japan aims to expand its contribution to other Asian countries’ disaster prevention and potential impacts of natural disasters on Japanese manufacturers’ production and supply chains, according to the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre.

One of Japan’s four Michibiki global positioning system satellites will be employed to relay in-

formation from institutions monitoring weather conditions, ADRC officials said.

The government, working with the ADRC and domestic companies and universities, has developed a receiver to be distributed to local authorities, they said.

Experiments have already been conducted in Japan to test reciprocal data transmission. In ad-

dition to sending warnings, the system has been used to connect computers at mock evacuation shelters and a disaster response center, the officials said.

The system could be particularly effective in encouraging evacuation and managing relief activities in remote areas such as small islands and mountainous regions, they said.—Kyodo News ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Merck KGaA, a company incorporated in Germany and having its registered office at Frankfurter Strasse 250, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

MERCIP

Reg.No.4/13445/2015 (13.10.2015)

In respect of “Pharmaceutical preparations” in **International Class 5**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw La Min May, H.G.P
For **Merck KGaA.**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Tsp, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 16th January 2019 lmm@kcyangon.com

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (026 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (026 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-01-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (043 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PACAO VOY. NO. (043 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-01-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSZaw Min
Zaw Htet Oo
Win Ko Ko Aung**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTER**Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax - (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/TheGNLM

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Write for usWe appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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.

Handicraft art centre proposed at Yangon International Airport

THE Myanmar Handicraft Art Association has submitted a proposal for opening a handicraft art centre at the Yangon International Airport, said an official from the association.

"To attract customers, we would like to open Myanmar products centres at the Myanmar Plaza and Junction Square. Most customers focus on these

shopping centres. It is difficult for customers to buy things from a small space. For that reason, we are trying to open shops in places of good sales. Our aim is to open shops in places like the airport. We are trying to submit a proposal to open a shop at the airport. If it is approved, we will carry out our plan," he said.

Last year, five persons col-

lectively opened the Pyinsama handicraft art centre. Now, they are planning to open handicraft centres in places where sales are good.

"This can be done at the private level. But the State level is better. Plans are under way to collectively open the handicraft art centre before permission is granted," he added.

Thailand and Viet Nam

have their special handicraft art centres, but Myanmar doesn't have any special handicraft art centres yet, he said.

In the past, only foreign visitors bought traditional costumers and artifacts. Now, the market for traditional and cultural objects among local teenagers is growing year by year.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Mandalay University, Beijing University sign MoU on scholarship program

MANDALAY University Rector Dr. Thidar Win signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China's Beijing University of Chemical Technology on 14 January.

Under the MoU, the two universities have agreed to grant scholarships to teachers and students pursuing master's degrees and doctorates, to conduct workshops with subject professors, and to allow for curriculum exchange.

Mandalay University has signed 39 MoUs with universities in countries such as Germany, Japan, England, Switzerland, the US, China,

South Korea, Australia, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Thailand, Singapore, and Indonesia. The MoU with Beijing University is the 40th agreement signed by the university.

Mandalay University has signed agreements with universities in other countries with the aim of extending research facilities which can support the region's development, to send students to other countries on scholarship, to develop the education field, to exchange curriculum, and hold workshops and paper readings.—Maung Pyithu (Mandalay) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)



The MoU signed to promote the extensive cooperation between the Mandalay University and China's Beijing University of Chemical Technology on 14 January. **PHOTO: MAUNG PYITHU (MANDALAY)**

Domestic gold prices slide K5,000 per tical in two weeks

By Nyein Nyein

GOLD prices in the local market touched a high of K1,050,000 per tical on 4 January and then plunged by K5,000 over the two weeks, said gold traders.

"The current trade dispute between the US and China, the negative economic index of the Fed, and the global political climate are depressing factors contributing to the deprecia-

tion of the dollar. With the dollar weakening in the global market, domestic gold prices are on the slide," said Dr. Ye Thu Aung, the managing director of a public gold company.

"Gold prices are likely to cool, and so is possibly the dollar against the Kyat," he said.

The US dollar exchange rate is K1,510-1,520 in the local currency market.

On 4 January, domestic

pure gold prices hit a peak of K1,050,000 per tical, tracking a strong positive trend in global gold prices. The price fell to K1,045,300 yesterday, said gold traders.

During the fourth quarter of 2018, local gold prices reached a minimum of K969,000 on 1 October and maximum of K1,040,000 on 31 October. They hit a low of K1,027,100 on 30 November and touched a high of K1,044,500 on

2 November. Gold prices were the lowest on 4 December at K987,000 and the highest on 29 December at K1,043,000.

Domestic gold prices have remained above K900,000 per tical since 21 July, 2017. With global gold prices increasing, domestic gold prices peaked at K1,047,700 on 20 September last year. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Illegal timber confiscated in Madaya Township

A COMBINED team comprising officers and staff from the Forest Department and the Township Police confiscated illegally harvested timber near the Sedawgyi Dam, Madaya Township, Mandalay Region, on 14 January.

The team found 203 logs of illegally logged timber and lumber, weighing 9.2306 tons,

during a search operation near the dam.

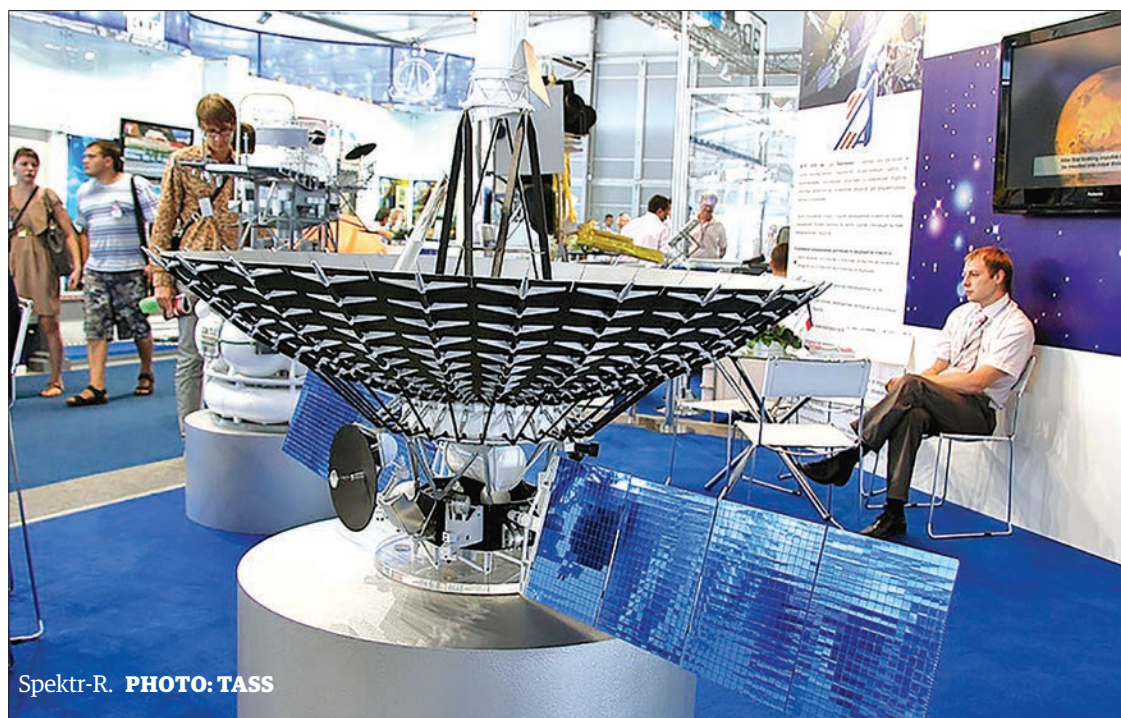
The Forest Department is measuring the seized timber and will transfer it to the concerned department.

The police are searching for the owner of the illegal timber.— Maung Pyithu (Mandalay) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Forestry officers measure illegal logs seized near the Sedawgyi Dam, Madaya, Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: MAUNG PYITHU (MANDALAY)**



Russian space telescope not responding to Earth's command

MOSCOW — Russia's Spektr-R space radio telescope failed to respond to commands from the Earth on Sunday and the attempts to restore control of it will continue on Monday afternoon, Adviser on Science to Roscosmos State Space Corporation's Director General Alexander Bloshenko told TASS.

"Today's programme of an effort to try to contact with the spacecraft has ended. Now a meeting of the operational and technical leadership is underway on the outcome," Bloshenko said.

The effort to establish contact with Spektr-R will continue after 7 pm on Monday when it will be seen by both earth stations, Medvezhji Ozero and Ussuriysk. "We are planning to repeat today's programme of work," he said.

Spektr-R was launched in 2011 and the warranty period of its active operation expired back in 2014. Before this year, the ra-

dio telescope continued tackling targeted tasks, Roscosmos said.

According to Alexander Bloshenko, a scientific advisor to the head of Russia's space corporation Roscosmos, the telescope's active operations lasted 2.5 times longer than expected.

CEO of Russia's state space corporation Roscosmos Dmitry Rogozin has asked to speed up analysis of data from the Spektr-R space radio telescope ahead of the launch of the Spektr-RG observatory that is to replace the Radioastron project satellite in April, Bloshenko told.

"Rogozin has demanded focus be made on the preparations for the April launch of the Spektr-RG that is to replace the Spektr-R, which has outlived its lifespan by 2.5 times. In particular, the corporation's director general has asked the Russian Academy of Sciences to speed up the analysis of data received from the current orbiter," he

said.

Roscosmos told TASS earlier that Sunday's attempt to regain control of the old Spektr-R satellite had failed. More attempts will be made on Monday.

The Gazeta.ru internet portal said on Friday evening, citing the Radioastron project head and corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences Yuri Kovalev, that there are problems with the Spektr-R spacecraft. Nikolai Kardashev, a member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and director of the Astrospace Centre (the Radioastron project contractor), told TASS that there are problems with the satellite's control although a signal from it is received. The Spektr-R was launched in 2011 and the warranty period of its active operation expired back in 2014. Before this year, the radio telescope continued tackling targeted tasks, Roscosmos said.—Tass ■

Shorter sleep a night may jam blood vessels: study

WASHINGTON — A study showed people sleeping less than six hours a night were 27 per cent more likely to have increased blood vessel risks than those who sleep seven to eight hours.

The study published on Monday in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology revealed that shorter sleep was linked to increased risks of plaque buildup in the arteries throughout the body. Also, those with a poor quality of sleep were 34 per cent more likely to have arteriosclerosis, according to the study.

This is the first study to show that objectively measured sleep is independently associated

with atherosclerosis throughout the body, not just in the heart, according to the paper's senior author Jose Ordovas, a nutrition researcher at Tufts University.

The study examined nearly 4,000 bank employees in Spain with imaging techniques to detect vascular lesions in a population with an average age of 46 years and without known heart disease.

The shorter sleep duration with good quality can overcome the detrimental effects of shorter length, according to the study.

It showed that sleeping more than eight hours a night may also be associated with an increase in atherosclerosis.

—Xinhua ■

Patch with needles developed as month-long contraceptive in rats: study

WASHINGTON — American scientists developed a long-acting contraceptive that can be self-administered by women using tiny needle skin patch.

The study published on Monday in the journal Nature Biomedical Engineering reported the experimental contraceptive patch originally used for painless administration of vaccines in rat test.

Currently, a long-acting contraceptive requires a clinician to inject a drug or implant a device. But the patch can provide contraceptive hormone for more than a month.

Putting the patch on the skin for several seconds, microscopic needles made of biodegradable polymers will break off and remain under the surface of the skin,

releasing levonorgestrel slowly. "Our goal is for women to be able to self-administer long-acting contraceptives with the micro-needle patch that would be applied to the skin for five seconds just once a month," said Mark Prausnitz, professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology and the paper's corresponding author.

The patches tested on the animals contained 100 micro-needles. To deliver an adequate dose of levonorgestrel to a human will require a larger patch, which has been fabricated, but not yet tested in humans.

The researchers said the contraceptive could potentially provide a new family planning alternative to a broader population especially those with limited healthcare access.—Xinhua ■

Hong Kong scientists claim 'broad-spectrum' antiviral breakthrough

HONG KONG (China) — Hong Kong scientists claim they have made a potential breakthrough discovery in the fight against infectious diseases — a chemical that could slow the spread of deadly viral illnesses.

A team from the University of Hong Kong described the newly discovered chemical as "highly potent in interrupting the life cycle of diverse viruses" in a study published this month in the journal Nature Communications.

The scientists told AFP on

Monday that it could one day be used as a broad-spectrum antiviral for a host of infectious diseases — and even for viruses that have yet to emerge — if it passes clinical trials.

The spread in recent decades of sometimes deadly bird flu strains, the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) have underscored the need for new drugs that can work more quickly than vaccines.

Broad-spectrum antivirals

are seen as the holy grail because they can be used against multiple pathogens.

In contrast, vaccines usually only protect against one strain, and by the time they are produced the virus may have mutated.

The HKU team tested their chemical "AM580" on mice in a two-year study and found it stopped the replication of a host of flu strains — including H1N1, H5N1 and H7N9 — as well as the viruses that cause SARS and MERS.—AFP ■



Broad-spectrum antivirals are considered a holy grail because they can be used against multiple pathogens. PHOTO: AFP

Eight athletes to study Judo in Japan for one week



Judo Federation Chairman U Tun Tun seen off athletes at the Yangon International Airport.

PHOTO: SAW THEIN WIN

AT the invitation of the Japan International Cooperation Center, eight athletes from the Myanmar Judo Federation left for Fukuoka, Japan, yesterday to study Judo for one week.

The four men and four women athletes were seen off at

the Yangon International Airport by the Chairman of the Myanmar Judo Federation, U Tun Tun, and officials on 14 January.

They will train at the center from 15 to 22 January, said Daw Than Than Shein, the Secretary of the Myanmar Judo Federa-

tion. The Myanmar Judo Federation was founded in 1958. The sport originated in Myanmar in 1941 thanks to the efforts of the Thirty Comrades who went for military training in Japan.—Saw Thein Win

(Translated by JT)

Nishikori survives scare to reach Australian Open 2nd round

MELBOURNE — An injury retirement allowed world No 9 Kei Nishikori to progress to the second round of the Australian Open on Tuesday, the Japanese



Kei Nishikori of Japan plays against Kamil Majchrzak of Poland in the first round of the Australian Open in Melbourne on 15 January, 2019. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

surviving a scare from 176th-ranked Kamil Majchrzak in the 3-6, 6-7(6), 6-0, 6-2, 3-0 win.

Nishikori won 10 straight games after Grand Slam debutant Majchrzak, who was near-untouchable in the first two sets on Margaret Court Arena, was slowed by injuries to his right hand and left thigh in the third set, the ailments eventually forcing him to retire.

In the first meeting between the Japanese eighth seed and the Polish qualifier, heat and fatigue challenged both players, but Majchrzak was forced to tap out after 2 hours, 48 minutes with Nishikori up 3-0 in the fifth.

"It's unfortunate how we finished. I feel sorry for him. I wouldn't say it was a good game (because of how it ended) but I have to be happy for the next round," Nishikori said.

"I didn't play badly but I have to give credit to my opponent who played better. He was amazing

defensively and was stronger than I had imagined. His movements were restricted (after the injuries) and all I tried to do was not lose my concentration."

Nishikori's troubles began in the sixth game of the first set, the 29-year-old Japanese opening with a double fault and then adding two unforced errors on his backhand to drop the game to love.

The 23-year-old Majchrzak then went on to close out his next two service games and the set without being seriously threatened.

The second set began in much the same way, the two players sharing the first six games on serve. But then, in the seventh game, Nishikori got himself into a 0-40 hole, and when Majchrzak blasted a backhand winner on his third game point, the recent Brisbane champion again found himself behind. —Kyodo News ■

Man City ready to pounce on any Liverpool slip-ups, says Guardiola

MANCHESTER (United Kingdom) — Pep Guardiola said his Manchester City team will be poised to pounce if Premier League leaders Liverpool falter, following a comfortable 3-0 win over Wolves on Monday that left City four points behind Jurgen Klopp's side.

Two first-half goals from Gabriel Jesus, either side of a straight red card for Wolves' French defender Willy Boly, allowed City to demonstrate that they had banished their shaky December form.

The City manager was in no mood to analyse the table and insisted he is interested only in his own team's performances.

"We cannot play the games against Liverpool, we cannot do anything about them," said Guardiola. "All we can do is win our games and be there. We've spoken to our players about it and the fact we cannot control what they can do. All we can do is be there and maybe one day they fail. But if they don't lose, then they'll be champions."

"We've done incredible numbers after last season, but one team has done better than us so far. All we can do is be there until the end and the results will dictate who will win."

Two weeks into 2019, City have scored a remarkable 21 goals in four home games this year and have hit 99 in all competitions already in the current campaign. Jesus had scored just three times in his 16 league games coming into the new year but his two-goal performance

against Nuno Espirito Santo's team continued his rich vein of recent form.

He scored once in the seven-goal FA Cup win over Rotherham and hit four in last week's 9-0 League Cup humiliation of Burton, and now has seven goals in his past three outings, although City's task was made easier by a straight red card shown to Boly in the 19th minute.

Jesus's opener came in the 10th minute after a magnificent 40-yard pass from defender Aymeric Laporte exposed the Wolves defence and sent Leroy Sane sprinting down the left.

The German's low cross was judged to perfection, as was Jesus's run, as he slid in and steered the ball into an open goal.

Boly's rash challenge, an out-of-control, one-footed lunge at Bernardo Silva, may not have been malicious but was deserving of a red soon after.

"It was quite a bad tackle but I'm fine," said Bernardo. "Yes, he did apologise at the end of the game. These things happen."

With Wolves down to 10 men, Jesus's second of the evening, from a 39th-minute penalty, made it hard to see Wolves forcing their way back.

Again, referee Craig Pawson appeared to have made the right decision as Raheem Sterling played a one-two only to be brought down by Ryan Bennett's clumsy challenge. Jesus took a stuttering run-up for his spot kick, but there was nothing hesitant in his confident finish into the bottom right corner.—AFP ■



Liverpool's Scottish defender Andrew Robertson (r) crosses the ball for Liverpool's Brazilian midfielder Roberto Firmino (l) to head home Liverpool's first goal during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Liverpool at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England on 3 January, 2019. Manchester City won the game 2-1. PHOTO: AFP