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State Counsellor inspects Yazagyo Dam project, meets local people in Kalay Tsp

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu and Dr. Aung Thu, Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing, Chin State Chief Minister Salai Lian Luai and officials inspected the Yazagyo multi-purpose dam project in Kalay Township, Sagaing Region yesterday morning.

First Daw Aung San Suu Kyi inspected the main dam by car and at the water drawing building, Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department Director General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing explained about suction of sand and silts deposited in the dam with silt suction pumps and the process of using two air compressors to blow the sands and silts and then opening the water gates to drain away the sands and silts along with the outgoing water.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for the documentary photo together with ethnic people from Haka Lay South Village and North Village. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

“It is for our people to live safely and securely. That is to be secure both physically and mentally.”

Next the State Counsellor and party took group photos near the main dam of Yazagyo multi-purpose dam project.

Afterwards the State Counsellor and party went to Haka Lay (little Haka) North village, Siabok Village Tract, Tonzang

Township by Tatmadaw helicopter and were welcomed upon arrival with traditional dances by the local people.

Next, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi inspected houses in the village built by the arrangement of the Daw

Khin Kyi Foundation and then attended a meeting with the local people.

At the meeting State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi first greeted all the people who came to meet her and wished them well. She said “I wanted to

come to this place for long because I want to know the status of houses built by Daw Khin Kyi Foundation. Finally I’m getting this opportunity. When I looked at one house I noticed a few requirements.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Second-day meeting of 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 11th regular session convenes

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE second-day meeting of the 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 11th regular session was convened yesterday at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

Q&A session

During the Hluttaw session, submitting a proposal for approval of the Hluttaw in the formation of a committee, asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, and a motion was tabled.

Complaints and Appeals Committee

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that Complaints and Appeals Committee was formed with 16 members, including Chairman U Myint Oo of Pazundaung constituency and Secretary U Saw Thalay Saw of Shwegyin constituency, together with their duties, responsibilities, rights and terms of the committee after obtaining the approval of the Hluttaw at the Hluttaw session.

Acquisition of Plots of land for the small and medium-sized enterprises

U Aye Naing of Dagon Myothit (South) Constituency asked



U Kyaw Linn.

how the Union Government would arrange for granting of Land Plots for the business personnel in the Industrial Zone-1, the Industrial Zone-2 and the Industrial Zone-3 in Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Region.

Regarding this query, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin replied on behalf of the Yangon Region government that the Government would establish plots of land for the small and medium-sized enterprises if the permission has been granted to change the land of Contract Farming into Local Industrial Zone as Land Use.



U Myint Oo.

The Urban Rent Control Act, 1960

U Khin Zaw of Kawthoung Constituency asked the Union Government if there is a plan to amend or draw up the Urban Rent Control Act, 1960 into the law that is appropriate for modern times.

Regarding this query, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin replied that cooperation would be made to amend and set up a new law as for the Ministry of Construction.

Furthermore, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing and Deputy Minis-

ter for Construction U Kyaw Lin replied the queries raised by U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu Constituency, U Thaung Aye of Pyawbye Constituency, U Min Thein of Taungdwingyi Constituency and Daw Nan Than Than Lwin of Hpa-an constituency.

Implementation of the rural and urban development projects

Then Daw Mar Mar Khaing of Thaton constituency tabled a motion on urging the Union Government to implement the rural and urban development projects with systematic measures after scrutinizing vacant land, uncultivated land and virgin land across the country. U Win Win of Minbu Constituency and U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu Constituency supported the motion and which was discussed by U Win Myint Oo @ U Nay Myo of Nyaungshwe Constituency, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung Constituency, U Thant Zin Tun of Dekkhinathiri Constituency, U Myint Kyi of Katha Constituency, U Myint Oo of Magway Constituency, Daw Wint Wah Htun of Shadaw Constituency, U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Papon constituency, U Sai Ba

Thein of Langkho Constituency, U Kyaw Myo Min of Moenywa Constituency, Daw Cho Cho Win of Mawlaik Constituency, U Min Thein of Nganzun Constituency, U Nyan Lin of Shwepyitha Constituency, Tatmadaw representative Lt-Col Tun Lin Oo, U Nyunt Aung of Monywa Constituency, U Win Myint Aung of Dabayin Constituency and U Kyaw Min of Letpadan Constituency.

Concerning those queries, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin replied that the Ministry of Construction has supported the motion and urged to make approval of the motion.

Afterwards, the Speaker asked for the opinion of the MP who tabled the motion and who replied for the motion to be approved.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat sought the approval from the Hluttaw, and announced that the motion was approved.

The third-day meeting of the eleventh regular session of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw continues today.

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Amyotha Hluttaw

2nd Amyotha Hluttaw's 11th regular session holds 2nd day meeting

By Aung Ye Thwin (MNA)

THE eleventh regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw held its second-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning where asterisk-marked questions were raised and answered and a bill discussed.

Question and Answer session

U Sai San Aung of Shan State constituency-12 raised the first question in the session and asked if there is a plan to upgrade self-reliance basic education primary schools in Shan State north, Hopan District, Minemaw Township. In his reply to the question Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun noted that Lon Htan village self-reliance basic education primary school, Kalonpa village self-reliance basic education primary school, Lonkhwa village self-reliance basic education primary school, Kone Lane village self-reliance basic education primary school and Yaungwa village self-reliance basic education primary school in



U Naing Thiha.

Minemaw Township had primary student numbers ranging from 57 to 350 and are 25 to 105 miles away from the nearest main basic education primary, middle and high schools. As such these self-reliance basic education primary schools in Minemaw Township will be considered and reviewed for upgrade when upgrade works for schools are conducted in the 2019-2020 academic year said the Deputy Minister.

In the same way U Bwe



U Sai San Aung.

Khane of Chin State Constituency-3 asked if there is a plan to upgrade the Chin State, Thantlang Township, Hmaungtlang basic education sub-high school. Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun remarked that the school only had 14 high school students but it is 25 miles away from the nearest Hriphi Basic Education High School. Therefore, in order to raise the education opportunities of the local youths Thantlang Township, Hmaungtlang basic



U Bwe Khane.

education sub-high school will be considered and reviewed for upgrade in 2019-2020 academic year said the Deputy Minister.

On the other hand U Naing Thiha of Mon State Constituency-7 asked if there is a plan to demolish a dangerous school building at Mon State, Ye Township, Mawkanin Village Tract, Mawkanin Village basic education high school and construct a new building. Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun replied that the

subject building, Banya Dala Hall, will be demolished according to procedure and budget will be earmarked to construct a new two-story 130 ft x 30 ft RCC building in fiscal year 2019-2020 and will be constructed depending upon availability of fund.

Questions raised by U Saw Sein Tun of Kayah State Constituency 4 and U Win Kyaing of Bago Region Constituency 10 were also answered and explained by Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun.

Discussion on Myanmar Communication Bill

Following the question and answer session Dr. U Kywe Kywe of Mandalay Region Constituency 6, U Than Soe @ Than Soe (Economic) of Yangon Region Constituency-4 and Tatmadaw representative Maj Thein Lwin Htay discussed the Myanmar Communication Bill.

The third day meeting of the eleventh regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw will be held today.

(Translated by Zaw Min)

State Counsellor inspects Yazagyo Dam project, meets local people in Kalay Tsp

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We'll try to fulfill these requirements as soon as possible because when we care for the people, we want to give a care that is full and complete. Sometimes we are unable to meet the requirements but we still want to do the best we can.

"It is for our people to live safely and securely. That is to be secure both physically and mentally. When I come to Chin State I feel very safe because of the warm 'metta' (loving kindness) of the ethnic Chin nationals. If we can provide such mental security to one another, our union will be a very pleasant place. The majority of the people consider the hornbill and Rhododendron (Taung Zalot) flower as the symbolic bird and flower of Chin State. The hornbill reflects loyalty. It is a symbol of loyalty.

"As for the Rhododendron flower, it reflects strength and courage by blooming beautifully in the harsh weather and harsh environment. It also represents beauty. A land with such courage and loyalty will succeed for sure. But difficulties and obstacles must be overcome. Our country still has much to develop. Especially in a harsh environment like Chin State we'll have to conduct special development programs and we are putting much emphasis toward this. For Chin State, we are working towards providing water, improving road and communications, electricity, education, and health care. We'll strive to provide practically



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi inspects the Yazagyo Multi-Purpose Dam Project in Kalay Township, Sagaing Region. PHOTO: THET AUNG

every requirement of the people as quickly as possible. However, in some cases, we have the will but were unable to follow through. It is not because we are not bodily unable but we don't have enough money. However, we'll do as much as we can afford to monetarily. However, I believe that we'll succeed because we have a strong will for it.

"While I met with the people I would like to remind about the four keys to achieve success.

Even though we have to do many things for many people living in a town, we gave equal importance to the people in the little village.

They are to have a will, strong determination, correct attitude

and knowledge. I'm saying this repeatedly because it must be remembered. Only when there is a will can we start doing something. We dearly want this country to be a peaceful, developed democratic federal union. We have a strong will for this. I think our people have an equally strong will on this. But having a will alone is not enough. The will needs to be implemented with efforts. The attitude also needs to be right because if the attitude is not right we'll be pushed onto a wrong path that would be dangerous for all. The knowledge of how to do things to achieve what we want is also important.

"When we say knowledge, it is basically to view a situation correctly and based on it to do what is necessary. The courage to do is not included in the four keys to achieve success. However, we can say it is within it. Courage is required in doing something new. It is not suffi-

cient to have a will, make an effort, and have a correct attitude or knowledge only. Courage is very important in facing something we haven't faced before.

"Even though Haka Lay (little Haka) Village is a small village, for us it is equally important like a town. Even though we have to do many things for many people living in a town, we gave equal importance to the people in the little village. It is not true that we care less for villagers because they live in a little village.

"We came here to Haka Lay Village to show that for our government, a small village, however small it may be, is important for us. However, even though it is important, it is not practical to say that we'll do everything that is required. We'll try to do everything step by step. We want the people to participate in this and all our villagers to participate. You all have strengths. First, build up your mental strength.

"We are family members of a union. Each and every family member of the union is to put in their individual efforts. Everyone is valuable. There is no one that is not valuable. There is no one that didn't have any strength. Use whatever you are worth correctly and for sure, our country will develop.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by ethnic dancing performance as she arrives Haka Lay North Village yesterday. PHOTO: THET AUNG

State Counsellor inspects Yazagyo Dam project, meets local people in Kalay Tsp



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the meeting with local people in Kalay Township, Sagaing Region. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

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The development needs to be quick too because we have lagged behind our neighboring countries. We have to put in more efforts because we lagged behind. Even though we lag behind, the ability of our people aren't low. If we nurture and strengthen these abilities, we'll reach our goal.

"I say this repeatedly. Government is for the people. People are not for the government. The government came to be because it was elected by the people from the people. Members of governments are also the citizens of the country like the people. So they are not better

or above the people just because they are the government. Especially in a democratic system, a government is elected by the people and it will become a government only when the people elect them. It is not a democratic government if it is not governing according to the wish of the people. The main duty of a government that came to be according to the will of the people is to fulfill the requirements of the people.

"That is why we are always trying to find out what are the wills, wishes and requirements of the people. That is why I want to take this opportunity to urge the villagers to propose and ask whatever they want. I invite pro-

posals and questions", said the State Counsellor.

The local people in attendance then raised questions relating to development matters and the State Counsellor provided explanations in return. She then provided rice and cooking oils for the local people in Haka Lay North and Haka Lay South villages and cordially greeted the meeting attendees.

Afterwards the State Counsellor and party went to Haka Lay South village by car from Haka Lay North village and inspected the village. While in Haka Lay South village, the State Counsellor was entertained and honored with tradi-

It is not a democratic government if it is not governing according to the wish of the people.

tional dances and songs.

From there, the State Counsellor left for Sagaing Region, Kalay town by Tatmadaw helicopter and attended a meeting with the local people in the town hall.

At the meeting State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said it is not wrong to say that Kalay is where the hills and plains meet. "Our country is wide and it is not the same geographically. The ethnic nationals, cultures, religions, languages are also not the same. However, everywhere it is beautiful in its own way. The people also have the responsibility to beautify their places. It is the responsibility of the government as well as the people. Wherever I go, I remind about this duty and responsibility. Because the worth or value of a person is dependent on how responsible and dutiful he/she is.

"I want everyone to be wor-

thy. Whenever I have meeting, I invited children and youngsters because I want to instill in them the mindset that the country's affairs are their affairs. The future of the country especially depends on the youths. They'll have to live for long in it as the time for the old to live in it will become shorter as time goes by. Youngsters are more important than us for the future. There are many things that elders need to fulfill for the youngsters. Youngsters in return also need to fulfill things for the elders. It is very important to create understanding between youngsters and elders. Some youth think youths and seniors are different. It is unavoidable that youths will become elders one day. They'll have to go down the same path. Elders were also once youngsters. It is important not to forget this.

"Understanding can be created only when we are truly sympathetic towards one another. We want our ethnic nationals to be like this. Compared to Sagaing Region, the terrain of Chin State is very difficult. They have to lead a difficult life there. But Chin nationals live in a dignified manner just like the people from the plains.

"Everyone, where ever they may be, live well and healthily in a dignified manner. That is why when we greet with a wish for a healthy and wealthy life it is quite complete. But when I wish for someone, I want to say may you have peace of mind and body.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi inspects a house built by Daw Khin Kyi Foundation in Haka Lay South Village yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor inspects Yazagyo Dam project, meets local people in Kalay Tsp

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Without peace of mind and body there wouldn't be happiness. Both young and old have worries. Some say elders have more to worry but a youngster's worry about an examination is a valid and important worry for the youngster. We are striving towards an education system that is not only beneficial for our country but also beneficial and appropriate for our youngsters. An Education system that makes a person become fully developed in everything. We must establish such an education system.

"When I tour Chin State, I found water is scarce in some places. Water is the main requirement. Not having water or adequate water is an immense suffering. The second thing is road transport. Every village wants a clinic. Why, because the road transport is bad. If it is good, travel from one village to another is easy. If road transport is good, a clinic need not be in your village. The same applies to a school. Because road transport is not good, every village wanted a clinic and school.

"So road transport is very important. We must build roads so that we can contact one another. We also must instill in everyone so that they contact one another. Our country is a union. Although it isn't a true federal union that everyone wanted. We all have to work together towards this.

"This is not a purely political matter. It is also social and economic. Kalay is where the hills and plains meet. Here they know the situation of our ethnic nationals in the hills and people in the plains. The people here have an important role to play. I want Kalay to be bridge that

Our country is a union. Although it isn't a true federal union that everyone wanted. We all have to work together towards this.

connects. We want this place to be the birthplace of union spirit and where it is developed. To do this, we'll have to start with the children. We must instill in them to do things for the majority. We'll not be good for long if we are good alone while the surrounding is not good.

"I want the children sitting in the front to think about this. Think how you can be valuable for others. If you are valuable for yourself alone, this isn't much of a value. Only when you are valuable for others can you be a valuable or worthy person.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi presents cooking oil to two representatives of Chin ethnic people from Haka Lay North and Haka Lay South villages during the meeting with local people yesterday. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

Through instilling such spirits they will become grownups who are beneficial for their country.

"The roles of the state/region governments are important for the states and regions. State/Region governments have more relations with the people compared to the union government. It is not wrong to say that state/region governments can do more effectively for the people than the union government. It is an important duty of the state/region government to develop the people with whom

they are in close contact every day. The people are to consider the stage/region governments as their family members and request what is required. Don't request what is not required as it isn't good for anyone.

Another thing is to discuss openly. And discuss in a balanced and fair manner towards both sides", said the State Counsellor.

After her speech, the local people presented requirements for regional development and the State Counsellor responded

to their questions after which she greeted them cordially.

Later in the afternoon the State Counsellor met with the Sagaing Region Chief Minister and region government members in the Kalay Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department guest house and discussed regional development matters. After the meeting the State Counsellor and party left Kalay by special flight and arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Committee holds meeting on children and armed conflicts

THE Committee for Preventing Grave Violations against Children in Armed Conflicts held its first meeting in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 January.

Speaking at the meeting, the chairman of the committee and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement, Dr. Win Myat Aye

explained the main reason why Myanmar has formed the committee. The country, which is seeing armed conflicts, needs to protect children from

violence, he said.

While making efforts for peace through negotiation at the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong, Myanmar, under the seven agreements reached for the basic principles for Union Accord, is working for the rights of children, following the UN Convention on child rights for the development of children, and elimination of six types of violence against children in armed conflicts.

The bill amending the 1993 Myanmar Child Rights Law is expected to be enacted soon, said the Union Minister.

The new law guarantees punishments for the six types of violence against children in armed conflicts.

The committee is tasked

with 10 duties and will draw and implement works for reaching its objectives, in accordance with the law and polices, and in conformity with international norms, said the Union Minister. He said the efforts of the committee must be made public through the local and international media.

Thereafter, participants at the meeting took part in sector-wise discussions.

The meeting came to an end with participants deciding to establish a work committee, hold a coordination meeting every two months, and cooperate with concerned UN agencies and the Country Task Force for Monitoring and Reporting (CT-FMR).—MNA ■

(Translated by AMS)



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye poses for the documentary photo with attendees at the meeting of the Committee for Preventing Grave Violations against Children in Armed Conflicts. **PHOTO: MNA**

Senior General receives PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs Special Envoy for Asian Affairs



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: THE OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

SENIOR GENERAL Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, received Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (PRC), at the Bayintnaung guest house in Nay Pyi Taw

yesterday morning.

During the meeting the status of China's participation and assistance to the Government and Tatmadaw on their efforts toward achieving eternal peace in Myanmar; China's support towards the 21 December 2018 announcement by the

Tatmadaw and China's strong condemnation of AA insurgents' attack on border police posts as irresponsible and unacceptable acts were discussed according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

Ethnic Affairs, Religious Affairs and Culture ministries act to conserve intangible cultures of ethnic peoples



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin (Right) visits the booth of intangible culture of ethnic peoples at his ministry yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Ministry of Ethnic Affairs and Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture jointly conducted a course in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday to promote the conservation of the intangible culture of Myanmar.

In his opening remarks, Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin said the course would help the participants to understand the rules and procedures for conservation, as

well as submitting the country's intangible cultural heritage to become listed among the world's heritage list.

Conserving the intangible cultures of ethnic people is one of the four policy goals of his ministry, said Nai Thet Lwin.

Conservation of the intangible heritages of ethnic people would be helpful for promoting understanding among the ethnic people of the country, as well as

to strengthen the friendship among them, he added.

"Strengthening understanding and friendship among the ethnic peoples would lead to peace in our Union and would be helpful for building a democratic federal union inspired by the peoples," said Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin.

Myanmar ratified the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in early 2014.

Afterwards, U Ye Myat Aung, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, discussed the lectures to be given during the three-day course, which ends on 24 January.

Following the opening ceremony, the Union minister, dignitaries and trainees visited booths displaying intangible cultures of ethnic peoples.—MNA

(Translated by AMS)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting over Myanmar Gemstone 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, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members, officials from Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Union Attorney General Office and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses over Myanmar Gemstone Bill yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Energize Myanmar donates USD 10,000 to UEHRD

A donation ceremony was held yesterday morning at the UEHRD Yangon office on 11 Shweli Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon at 10:00 a.m.

At this ceremony Mr. Billy Harkin, Chairman of Energize Myanmar Co. Ltd. donated USD 10,000 for Information and communication activities of UEHRD - Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine. The donation was accepted by Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Chief Coordinator of UEHRD after which he presented a certificate of appreciation signed by Vice Chairman of UEHRD Dr. Win Myat Aye who is Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Also present at this ceremony were U Toe Oung, Advisor to the Chairperson of UEHRD, U Kyaw Myaing, Information and Communications Director of UEHRD, and U Aye Lwin, Head of the NRPC Supportive Unit. Dr. Moe Thuzar, Executive Director and Mr. Seamus Glynn, CFO from Energize Myanmar including staff from both sides attended the ceremony.

It is learnt that the donated money will be used to support and assist the activities of the CIM - Communications, Information and Media Task Force and to improve the functions and capabilities of the UEHRD website. (www.rakhine.unionenterprise.org).—Kyaw Myaing



Chief Coordinator of UEHRD Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Chairman of Energize Myanmar Co. Ltd. Mr. Billy Harkin and attendees pose for the documentary photo at the UEHRD Yangon office. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Supreme Court Bar Council holds meeting 1/2019

The Bar Council of the Supreme Court held its meeting 1/2019 in the meeting hall of the Union Attorney-General's Office yesterday morning.

In his speech at the meeting, Bar Council of the Supreme Court's Chairman Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo said the council is doing the works of assessing and endorsing the applications of Supreme Court lawyers and providing remarks and comments to the Supreme Court on the ethics, duties and

rights of Supreme Court lawyers. At the meeting, 661 applications to register as Supreme Court lawyers were assessed and confirmed. Lawyers were being hired at the State's expense for poor persons who are put on trials where the outcome can be the death penalty and as per notification of 1-9-2018 the lawyer fees were being increased. Bill to amend the Bar Council Act was discussed and approved in Amyotha Hluttaw and is now being prepared for discussion

and approval in Pyithu Hluttaw. Once the bill to amend the Act is enacted as law, Bar Council will be expanded to 15 members and will include up to 11 Supreme Court lawyers. Supreme Court lawyers are urged to raise their capacity and value their ethic and morality so that the people obtain a fair justice said the Union Attorney General. The meeting was attended by Bar Council of the Supreme Court chairman, vice chairman and 11 members it is learnt. — MNA ■



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo delivers the speech at the meeting of Supreme Court Bar Council. **PHOTO: MNA**

Rakhine State Govt holds press conference on Investment Fair

By Nyunt Ko Ko
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

A PRESS conference was held at the Jasmine Palace Hotel in Yangon yesterday concerning the Rakhine State Investment Fair 2019, which will be held at the Jasmine Palace Resort Hotel on Ngapali Beach in Thandwe Tsp, Rakhine State from 21 to 23 February.

In his opening remarks, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu said, "The geography, allocation of land and water bodies, and the presence of natural

resources make it a good foundation for developing the nation. Our proximity with the Bay of Bengal also makes it a strategic location. There are a lot of opportunities for us. We have abundant rivers, streams and flatland, and also forests and mountains. This is why we need to bring in more investors because there are so many prospects."

Rakhine State's location near the Bay of Bengal makes it an economic proxy between China, India and ASEAN countries.

The Chief Minister also said, "We already have a long-term so-

cioeconomic development strategy ready. It was designed with the aid of international diplomats and experts. The State Counsellor has also given approval. There are six main sectors in the strategy: agriculture and livestock, fishery, eco tourism, capacity building, transport and communication, and small industrial enterprises and industrial development."

The Rakhine State Investment Fair 2019 is led by the State government with guidance from the Union government and major cooperation from JICA and JETRO, said state minister U Kyaw Aye Thein. He said, "Ethnic entrepreneurs are also involved. I think about a hundred companies are coming to the fair. We will also hold a second press conference. We will also cooperate with the Rakhine Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which is under the UM-FCCI".

When asked about the issue of stability in the State for investment, U Nyi Pu replied, "It's not the entire state that is undergoing instability. Places like Ngapali and southern Rakhine are very calm and stable and

suitable for investing for development. The issues concerning Rakhine State are occurring only in Maungdaw District's Maungdaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung townships. If you invest in developing the entire Rakhine State then those small areas will eventually become more stable and follow the trend to development. Don't see only the small area and miss the entire State. Use them."

In the current government administration, there are 17 foreign companies investing in Rakhine State. There are 12 in hotels and tourism, one in construction, three in livestock, and one in oil and natural gas. Foreign investment from 2000 to 2016 amounted to US\$9 billion, with the most investment put into oil and natural gas.

U Kyaw Hlaing, Chair of MSR, replied to the motive behind organizing the first investment fair in the State. He said, "Our aim is to help investment pour into Rakhine State. The local people will have increased job opportunities and the local companies will gain capital, technology, and market access through the investors."

Rakhine State ranks the

third least developed zone in the country. Licensed companies coming to invest in Rakhine State will be granted 7 years of tax exemption. The State government will also help companies signing MoUs at the fair to acquire the land needed for running their businesses within the legal time limit of one and a half month.

State minister U Kyaw Aye Thein said "There will also be three discussion programmes. One will involve people from the government sector, another will involve only Japanese business people, and another will involve the private sector discussing about the Kyaukpadaung Special Economic Zone and the Kaladan River All-round Development Project. The important thing is for companies wishing to invest in Rakhine to sign MoUs. We have acquired preliminary agreements with three companies. If the discussions go well we will sign the MoUs with them and other companies willing to invest. And finally, on the third day, we will take everyone on a tour around the locations ripe for investment."

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu meeting with media at press conference concerning the Rakhine State Investment Fair 2019 in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Notice for re-registration of all registered companies and entities

The announcement has been made for all registered companies and entities which are incorporated before 1 August 2018, to re-register at the electronic registry (MyCO) within six months from 1 August 2018 to 31 January 2019 in accordance with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017. It is hereby remind all remaining companies and entities which have not yet re-registered are needed to complete the process in time since the deadline of re-registration is only eight days left.

Directorate of Investment and Company Administration

Make your surroundings lush, green and healthy

THE natural environment, including forests and water resources that we rely on for our needs, are not our own. We have a responsibility towards the Earth and the land we live on. If we do not conserve resources, they will get depleted. While we are alive, we, human beings, have to work to conserve the environment and natural resources.

Myanmar is encountering the consequences of climate change, deterioration of the ecosystem, deforestation, endangered species, pollution of the air, oceans, rivers, lakes and land, and infectious diseases, like other countries in the world.

The denuded bald mountains we see from our helicopter or plane are warning us that our forests are depleting.

The cooler weather, even in summer, and the forests make the hilly areas of the country ideal for tourism development.

"We are not owners of land and water resources. We are caretakers. So, we have to understand that we have to conserve them and pass them to the next generation in good condition," said the State Counsellor during her trip to Chin State two days ago.

We must protect the natural environment so that it becomes a better place to live for people and other living things in the area.

It is impossible to avoid interacting with, changing, or leaving the natural environment as it

is. We will have to make changes for our development and for the generations yet to come. But, we must watch out for the benefit of everyone, not just people but also wildlife.

Illegal harvesting of timber and collection of firewood have led to Myanmar being ranked as the third-worst country for deforestation in the world.

Due to extensive deforestation, Myanmar experienced the worst weather in its history in 2015-2016, ranking 2nd among 187 countries on the global weather danger index.

Hence, we need to speed up afforestation – the planting of trees in barren lands to increase the area under forests – and fight illegal logging nationwide to combat the impact of climate change.

The participation of the people is playing a critical role in the country's reforestation drive. We are all obliged to preserve our forests for posterity and for future generations. If we intervene early before the trees are cut, we can eventually save an entire forest.

Let's make our surroundings lush, green, and healthy.

Offering high hopes of realizing full growth potential from upcoming Rakhine State Investment Fair

By Kyuntha Ngamann

RAKHINE State has naturally an inherent potential for growth. But it has lagged behind other Regions and States in terms of commerce and social development after Independence in 1948 which has been invested with several kinds of insurgency. Economic development plays an important role in overall developments in Rakhine State; it is an agriculture-based State. It is an initial state of small and medium businesses, far from doing heavy industries.

State Investment Fair

Massive investments are not found in economic sectors in Rakhine.

Successive governments have called for investments for overall developments of the State. After emergence of democratic government in 2010s, the Regional Government composed of elected representatives has created economic zones for the development of the State.

Investors took a wait-and-see position after disturbances in 2012, reducing a numbers of investors. The State government took an action for economic development of the State for the second time. It is learnt that the State Investment Fair was scheduled to be held at Ngapali Beach, Thandwe on February 21, 22 and 23, 2019 to attract domestic and foreign investors. Local and foreign investors will be cordially invited to attend the Fair. The Rakhine businessmen will have a chance to display their businesses and an opportunity to discuss with local and foreign investors, probably leading to signing of MoUs.

The Economy fundamentals

Successive governments have invited local investors since 2010 as well as those from abroad. It has also called for the establishment of industrial zones in the State with electricity as an essential part in the process. Now the Ponnagyun Electricity supply of 230 kilovolts was already built for the township industrial zone. In order to supply full electricity to the Rakhine State, the Oshitpin Electricity Branch was connected with Taungup(Bayay)



A factory in Kyaukphu Special Economic Zone. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

branch and 67-mile Man-Ann line was laid to connect with normal supply lines. At the same time, the establishment of Gas Engine was carried out in Kyaukphu Township by using natural gas and steam to produce more electricity.

For road transportation sector in the State, a road network was built between towns and villages. In order to connect with the East Yoma, three roads were constructed to cross over the Rakhine Yoma: Ann-Minbu mountain pass, Taungup-Pyay mountain pass and Gwa-Ngath-aingchaung pass. In addition, Gwa-kyaukchon-Shwethaungyan circular road along the coast was constructed. For international waterway, the Sittway Port was built and so was the Kyaukphu Port for swift border trade. Also, Kayinchau Industrial Zone and Economic Zone in Maungdaw were under way for swift border trade with neighbor Bangladesh. At the same time, policies of Kyaukphu Special Economic and Industrial Zones and Deep-sea ports are being carried out. Multi-purpose planning in Kalandan River and trading Centres in Northern Rakhine to deal with India are also reliable. There is

a possibility for an economic corridor between Ayeyawaddy Region and Circular Roads along the Coast.

Investments

Rakhine State has attracted some investments mainly in deep-sea explorations of petroleum and natural gas, but few investments in inland areas of the State. In the State, there were 28 business investments worth US\$ 10241.383 million during the Financial Year of 1988-89 to October, 2018. Local investments in 21 businesses from Financial Year of 1988-89 to 2018-19 were worth US\$ 115.560 million, according to the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration.

According to the statistics, a new business in mineral extraction materialized US\$ 18.147 million, 26 energy businesses generated US\$ 10213.983 million and other service business was worth US\$ 9.253 million. Two industrial businesses owned by Myanmar nationals realized US\$ one million and K. 3052.200 million, 11 businesses under Hotel and Tourism Sector realized US\$ 19. 520 million and K.72576.080 million.

One construction company

Agriculture and animal husbandry must be considered to be promising for local businesses, as well as for export purposes.

was worth US\$ 9.330 million and K. 20701.650 million, 5 businesses under Livestock breeding and Fishery Sector generated US\$ 6.380 million and K. 479.790 million and other two service businesses have realized US\$ 79.330 and K.142539.202 million were allowed to operate in the country. These amounts were invested in Rakhine State during a period of 20 years. More money is found invested in service sectors rather than production ones. Local investments are found to be in livestock breeding and fishery sectors.

At the same time, statistics issued by the Department of Internal Revenues during the financial year of 2017-2018, outstanding payers on Tariffs and Income Tax were 50 out of 100 persons; very few are found to be engaged in

trading and majority are engaged in contracting.

Energetic Forces

There are many energetic forces in Rakhine State to bring private businesses to success: Merchant and Industrial Association, Rakhine Youth Association, Cooperative Syndicate, Salt Production Association, Farmers Association, Prawn Breeding Association, Fishery and Animal Husbandry Associations, Rakhine Employers Association are not only located in Sittway but also in Yangon, Ayeyawaddy, Bago, Pyay and Mandalay, thus paving the way to the formation of Rakhine Employers Association(Central). Private employers have cooperated with these Associations for production purposes. Rakhine traditional weavings

on self-help basis are located in Sittway and Thandwe. They produce and distribute high-quality traditional clothes. In addition, weaving industries for famous Rakhine longyis are built. There are two textile factories; Rakhine traditional clothes are distributed throughout Myanmar. Famous Rakhine longyis are even exported to neighboring Bangladesh.

The Coordinating Committee for Private Sector development of Rakhine State was composed of 21 members in September, 2018; the Committee is patronized by Chief Minister, Finance and Commerce Ministers of the State. The Committee is expected to coordinate requirements between the private businesses and the Government. The meetings will be regularly held between the Government and private businesses which have experienced problems and challenges.

Prioritizing the production

The most important task in Rakhine State is to create job opportunities by building productive works, mills and factories.

Agriculture and animal husbandry must be taken into consideration for local businesses as well as for export purposes. As the salt production is in decline, the sector is weak in competing for exports.

It is an encouraging sign for the State, given that the State owns a beautiful beach filled with rich saltiness of sea water. The Coastal and Freshwater Fisheries could be developed as well as cattle farming.

Furthermore, tourism industry can be carried out; Man-Aung Island offers a haven of peace and serenity. It is a virgin island which could attract a lot of investments.

Rakhine State Investment Fair was scheduled to be held at the Ngapali Beach, Thandwe in February, 2019; it would be an opportune moment for Rakhine businessmen to discuss with local and foreign investors. It would also create a golden opportunity for economic developments of the State. At the same time, efforts should be made to have a unity among the State government, economic enterprises and private businesses.

(Translated by Arakan Sein)

72nd Anniversary (2019) Union Day National Objectives

1. All ethnic nationals to work with collective strength for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity, perpetuation of national sovereignty; and to work for preservation and protection of the above.
2. To strive for the emergence of a Constitution that is in alignment and harmony with the Democratic Federal Union.
3. To strive for the success of the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panlong and thence till the success of the internal peace process.
4. All union nationals to cooperate and work in "Unity and Harmony" for rule of law and for the people to be secure and free from danger.
5. All union citizens to be able to enjoy good education and adequate health care protection.

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Heuangseng KHAMDA-LAVONG as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to His Excellency Mr. Lying SAYAXANG.

Mr. Heuangseng KHAMDALAVONG was born in Houaphanh Province, Lao People's Democratic Republic on 1 June 1962. He studied at the Faculty of Law in Leipziger University in Germany and received Master degree in International Law.

He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1980, and has served in various capacities at Laos Embassies in Bonn and Jakarta. He has been serving as Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic since 2014.

Mr. Heuangseng KHAMDALAVONG is married with two children.—MNA

MoU on Establishment of Bilateral Consultations between foreign ministries of Myanmar, Turkey signed

THE signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of Bilateral Consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey was held at 2 p.m. on 22 January 2019, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. U Myint

Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Haydar Kerem Divanloğlu, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Myanmar, signed the MOU.

According to the MOU, the two Foreign Ministries will conduct consultations on bilateral and international matters of common interest.—MNA

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release No. 3/2019
1st Waning of Pyatho, 1380 ME
(21 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 19 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 Aung Aung living in Sey-war Village, Indaw Tsp, Sagaing Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 19-1-2019, police searched Aung Aung (a) Aung Htay's house in Seywar Village, Indaw Tsp then police discovered Aung Aung (a) Aung Htay, 41, together with heroin. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Indaw) MaYa(Pa) 3/2019 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of selling illegal drugs in Kannar Ward (West), Insein Tsp, Yangon Region.	On 17-1-2019, police searched Aye Zaw's house at No (32), Phadamyar Street, Kannar Ward (West), Insein Tsp then police discovered Hlaing Min Htet (a) Khaw Lay (a) Kyan Kyaung, 20, San Oo Aung (a) San Min Thu, 19, Naing Lin, 37, from Area (7), Padauk Myaing Street, and Win Htut Win, 28, from Mya Zayya Street, (3) Ward, Kamayut Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets, marijuana, ICE, three knives and four spears. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Insein) MaYa (Pa) 14/2019 under Section 19-A/20-A/22-B/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of selling illegal drugs in Mingaladon Tsp, Yangon Region.	On 19-1-2019, while police were patrolling on R-1 road, Thingangyungyi Village, Mingaladon Tsp, police arrested Than Htoo Aung, 28, living at No (1086), Aung Theikdi Street, (12) Ward, Shwepaukan Myothit, North Okkalapa Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Mingaladon) MaYa (Pa) 4/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of selling illegal drugs on the hill in Group (10), Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp, Shan State (North).	So far 35 cases have been opened as of last weeks, 33 men and 3 women have been arrested, together with heroin and stimulant tablets. On 14-1-2019, further investigation led to patrol near cemetery in Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp and police arrested Daung Haung, 19, living in Jayan Village, Lashio Tsp, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kutkai) MaYa (Pa) 8/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. On 15-1-2019, further investigation led to patrol on the street near Primary School in Ward 6, Kutkai Tsp then police arrested Ar Hway (a) Lishin Hway, 19, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kutkai) MaYa (Pa) 9/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of selling illegal drugs in Chanmyathazi Ward, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State.	So far 5 cases have been opened as of last weeks, 11 men have been arrested, together with heroin, stimulant tablets and opium blocks. On 15-1-2019, further investigation led to patrol in Sadubonmika Kyaung Street, Chanmyathazi Ward, Taunggyi Tsp and police arrested Lin Maung, 22, living in Shwe Taung Ward, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Taunggyi) MaYa (Pa) 7/2019 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

6	Information received of selling illegal drugs in Phayaphyu Ward, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State.	So far 3 cases have been opened as of last weeks, 2 men and 1 women have been arrested, together with heroin and stimulant tablets. On 18-1-2019, further investigation led to the search Hla Kyaw's house at No (98), Nguwah Street, Area (3), Phayaphyu Ward, Taunggyi Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Taunggyi) MaYa (Pa) 8/2019 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. On 18-1-2019, further investigation led to patrol in front of Dhamma Yadana Monastery, Pan Tin Street (3), Area (3), Phayaphyu Ward, Taunggyi Tsp then police arrested Tun Lin Oo (a) Kala, 22, from Dhama Street, Area (2), together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Taunggyi) MaYa (Pa) 9/2019 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
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3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far 464 cases have been opened as of 19-1-2019, and 611 men and 111 women have been arrested with seizures of 5,666.22 g of heroin, 58.51 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, 207,930 stimulant tablets, 3,784.53 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.
In Bayintnaung Ward, Tatkon Tsp, Nay Pyi Taw, one man was arrested with 23 stimulant tablets. Further investigation let to the arrest of one man with 98 stimulant tablets. In Sitapu Ward, Myitkyina Tsp, Kachin State, one woman was arrested with 3,899 stimulant tablets. Near Weikhar Village, Phakant Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then 3,280 stimulant tablets, 20 g of heroin and one motorcycle. Near Nantain Village, four men from Mandalay-Phakant Express car were arrested with 27,000 stimulant tablets, 260 g of heroin and 3,300 g of opium block. In Khahtan Village, Lonekhin Village-tract, two men were arrested with 160 stimulant tablets. Further investigation led to the arrest of four men with 1,800 stimulant tablets. Near Naunglite Bridge, Bhamo Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one woman was arrested with 35 g of heroin and one motorcycle. Further investigation led to the arrest of two women in Minekhat Village with 2,000 stimulant tablets. In No. (4) Ward, Hpa-an Tsp, Kayin State, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 40 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. Further investigation led to the arrest of three men and two women with 3,353 stimulant tablets. In Phoyarza Ward, Bilin Tsp, Mon State, four men were arrested with 401 stimulant tablets. On the road of Sittway-Thelchaung, Sittway Tsp, Rakhine State, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then two men were arrested with 11 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. In Shintatmaw Village, Pauktaw Tsp, one man was arrested with four stimulant tablets. Further investigation led to the arrest of one woman with 55 stimulant tablets. In Oumin Village, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State, one man was arrested with 1,710 stimulant tablets, 160 g of opium blocks and 2,000 g of opium. On the road of Ywangan-Kyaukse, Kyaukkupyin Village, Ywangan Tsp, one Honda Fit was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 16,800 g of opium and one car. **SEE PAGE-11**

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

FROM PAGE-10

At Takaw Bridge Checkpoint, Kunhing Tsp, one Dongfeng car was stopped for investigation then 600,000 g of ICE and one car. At Narmakhaw Bus Station, Lashio Tsp, one man was arrested with 430,000 stimulant tablets. On the road of Kutkai-Muse, near Oriental Toll gate, Muse Tsp, two men were arrested with 13,600 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. On Shaung Kwin Road, near Oriental Toll Gate, 10,080 liters of Toluene were seized in plastic containers from one stopped Nissan 12 wheels truck. On the road of Muse-Mandalay, near Oriental Toll Gate, Hsenwi Tsp, one Mark-II car was stopped for investigation then two women were arrested with 1,100 g of heroin and one car. On the road to Phalin Village, Namhkam Tsp, two men were arrested with 3,600 stimulant tablets and 220 g of heroin. On the road of Namhkam-Mentweingyi Village, near Shweli Bridge, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then 7,790 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. On the road of Kutkai-Kaungkha, Kutkai Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 6,000 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. In Panhite (7) Ward, Namtu Tsp, one man was arrested with 1,800 stimulant tablets. At (4/3) milepost, on the road of Mongmit-Mabein, Mongmit Tsp, one Mitsubishi Triton car was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 2,290,000 stimulant tablets, 2,210 g of heroin and one car. Further investigation led to the arrest of one man and one woman who involved in the case with one Pajero car. On the road of Mongmit-Mabein, at (4/3) milepost, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 2,000 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. Further investigation to the search in Upper Nyaungni Village then one woman was arrested with 3,527 stimulant tablets and 1,000 g of opium. In Palaung New Ward, Theni Village, one woman was arrested with 1,380 stimulant tablets. On the road of Laukkai-Chinshwehaw, Laukkai Tsp, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested 23,400 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. In Minenaw Village, Kengtung Tsp, one man and one woman were arrested with 1,674 stimulant tablets. In Wonmine Ward, Mongphyat Tsp, two men were arrested with 6,500 stimulant tablets. Near Nantmakya Village, Indaw Tsp, Sagaing Region, one Vigo car was stopped for investigation then two men were arrested with 207 g of heroin and one Vigo car. On the road of Pinlebu-Pyitsine, near Tamawtha Village, Pinlebu Tsp, two motorcycles were stopped for investigation then three men were arrested with 24,005.1 g of opium and two motorcycles. In Gwaycho Village, one man was arrested with 2,695 stimulant tablets. In Witoat Village, Tamu Tsp, one man from the Tamu-Kalay passenger car was arrested with 380 stimulant tablets, 20 g of heroin and 20 Buprenorphine Tablets. In Zayay Thiri (3) Ward, Myeik Tsp, Taninthayi Region, one man and one woman were arrested with 55,200 stimulant tablets. In Kantaw Village, Bokpyin Tsp, two men were arrested with 386 stimulant tablets and one boat. On the road of Shwegyin-Theinzayat, near Taungbat Kan Village, Shwegyin Tsp, Bago Region, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man and one woman were arrested with 123 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. In Natyaykan Ward, Amarapura Tsp, Mandalay Region, one motorcycle was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 1,040 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. At (16) mile checkpoint, Patheingyi Tsp, one man and one woman were arrested with 100,000 stimulant tablets from the Lashio-Yangon passenger car. In Kyatpyinzay Ward, Mogkok Tsp, one man was arrested with 2,000 stimulant tablets and 7.8 g of heroin. In Anautpine (3) Ward, Latpan Village,

Kyaukse Tsp, one man and one woman were arrested with 1,015 stimulant tablets. In Shwethahtay Ward, Myittha Tsp, one woman was arrested with 1,935 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle. In Myothit (A/B) Ward, Insein Tsp, Yangon Region, one Probox car was stopped for investigation then two men and one woman were arrested with 6,000 stimulant tablets and one car. Further investigation led to the search of one Hijet car on Lower Mingaladon road then one man was arrested with 1 g of ICE and one car. In Aungzaya Housing, Kannar Ale Ward, one man was arrested with 58,850 stimulant tablets, 0.2 g of heroin and 1.4 g of Ketamine. In Nguwah Street, Myayadana Ward, Mingaladon Tsp, one woman was arrested with 100 stimulant tablets. Further investigation led to the arrest of one man and one woman with 1,990 stimulant tablets and one Honda Fit car. Further investigation led to the arrest of two women were arrested with 4,000 stimulant tablets in Thiri Street, Zaykone West Ward, Insein Tsp and further investigation led to the seizure of 74,180 stimulant tablets at the convict's in Mudita Housing (2). On the road of Yangon-Pathein, near Daingsu Village, Hlinethaya Tsp, two men were arrested with 3,000 stimulant tablets. In Kantkaw Street, Waibagi Myothit (6) Ward, North Okkalapa Tsp, one Probox car was stopped for investigation then one man was arrested with 995 stimulant tablets and one car. In Nweaye Ward, Dawbon Tsp, one man and one women were arrested with 11545 stimulant tablets, 65 g of ICE, 9 g of marijuana and one Premio car. In (43) Ward, Dagon Myothit (North) Tsp, one man was arrested with 2,180 stimulant tablets. In Ward (1), Myanaung Tsp, Ayeyawady Region, one man was arrested with 97.98 g of marijuana. There have been two arrests involving foreigners. Beside of Mahuyar Creek, Kangyiwa Bridge, Tamu Tsp, Sagaing Region, one Indian man who is India Citizen who illegally entered to Myanmar was arrested with 93 stimulant tablets. There have been two seizures of ammunitions. At Mamonekine Village, Mohnyin Tsp, Kachin State, one man and one woman were arrested with 168 stimulant tablets, 5.1 g of heroin and one home-made gun. In Thayargon Village, Mudon Tsp, Mon State, one man was arrested with 1.3 g of ICE and one air gun. Further investigation led to the arrest of two men with 71 stimulant tablets, 21 g of ICE, one air pistol and two motorcycles in Kwaywon Village.

There have been 258 cases being opened between 13-1-2019 and 19-1-2019, and 306 men and 61 women have been arrested. Seizures were made of 4,941.932 g of heroin, 1.5 liters of heroin solution, 600,105.28 g of ICE, 47 g of low-quality opium, 44733.1 g of opium, 120 g of brown heroin, 151.65 of speciosa powder, 3,178,166 stimulant tablets, 300 g of crushed stimulant tablets, 284.08 g of marijuana, 4504.2 g of opium blocks, 10,080 liters of Toluene, 6.51 g of Ketamine, 20 Buprenorphine Tablet, one home-made gun and two air 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

United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy arrives in Rakhine State

A DELEGATION led by United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy on Myanmar Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener departed from Yangon and arrived by flight in Sittway at 1 p.m. yesterday.

The delegation was welcomed by Rakhine State Electric Power, Industry and Transportation Minister U Aung Kyaw Zan and officials from the state government at the Sittway Airport.

Then the delegation led by Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener met with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu at the

meeting hall of the Rakhine State government's office, where they discussed matters related to economic and social affairs, stability, the incidents broke out in Rakine State on 4 January.

Afterwards, they proceeded to the Rakhine Hluttaw, where they met with Rakhine State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Than and discussed the matters concerning the work process of the Hluttaw and all-round development in Rakhine State. —Maung Sein Lwin (Myanma Alinn) ■ *(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*



United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy on Myanmar Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener and delegation arrive at Sittway Airport in Rakhine State yesterday. **PHOTO: MIN HTET**

Children's Literature Festival (Myitkyina) comes to a close

CLOSING ceremony of Children's Literature Festival, Children's Literature Exhibition and Book Sales jointly conducted by the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Education and the Kachin State Government was held at Myitkyina University convocation hall yesterday afternoon.

At the event Children's Literature Festival Organizing Work Committee secretary Information and Public Relations Department Deputy Director General U Aye Kywe first explained about works conducted during the Children's Literature Festival.

After State Hluttaw representative U Zaw Win's speech of appreciation, Kachin State Chief Minister Dr. Khet Aung addresses the event. "More than 100,000 people, including students participated in the Children's Literature Festival (Myitkyina).

Students participated in the competitions that develop their physical and mental capabilities and poem recitation and story-telling events were also conducted in ethnic national language. It was a joyful event as ethnic national dances were included in the entertain-

ment performance", said the Chief Minister.

He pointed out, at the present age youngsters were not in touch with literature and are getting distanced from reading. Books seem to be lagging behind new technologies. Due to the attraction of the internet, children and youngster are forgetting books and literatures as well as the taste of books and literatures. The festival held was seen to support the contact between youths, literatures and books."

"The matter of making children and youths read is an important matter for the country. A country's development is linked to the development of its literature.

When the countries of the world are studied it can be seen that much emphasis had been placed toward the development of literature culture. Our country's development is linked to the literature and cultural development. The mind will develop only through reading. Mental strength and thinking process will mature through reading," he said.

"Human resources that are developed both physically and mentally are required in building a nation. Literature prevents a person from the

extremes. It also guides a person toward a correct thought process. Therefore supports must be given for children to read more and arrange for them to be in touch with books and literatures.

Children nowadays are spending more time on their school studies reducing physical activities and reading of other knowledge. Parents themselves are pushing the children toward school studies and forget to encourage their children on physical activities and reading of other knowledge.

"This is becoming a modern culture. The festival held is pointing to parents and their children on other requirements in addition to school studies."

"The programs, competitions and games in the Children Literature Festival support toward producing youngsters who are successful, outstanding and happy.

All are urged to use the experiences gained at the Children's Literature Festival to go through their lives", said the Chief Minister."

Children's Literature Festival, Children's Literature Exhibition and Book Sales was held for three days from 20 to 22 January. — MNA ■



Students entertain the visitors with ethnic traditional dances at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

Dated: 23rd January 2019



School girls check gem stone at the booth of the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

G-to-G agreement vital for Sino-Myanmar border trade: merchants

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR merchants have called for a government-to-government (G-to-G) agreement with China to improve bilateral border trade.

"While Myanmar claims its export channels are legitimate, China considers some trade illegal, resulting in confiscation of goods. Since mid-October, the volume of rice exported to China has dropped," said Dr. Soe Tun, executive member of the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

"We claim trade through the Muse gate is legal, but it is considered illegal by China. We need to negotiate with China. We need a bilateral agreement between the two countries. There are also issues with exporting goods legally to China as the tax levied by it is too high for traders to pay. China has set import duties of 35 to 100 per cent. On some goods, duties of up to 150 per cent are imposed. Therefore, we need to discuss tax relief with China as our country is listed as a LDC. And then, we have to work to get a G-to-G agreement. Only in this way will we be able to deal with tight confiscation by China in the border areas," said Dr. Soe Tun.

Although we are exporting goods through the legal channel, the flow of income needs to be better managed, he said.

"We have reported this to the national economic



Trucks from Myanmar carrying agro-products seen near China-Myanmar border in Muse Township, northern Shan State. **PHOTO: BAN RYO HTAN (IPRD)**

coordination committee. Traders are using an informal remittance transfer channel like Hundi. Therefore, the government does not have a current account statement for income from trade. We need to figure out a better payment system," he said. "At present, rice exports to China through the border channels have declined by half. Starting from 18 January, the European Union reinstated tax on Indica rice for three years. The government needs to tackle those difficulties in rice exports," said U Nay Lin Zin, the secretary general of Myanmar Rice Millers' Association.

"Myanmar's rice exports are mainly driven by the private sector. However, trade with business-to-business agreements has certain limitations. Border trade has currently dropped by almost half. Additionally, the market for quality rice in the EU is likely to shrink. We find export performance through the G-to-G channel

weak. As the scope of the private sector is limited, the public sector needs to lead the chain. It should be implemented at the soonest," said U Nay Lin Zin.

This being the case, we will forward a report to the Ministry of Commerce, stated the MRF. "We encourage export promotion. We plan to meet the prescribed quality standards," said

U Aung Soe, the Director General of the Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar conducts trade with China through the Muse, Lweijel, Chinshwehaw, and Kanpikete gates, with Muse handling the largest volume of trade among the border checkpoints. *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

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Dated 23 January 2019

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Over 60,000 people visit Myitkyina Children's Literature Festival on last day

THE Children's Literature Festival at Myitkyina University drew over 60,000 visitors yesterday, the last day of the event.

Ethnic dance troupes from Lisu, Yawan, Tailai, Larchid, Tailong, Zaiwah, and Tailay performed at the fest, attracting large crowds of people.

Puppet shows and Kyaukse traditional elephant dance performance were also a draw for visitors yesterday. Children from private schools of Kachin State also performed traditional dances at the festival, which included competitions such as paper-folding, coloring, painting, toy assembly, and group games.

Writers Myit Nge Ah Kyaw Ah Maw and Ah Gyi Ko Ko (Katha) gave talks on literature, while schoolchildren Maung Naw Aung, Ma Theint Nandar Tun, Ma Phyo Thandar Kyaw, and Maung Zaw Myo Htike took part in the roundtable on 'Youth and Literature'.

Booths on general knowl-



Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina is crowded with students on the final day.

edge were crowded with people at the festival. Literature and traditional culture booths of the Lawwaw, Yawan, Larchid, Jinphaw, Lisu, Zaiwah, Tailay, Tailai, Taisar, and Thakhamti ethnic tribes were packed with visitors.

The festival had 51 bookshops set up by publishing and distribution businesses, with sales totalling more than K36 million over three days.

During the festival, over 6,000 t-shirts, over 6,000 writing

books, and over 9,000 storybooks and comics were distributed to children.

About 20 games were held during the festival, and over 30,000 schoolchildren, including 1,505 students who participated in the entertainment programme, took part in the games. A total of 146 prizes were awarded to children. The Children's Literature Festival attracted over 50,000 people on the first day and the number of visitors exceeded 60,000 on the second day. Final day, over 60,000 people visited the festival, bringing the total number of visitors to over 100,000 over three days. The festival was held with the aim of sharpening the intellect and ideas of children who will become future leaders of the country, improving their creativity and communication skills, promoting close association with literature, instilling the reading habit, and making children happy.—Aung Min Han / Photo: Htein Nan Naw

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Book stalls attract students at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina on the final day.

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct a coordinated naval patrol

MYANMAR and Bangladesh conducted a coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River at 10:30 am to 11:10 am on 21 January, according to the information released by the Myanmar Police Force. The patrol of Myanmar was led by Acting Police Major Tin Hlaing from No.2 Border Police sub-division (Ywetnyotaung), Area 5, Maungdaw Township, while the Bangladeshi side was led by Humayun Kobin

from No. 2 Domdomia Outpost of Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB). The Myanmar troops in the two water crafts met with the Bangladeshi troops on their two water crafts at the middle of the Naf River and patrolled together from nautical mile 8 to 11 along the Naf River. After the patrol, the two forces held a discussion on a watercraft.—GNLM (Translated by JT)



Myitkyina's Children's Literature Festival packed with visitors

PHOTO: MNA



Kyaukse Elephant dance at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina.



Children reading comic books.



Students entertain the visitors with Shan traditional dances at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina yesterday.



Visitors observe electric circuit accessories displayed at the booth of the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina.



Students reading books at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina.



Students take part in the colour painting at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina.



School children observe gem stones at the booth of the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina.

Locals enjoy Rakhine traditional boat racing in Kyaukpyu

THE local people of Kyaukpyu Township enjoyed traditional boat racing and wrestling at a pagoda festival in a village in the Taungyin Village-tract.

Rakhine traditional boat racing started on 20 January and ended yesterday.

Rakhine traditional wrestling and bamboo-pole climbing games will continue at the festival.—Phyo Wei Lin (IPRD)

(Translated by JT)



Cool Tsitsipas flies into 'fairytale' first Slam semi-final

MELBOURNE (Australia) — Greek sensation Stefanos Tsitsipas showed resilience and maturity to power into a fairytale Australian Open semi-final on Tuesday after sweeping past Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut.

Roger Federer's conqueror had to contend with dropping his serve early in each of the first three sets to the 22nd seed before coming through 7-5, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/2) in 3hr 15min.

"It all feels like a fairytale almost," said the 20-year-old after holding his head in his hands in disbelief and sinking to the floor on Rod Laver Arena.

"I'm just living the dream, living what I've been working hard for," Tsitsipas added.

"I feel a bit emotional but not too much — I know I really worked hard to get here, playing in semis of a Grand Slam.

"I was asked my goals this year and said semis Grand Slam. And when I was answering this question, I thought I was crazy.

But it is real. It just happened."

Tsitsipas, who broke through in 2018 with his first ATP Tour title and won the NextGen finals, will face either world number two Rafael Nadal or unseeded Frances Tiafoe for a place in the final.

For the 30-year-old Bautista Agut, who won the Doha warm-

up event and was in his first quarter-final at this level, the wait for a maiden Grand Slam semi-final goes on. After encountering the gifted Greek at close quarters for the first time he still tipped either Nadal or Novak Djokovic to lift the famous Norman Brookes trophy.—AFP ■



Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas hits a return against Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut during their men's singles quarter-final match on day nine of the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on 22 January, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Ashley Cole joins former teammate Lampard at Derby



Ashley Cole. PHOTO: AFP

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Defender Ashley Cole has joined former Chelsea teammate and current Derby boss Frank Lampard at the Championship club until the end of the season.

Cole, who won 107 England caps, was a free agent after his recent departure from LA Galaxy, and Lampard is confident the 38-year-old will boost Derby's promotion drive.

"I'm delighted that we've

been able to secure Ashley's services for the rest of the season," said the Derby manager, whose side are currently in sixth place in the Championship, the final play-off spot.

"He's a fantastic player, a quality left-back, and he also brings great experience to the dressing room.

"I know him very well from our time together at Chelsea, and with England, and I also know what he can bring to the group and the influence he will have."

Cole, who won multiple trophies alongside Lampard at Chelsea including the Champions League, said he relished the challenge. "For me it was a no-brainer to come here and get involved in this great environment and hopefully push for promotion," he said.

"I'm coming out of my comfort zone," he added. "I could have stayed in the MLS and relaxed but no, I wanted to come here and again fight for something, fight for a good cause and try to make promotion."—AFP ■

Host UAE beat Kyrgyzstan in extra-time to reach Asian Cup quarterfinal

ABU DHABI — The United Arab Emirates advanced to the 2019 Asian Cup quarterfinals after edging Kyrgyzstan 3-2 in extra time on a dramatic on Monday evening in Abu Dhabi.

The UAE, who are seeking to become the seventh team to both host the Asian Cup and win the tournament, now face defending champions Australia.

The hosts made the breakthrough after 14 minutes when

Khamis Esmaeel scored a close-range header from a corner, but Mirlan Murzaev pulled Kyrgyzstan level in the 26th minute, receiving a superb pass from Akholidin Israilov and rounding the goalkeeper to make it 1-1.

The UAE started the stronger after the break, with Ali Ahmed Mabkhout's header inside the box narrowly missing the target. Moments later it was Kyrgyzstan's turn to threaten, but

captain Valeri Kichin's curling shot crashed onto the bar eight minutes into the second half.

Kyrgyzstan, who were making their debut appearance at the Asian Cup, almost took the lead in the 54th minute when Bekzhan Sagynbaev's free header from inside the box bounced just over the bar. The UAE restored their lead 10 minutes later, when Mabkhout slotted home following a beautifully weighted pass from

Amer Abdulrahman.

Kyrgyzstan had a golden chance to equalize when Kairat Zhyrgalbek slid a cross into the six-yard box, only for Tamirlan Kozubaev to shoot wide.

Pushing forward in search of a goal, Kyrgyzstan dramatically equalised from a corner kick in stoppage time when substitute Tursunali Rustamov rose highest to slam his header into the net and send the match into ex-

tra-time. Mabkhout wasted two clear chances when he could have done better five minutes into extra-time, but he made up for it a few minutes later by earning a penalty which was converted by substitute Ahmed Khalil.

Kyrgyzstan came close to yet another equalizer in the second period of extra-time, as Bakhtiyar Duyshobekov's header beat the goalkeeper but bounced off the outside of the post.—Xinhua ■