NATIONAL

State Counsellor meets religious, ethnic leaders in Taunggyi, Shan State

PAGE-4

NATIONAL

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomes RTAF Chief

PAGE-7

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State Counsellor attends 72nd Shan State Day celebrations in Taunggyi

State Counsellor: Rule of law, development, peace inseparable

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, the State Counsellor and the Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, attended a ceremony to mark the 72nd anniversary of Shan State Day in Taunggyi yesterday

The ceremony began with Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut reading a message from the President.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor gave a speech and said the Shan State Day honors the day when the Union was born. Quoting the President's message, she said, it is the duty of all the people to achieve the dream and hopes of the leaders who fought for our independence.

The State Counsellor urged all ethnic people to make a commitment to turn the dreams and hopes expressed by the country's leaders 72 years ago in Panglong into a reality. She also reiterated the objectives of the incumbent government when it took office: rule of law, socioeconomic development, internal peace and national reconciliation, and drafting a State Constitution which can guarantee a genuine democratic Federal Union. The objectives are interrelated as peace, stability, political ethics, and development are inseparable, she added.

"Only when we achieve peace can development work be carried out for the people. To gain peace, we need a State constitution which is accepted by all the people. It is very important to ensure reconciliation among the people. We have the same ambitions and goals, but sometimes we have different ideas about how to march towards our goals. In fact, this is not a problem we cannot solve if we have a genuine goodwill for our country," said the State Counsellor.

SEE PAGE-3

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the ceremony to mark the 72nd Shan State Day in Taunggyi, Shan State. **PHOTO: (UPPER) BY THET AUNG, PHOTO (LOWER) BY MNA**

... we have not yet reached our goal of a genuine democratic federal Union. It is our duty to march towards and reach the goal, and that is the historic duty of our generation.

INSIDE TODAY

PARLIAMENT
Pyithu Hluttaw to review permitted investment on state owned properties, businesses
PAGE-2

PARLIAMENT
Second Amyotha Hluttaw's eleventh regular session holds ninth-day meeting
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
Union Minister U Min Thu meets GAD staff of Shan State (south, north)
PAGE-7

NATIONAL
Union Minister for the Office of State Counsellor receives the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
PAGE-10

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw to review permitted investment on state owned properties, businesses

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

A NINTH-DAY meeting of second Pyithu Hluttaw's eleventh regular session was held at Pyithu Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning where a motion tabled to review permitted investment on state owned properties and business was accepted.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. **PHOTO: MNA**

Question and answer session

In the question and answer session at the start of the meeting U Lwin Ko Latt of Thanlyin constituency asked if there are any plan to provide special exemptions to foreign investors to invest in Kayah and Chin states where there were no foreign investment. Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung referred to Myanmar Investment Law and a notification made by Myanmar Investment Commission and said income tax exemption is granted for seven years from the start of commercial operation to investments made in all townships of Kayah and Chin states. For regions that are partly developed, income tax exemption is for five years only and for developed regions, it is for three years only, said the Deputy Minister.

There were some studies and submissions made by both foreign and local investors to invest in Kayah State and an investment fair for Chin State will be held in March 2019. Through conducting such investment fairs and forums, investors will be invited and attracted. A report on investment opportunities in Kayah State was published in March 2018 and was hosted in Myanmar Investment Commission website, said the Deputy Minister.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun responded to a question raised by U Khin Zaw of Kawthoung constituency on a plan to expand the parking station for commercial vehicles in Kawthoung Township and said there isn't adequate space for township municipal to expand the parking station so there is no plan to expand it. However, to meet the growing number of commercial vehicles, a meeting with private business persons is planned on constructing a parking station, for commercial vehicles said the Nay Pyi Taw Council member.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun also responded to a recommendation made by Dr. U Saw Naing of South Okkalapa constituency on permitting an opening of a car sale centre at a small car park station 2 on the junction of Yadana Street and Thumingalar Street in South Okkalapa Township. He explained that the two small car park stations with playgrounds were constructed on former playgrounds to ease traffic congestion in the area while car sales centers were also being opened in Thanthumar and Hline in Yangon City Development Committee lands. The State had already decided that it is not appropriate to open more car sales centers and car importers are to have their own show rooms, there is no plan to make the small car park station 2 into a car sales center and it will remain as a small car park station said the Nay Pyi Taw Council member.

Questions raised by Dr. U San Shwe Win of Yekyi constituency, Dr. Daw Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon constituency, Daw Aye Aye Mu @ Daw Shar Mee of Kalay constituency and U Sai Oo Kham of Hsenwi constituency were also answered by Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win.

Motion on reviewing permitted investment on state owned properties and business

Following the question and answer session Daw Khin San Hlaing of Pale constituency tabled a motion urging the Union Government to review permitted investment on state owned lands, buildings and businesses and take effective action including rescinding the investment permit if an investment is not in accordance to the pledges made and to implement new projects that are beneficial to the citizens, people in the region and businesses and make best uses of state-owned assets. She explained that many investors obtained the permission of Myanmar Investment Commission, Union ministerial departments and state/region government to invest in state-owned lands, buildings and businesses with many investment pledges but after the properties were transferred to them, does not implement anything or act like implementing by doing a little and then completely stopping the work. Many Hluttaw representatives including the proposer of this motion had repeatedly and frequently raised questions on such matters but there were no detail or exact answers and there no policy that came about. As such the motion is tabled so that the legislative pillar, our Hluttaw, could decide and set up policy. Only then can there be true investment can come in creating economic development for the country and create job opportunities for the people.

SEE PAGE-10

Amyotha Hluttaw

Second Amyotha Hluttaw's eleventh regular session holds ninth-day meeting

By Aung Ye Thwin (MNA)

THE ninth-day meeting of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw's eleventh regular session was held yesterday morning at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall. The day's meeting consisted of a question and answer session, decision on a bill, discussions on another bill and a tabled motion.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. **PHOTO: MNA**

Question and answer session

The question and answer session starts off with a question by U Maung Maung Latt of Sagaing Region constituency 9 on what was the response of the authorities toward seizures of counterfeit currencies. Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Soe Min said actions are taken against counterfeiting of currencies, import/export of counterfeit currencies and those who deliberately use counterfeit currencies. However, no action is taken against those who carry or use it unknowingly if firm evidence can be produced. Measures were drawn up and implemented to prevent import of counterfeit currencies through the border and whenever there is a case of counterfeit currencies being produced in foreign countries, action is taken together with neighboring countries to reveal and arrest the counterfeiters, said the Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar.

Similarly questions raised by U Naing Thiha of Mon State constituency 7 and U Saw Moe Myint @ Samuel of Kayin State constituency 1 were answered and explained by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe.

Hluttaw approves Innovation Copyright Bill

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced the Hluttaw's approval of the Innovation Copyright Bill after obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw. The bill was returned by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments after it was approved and sent by Amyotha Hluttaw.

Hluttaw discusses Myanmar Insolvency Bill

This was followed with Hluttaw representatives discussing the Myanmar Insolvency Bill. The bill was discussed by U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2, U Hsan Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3 and U Than Soe @ Than Soe (Economic) of the Yangon Region constituency 4.

Hluttaw discusses motion on taking a precise and solemn oath in court of justice

Afterwards, a motion tabled by U Soe Moe of Ayeyawady Region constituency 1 for judges, plaintiffs, accused and witnesses to take a precise and solemn oath in court of justice to make the judiciary truthful and trustworthy for the people was discussed by U Htein Win of the Ayeyawady Region constituency 4, U Kyaw Myint Oo of Mandalay Region constituency 10, Dr. Kyaw Than Tun (Canton) of Mandalay Region constituency 3, Daw San San Myint of Bago Region constituency 4, Daw Hla Htay @ Daw Ohn Kyi, of Mandalay Region constituency 4, U Hsan Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3 and U Soe Thein @ U Maung Soe of Taninthayi Region constituency 10.

The tenth-day meeting of the eleventh regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw is scheduled to be held today

(Translated by Zaw Min)

"All are ready to negotiate. If our main goal is to build a prosperous and peaceful Union, there will be no difficulties negotiating through diverse opinions"

FROM PAGE-1

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi cuts ceremonial ribbon to open the exhibition of 72nd Shan State Day celebrations in Taunggyi. **PHOTO: MNA**

"All are ready to negotiate. If our main goal is to build a prosperous and peaceful Union, there will be no difficulties negotiating through diverse opinions. It is important for all people from different ethnic nationalities of the Union to think about our country as they join hands. In today's world, there is unity and diversity. Whether to move towards unity or diversity is the decision of each individual citizen of a country and each individual country.

"If we make the right decision this time, it will be a valuable deed for our next generation. Today, we have been living in an independent and sovereign nation for 72 years thanks to the efforts of leaders who fought for our independence. It is our duty not only to continue to live in this independent and sovereign nation but also to achieve prosperity. Our country has gained such an opportunity. Our country has changed gradually and we have witnessed the 21st Century Panglong Conference which attracted all ethnic nationalities. And, the government elected by the people is taking on administrative duties."

"As you all know, we have not yet reached our goal of a genuine democratic federal Union. It is our duty to march towards and reach the goal, and that is the historic duty of our generation. Every generation has its own historic duty. In our history, some generations have been dutiful and some not."

She continued to say that the leaders of the country who struggled for the independence are have been dutiful and she, as a member of the current generation, expressed her commitment to becoming the ones who are dutiful.

To become historic dutiful generation, it is important for the people to participate in making endeavours for the development of the country because the government could not do it alone, she said.

> "As all of you know, to build a genuine democratic federal Union, we have recently taken steps to amend the constitution at the Hluttaw. We are trying to keep the promises given to the people as much as we can."

Every state day of the country can be called the Union Day though the Union Day falls on 12 February because every state day supports the Union Day

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has called on all ethnic peoples to perform deeds which can lead to strengthening the Union to enjoy the fruits of a genuine democratic federal Union. She also stressed the need to supporting the people from the political, social and economic points of view to develop their good abilities and to keep abreast with other nations as the world has been changed a lot over a span of 72 years.

She said the three objectives set by the incumbent government are aimed at bringing peace, stability and security to the successive generations of the Union.

She continued to say that it is important to enjoy development, progress, peace and national reconciliation, and also the constitution which can guarantee a genuine democratic federal Union.

"As all of you know, to build a genuine democratic federal Union, we have recently taken steps to amend the constitution at the Hluttaw. We are trying to keep the promises given to the people as much as we can."

"But, we cannot perform it alone. In successfully tackling important issues of a country, its people play an important role."

In conclusion, the State Counsellor called on all ethnic national peoples to make commitment on the auspicious day to turn the dream of a genuine democratic federal Union inspired by all into reality

Afterwards, the State Counsellor formally opened the Ethnics Traditional Cultural Exhibition and booths of governmental departments together with Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut, Speaker of Shan State Hluttaw U Sai Lone Hsai, Parton of Shan national U Sai Nwe Taung, MPs U Sai Khin Maung Nyunt and Daw Nan Khin Htar Yi.

The State Counsellor and entourage enjoyed the performance of the Shan ethnic literature and cultural troupe.

Afterwards, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Union ministers and dignitaries have the documentary photos taken together with ethnic peoples.

In the evening, the State Counsellor and party attended a dinner to mark the 72nd Anniversary Shan State Day hosted by the Shan State Government.—MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by local people as she arrives to attend the 72nd Shan State Day celebrations in Taunggyi yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets religious, ethnic leaders, ethnic affairs ministers, chairmen of self-administered zones, regional leading bodies in Shan State

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with religious, ethnic leaders, ethnic affairs ministers, chairmen of self-administered zones, regional leading bodies in Taunggyi, southern Shan State on 7 February 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in her capacity as Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, who was in Shan State, Taunggyi met with religious leaders, ethnic national leaders, ethnic affairs ministers and chairmen of self-administered zones and region leading bodies in Taunggyi Hotel yesterday morning.

At the meeting the State Counsellor requested discussion not only on Taunggyi but also to cover in general the situation of entire Shan State. Taunggyi should be a model for Shan State as many ethnic nationals lived together in friendship in Taunggyi. Shan State is a mini-Union in the Union because multi ethnic nationals, races and religions lived in the State. This is the dream of Union when peace is achieved. All are urged to state their requirements openly and will in return openly say what could not be done now and do what could be done. The requirement is to have a balance within ethnic nationals, regions and works of lives. There are many ethnic nationals living in Taunggyi and the help and assistance toward spreading this mindset of living peacefully, equitably and in cooperation is requested said the State Counsellor.

Next, religious leaders, ethnic national leaders, ministers for ethnic affairs, and chairmen of self-administered zones and region leading bodies discussed requirements and works to be conducted by the Government and the State Counsellor explained about immediate works that can be done and works that required more time.

The meeting was attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and Dr. Than Myint, State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut, Deputy Minister U Hla Maw Oo, minister for Kachin ethnic affairs U Zoute Daung, minister for Kayan @ Padaung ethnic affairs U Khun Aye Maung, minister for Bamar ethnic affairs Dr. Aung Than Maung, minister for Lahu ethnic affairs U Yaw Thet, minister for Lisu ethnic affairs U Gu Sar, minister for Akha ethnic affairs U Arr Bay La, minister for Inn ethnic affairs Dr. Tun Hlaing, Chairman of Buddhists, Vice Chairman of Christians, patron of Hindus, chair of Muslims, Central Shan Literature and Culture chairman, Inn National Day organizing committee chairman, Taungyo literature and culture association chairman, Kokang literature and culture association chairman, Pa-O literature and culture association chairman, Danu ethnic affairs association chairman, Kayan literature and culture association chairman, Lahu literature and culture association patron, Akha literature and culture association, chairman, Lisu literature and culture association vice chairman, Kachin literature and culture association vice chairman, Wa literature and culture association patron, Gon Shan literature and culture association joint secretary and officials.

> Shan State is a mini-Union in the Union because multi ethnic nationals, races and religions have existed in the State.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi engages with the school children at B.E.H.S (2) in Taunggyi, southern Shan State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

In the afternoon the State Counsellor and party went to Taunggyi Basic Education High School No. 2 kindergarten room where students performed playing of Shan drum and dances while primary students presented flower bouquets.

Next, the State Counsellor visited Kindergarten, Grade-1, Grade-2 and Grade-11 class rooms and observed the teaching of lessons and speaking of ethnic national languages and cordially discussed the students' aims and hobbies.

Afterwards the State Counsellor met with teachers and parents of the students in the school's meeting hall and discussed education sector development.

During the meeting the State Counsellor said that she would like to discuss rather than gave guidance and instructions. The main was to discuss education system in Taunggyi, Shan State and the entire country. Children are the future of our country and the country will develop only when the education system is robust. She spoke of telling the children that the country will not stay weak in development forever. She also spoke of the importance of raising the education system.

A variety of ethnic nationals were seen to be attending KG. All were learning their lessons peacefully and were friendly with one another. Teachers should at least let the youngsters know how to greet one another in different languages. Teaching how to greet and say thank you in ethnic national languages are introducing the union spirit and they'll have mutual understanding.

SEE PAGE-5

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets religious, ethnic leaders, ethnic affairs ministers, chairmen of self-administered zones, regional leading bodies in Shan State

FROM PAGE-4

The youngsters were not afraid, but were respective and well-mannered and also shy. It is a success as when they get over being shy after talking with them, they started to speak up and have a willingness to show what they can do and their self-confidence.

Even though there is much to be done in the education system, the above facts is indeed a success. A big difference is seen in the students in matriculation classes here compared with those in the same level at schools in Yangon. In Yangon, the majority says they want to be doctors. This may be because of being taught as such by their parents or for other standards and norms set. When asked why, the majority said to save lives. I see this as being taught by the surrounding environment. In this school, there are more who want to learn languages than becoming a doctor. We were happy about this and this is the mindset that Yangon should also have.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi releases a hot-air ballon at the dinner to mark the 72nd Shan State Day in Taunggyi, southern Shan State yesterday. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

It was a concern to see only a third of the students being boys. There was no answer for why this is. Some say they leave school to work while some were doing nothing. Teachers and parents should look into this. Whether boys not attending school are helping their parents or were they wasting time in teashops and liquor house or from there on to drugs.

In our country the majority of males drop out at high school level. More females are attending universities. We should not ignore this or let it continue. Uneducated or partly educated boys can become a problem in future society. They wouldn't be looked after and taken care of forever by their parents.

How shall we change the curriculum so that boys stay on in school? How can they attain more marks in examinations? Discuss with minister for education to find many ways. If the boys became mature around 18 to 20 years, the education system will give them less time to learn subjects in the universities. Furthermore, how to include subjects in which boys can excel should be thought out. Suggestions are to be provided on the school's basic education system. It was thought that an increase in male teachers will increase boys attending school.

While meeting with the school's parents and teachers association, suggestion should be made on education system. Suggest on the education system and raise whatever you want to know. As the minister for education is present, detailed explanation will be made about the education policy, said the State Counsellor. At the meeting, parents and headmistress of the school discussed requirements of the school, teaching manners, behaviors to children and attending tuitions. The State Counsellor in return explained about the status of State support and matters parents and teachers can do.

> Teaching how to greet and say thank you in ethnic national languages are introducing the union spirit and they'll have mutual understanding.

After the meeting, the State Counsellor, teachers, and parents took commemorative group photo.

SEE PAGE-6

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi greets elderly persons at the dinner to mark the 72nd Shan State Day in Taunggyi, southern Shan State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor opens Shan State (South) Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry headquarters in Taunggyi

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi formally opens the building of Shan State (South) Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Taunggyi yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-5

Later the State Counsellor attended the opening ceremony of Shan State (South) chambers of commerce and industry office building.

At the opening ceremony Union Minister Dr. Than Myint, State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Patron U Aung Ko Win and Shan State (South) Chambers of Commerce and Industry chairman U Aung San Win cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the building.

The State Counsellor then pressed a button to unveil the signboard of the Shan State (South) Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and sprinkled scented water onto the commemorative plaque.

Second part of the opening ceremony was then continued in Shan State (South) Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry office building where the Sate Counsellor delivered a speech.

In her speech the State Counsellor spoke of her appreciation to attend the ceremony and added on observing the development opportunities of the Shan State (East) during her tour of Shan State (East) in the past day.

Much has changed ever since she was at this place around August 2015. The changes were also very encouraging. It is not necessary to say more to merchants and industrialist on the requirement for development to be in a correct way. It was understood that opening such a place for the chamber is our support toward our economic development. It is also believed that the development will surely occurs. Thinking and looking back our history will show the importance given toward merchants in our country. Queen Pwa Saw had said that merchants are the stomach of the people and people's stomach shouldn't be cut opened. This is true to date. Business persons are the country's stomach. Business persons are supporting environment that supports the development and livelihood of the citizens and peoples of the country

Our government welcomes and supports the participation of merchants and industrialists in the economic development sector. A country will develop successfully only with the cooperation of all strata of the society, from all places and regions. Success is very important for the country now because we are facing many challenges. However, as we trust the quality of our people, we are not worried about the challenges. It is not necessary to say how much this government had transformed and changed legal and procedure sectors to make it easy to do business. All of these were mentioned in the Myanmar investment forum held recently.

The laws enacted and the systems conducted were to make it easier to do business and to bring in more investment and through it to benefit our people. When doing those changes we must not forget our country's situation. Our country is a union consisting of ethnic nationals of many regions. The development of the union should be balanced. We all must have a mindset of sharing both good and bad and overcome together any problems and make the union develop.

> We all must have a mindset of sharing both good and bad and overcome together any problems and make the union develop.

Human resource is our main resource. There are some who admire our country for having natural resources in abundance. Natural resources are eventually eroded and when it is not used properly while it is in existence, there wouldn't be sufficient benefit. The truly important thing is our human resource.

That is why whenever we went on a tour we inspect the schools as much as possible. We felt much encouraged when doing this. Today we went to Basic Education High School 2. It is encouraging to see the students from KG to matriculation. One thing that strikes me most is the lack of fear in the children. As elders and strangers came to visit them, they may be a bit shy but they were not afraid. Furthermore students in matriculation class had various thoughts and aims that are interesting. We must make the best use of our valuable human resources. It is important for us to use our natural resources correctly and nurture our human resources correctly We must nurture our human resources for our country's future. Now that those who want to invest in our country increases, we must ensure that it is in line with our country's requirements. I trust that the State government knew this. Much care is required as investors are interested in Shan State.

Value and nurture with care the power and value of our people and invest for the future of the country. Business persons are requested to come together and support in producing youngsters, young man and elders who'll successfully serve the country not only in this generation but in the following generations as well.

We were much satisfied with UMFCCI Chairman U Aung Ko Win on helping in the establishment of this building. If we can use and share our powers and abilities for the development of the country, our country will be a rich country. We are not a poor country. Do not designate rich or poor by looking at GDP. If people in the country has a high will for sharing and have good feeling against one another we can say our country is a rich country. The happiness of the children in the school seen today is not less than the happiness of the children in developed countries.

If we can make our children develop both physically and mentally, economic development will come as generation and generation come by May the stomach of the country and the people serve for the country's development. May they serve not only Shan State (South) but the entire State and the entire Union effectively said the State Counsellor.

After the speech of the State Counsellor Shan State (South) chamber of commerce and industry chairman U Aung San Win delivered a message of greeting and explained about the establishment of the chamber and current status. Following this, the State Counsellor presented a document of honor to UMFCCI Chairman U Aung Ko Win for funding the construction of Shan State (South) chamber of commerce and industry building. In return UMFCCI Vice President U Thein Han, Shan State (South) chamber of commerce and industry chairman U Aung San Win and WEWG Chairperson Daw Nan Mo Mo Thida presented the State Counsellor with a bouquet.

Finally, the State Counsellor, Union Minister, Shan State Chief Minister, chairmen and secretaries of UMFCCI, State (South) chamber of commerce and industry, sister associations and ethnic national association took commemorative group photo.

After the event the State Counsellor cordially greeted the event attendees.— MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomes RTAF Chief

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and General Ponpipat Benyasri of the Royal Thai Armed Forces observe the honor guard. **PHOTO: MNA**

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomed General Ponpipat Benyasri, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, with a honour guard at the Zeyar Thiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Following the welcoming ceremony, they held talks at the guest hall of the building.

At the meeting, they exchanged views on the role of the two armed forces for the peoples of the two countries, the important role of the armed forces of Thailand as a good neighbor of Myanmar in emergence of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in 2015, cooperation of the two armed forces from the top to lower levels, exchange of cultural troupes and sports teams, promoting of exchange of friendship visits, cooperation in returning of Myanmar citizens from IDP camps in Thailand, providing security to Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand in accordance with the law and promoting the win-win cooperation and friendship between the two armed forces of Myanmar and Thailand.

After the meeting, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing conferred the hournary badge on General Ponpipat Benyasri.

General Ponpipat Benyasri becomes the first foreign commander-in-chief of armed forces who received the honourary title conferred by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of Myanmar, according to the news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA

Union Minister U Min Thu meets GAD staff of Shan State (South, North)

Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, U Min Thu, greets staff of Shan State General Administration Department in Taunggyi yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Min Thu, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, met with staff of the General Administration Department (GAD) from Southern and Northern Shan State at the State GAD office in Taunggyi yesterday.

Firstly, the head of the Shan State GAD introduced the Union Minister to everyone in attendance, including the State GAD's directors, officials of GAD offices from Wa Self-Administered Division and Kokang, Danu, Pa-O, and Palaung self-administered zones, and the district and township administrators. He then explained about the State GAD's processes and performances. Union Minister U Min Thu then delivered a speech.

Importance of the GAD

In his speech, the Union Minister said he met with various GAD staff on his domestic trips accompanying the President and State Counsellor and explained to them the Union Government's prioritized policies. He expressed his belief that the GAD staff here will be well informed of that matter. He said the GAD is responsible for implementing the political system laid down by the Constitution. He stressed the importance of systematic decentralization to prepare for the democratic federal system in the near future.

The Union Minister said the General Administration Department has been agreed to be transferred to the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government during Union Government Meeting No. (23/2018).

He said the first three months of 2019 have been designated as the stabilization period for the GAD to avoid any unnecessary hindrances to arise from the department's transfer. At the same time, GAD staff have been questioned of their experiences and willingness for reforms and this will be the base for professional assessment and evaluation so that practical implementation of the next three months for reform processes can be carried out swiftly and effectively, said U Min Thu.

Plans for preliminary development project

He said there is a plan to organize a workshop in Nay Pyi Taw for GAD staff in this month. This workshop will bring in experts and professionals who will share their experiences, lessons, and examples of reforming administration, said U Min Thu, stressing his wish for GAD staff to discuss and ponder on the contents of the workshop among themselves and eventually come up with practical plans for administering reforms.

He explained that they value GAD staff's ideas and beliefs on amending and reforming what's necessary. He said they believe genuine and effective reforms requires GAD staff to place their trust and concern on these measures.

The Union Minister said the workshop will also ask each of the secretaries of government from states and regions and Nay Pyi Taw Council to pick one township from their appointed territory and submit a list of three townships to be given priority. He explained that this is the 'One State – One Township Project' and involves picking a township with the highest potential and then working to successfully develop them within a set timeframe.

Three points for staff to adhere to

In his conclusion, the Union Minister said through successive government administrations and political systems, the general administration department has remained a strong administrative backbone of the country for many years. He said there are three points he wants to impart for carrying out exemplary reforms and to stand as a strong administrative pillar that is responsive to the public.

The first point, said U Min Thu, is to meet the people, seek their advice and be ready to respond to them in order to become the GAD that promotes public participation.

The second point is to be rid of personal benefits and corruption, said the Union Minister. He told the staff to act in accordance with the laws, rules, regulations and procedures of the nation and to avoid becoming a burden on the people. He said they will take serious measures against corruption and bribery in order to establish the administration mechanism as clean and uncorrupted.

The Union Minister said the third point is carry out reforms bravely while anticipating changes with the knowledge that this will lead to changes for the better. He said reforms in any sector start from the individual level and urged the staff to adopt strong convictions for reforms.

Afterwards, GAD staff in attendance submitted requirements to the Union Minister, who gave necessary suggestions and directions and then urged the staff to respect and follow the policies and procedures of the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

8 FEBRUARY 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Honesty and cooperation will benefit us all

EVERY February, we take the opportunity to strengthen the unity of our diverse ethnic nationals and display it prominently. It was during this period that all ethnic nationals of the country united to pluck the flower of independence for everyone.

Our ethnic nationals have entertained a genuine wish to coexist in harmony. Due to the influence of foreign powers in the past, some ethnic leaders sought to divide the Union, and the effects of their actions can still be felt today. Myanmar's journey to independence was not as smooth as most other countries. We had to struggle against disruptions and espionage to rightfully gain our independence, and we can better judge this fact if we consider the current situation in the country.

> We, thus, urge everyone to nurture an honest and cooperative spirit as we work together towards a democratic federal union that will benefit us all.

In his message of greeting on the 72nd Shan State Day, President U Win Myint urged "all ethnic national brothers and sisters residing in this Union to join hands in unity and harmony forever, with the spirit of the Union or the spirit of Panglong, and with unity between the hilly and plain regions, work to ensure the goal of a democratic federal union, which shall guarantee justice, freedom, equal rights and self-determination to all the ethnic people of our country."

Our ethnic nationals have the desire to live in peace and harmony but they must combine it with the Panglong spirit, which promotes unity, to seize the opportunity to control their own destiny and walk together towards a better future. We must understand that the Union government is working hard to create opportunities for ethnic nationals to live better lives.

We must remove the weeds that have grown since independence to allow better opportunities to emerge. We must build mutual trust to dispel doubts that keep our ethnic nationals apart. We must do away with discrimination and work for the socioeconomic development of our honest ethnic nationals. This is the only way to be compassionate towards people. Bogyoke Aung San may have passed away but his legacy continues to survive, not only in Myanmar but around the world, because of his honest efforts that benefitted the people.

We, thus, urge everyone to nurture an honest and cooperative spirit as we work together towards a democratic federal union that will benefit us all.

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Sayagyi Minthuwun's Own Tribute to His Mentors and Sayas

By Dr. Myint Zan

SAYAGYI ('revered'/'beloved teacher') Minthuwun's (10 February 1909-15 August 2004) 110th birthday is (as one writes) scheduled to be celebrated at Yangon on 10 February 2019.

There would also be a book launch of a book of tributes သူတို့မြင်တဲ့မင်းသုဝဏ် ('Minthuwun as seen by them') of the national poet Minthuwun by various writers.

This tribute is not to substantively add to the appreciations indeed homage paid by many literati to this gentle and mellifluous Burmese poet.

Minthuwun's poetic and literary products spanned over seventy years and covered most of the 20th century. Indeed Sayagyi's literary outputs can be seen well into in the early 21st century before he passed away in August 2004. This writer has seen a poem in Sayagyi's handwriting and composed by him in the year 2000 when he was over 90 years old.

Homage and Obeisance to the 'Great Sage' Shakespeare

The first homage given by Minthuwun (to a personage) was composed in the year 1937. The person Sayagyi paid homage is none other than the great William Shakespeare (26 April 1564- 23 April 1616) also known as the Bard. During his sojourn studying in Britain in the late 1930s and probably after visiting Shakespeare's birthplace of Stratford-upon-Avon Sayagyi composed this poem:

ကဝိမော်

သမင်နိုးသည့်
မုဆိုး အကျော်
ကဝိမော်ကို
ကော်ရော်၊ ရိုကျိုး
ငါ ရှိခိုးသည်
မိုးသို့ ငံ့ဉာက်ကျယ်စေသော်။
မင်းသုဝဏ်
(၁၉၃၇ ခုနှစ်)
1937

The Renown Sage
In great humbleness
and reverence
I prostrate myself
and bow in obeisance to the
deer stealer
and famed hunter
the great sage:
may my mind be as wide
as the sky
(By Minthuwun in 1937)
Translated by Myint Zan

Shakespeare's name is not mentioned in the poem but the identifying characteristics makes it clear that it was the 'Bard', the Sage that Minthuwun respectfully (virtually literally) bowing down to if not in 'worship' then in obeisance, in great reverence and veneration. I have 'loosely', proximately and generally translated the three Burmese verbs ကော်ရော်၊ ရိုကျိုး ငါရှိခိုးသည် as 'in great humbleness and reverence and in obeisance I prostrate myself and bow [before Shakespeare]'.

I have had the chance when I met Sayagyi Minthuwun for the first and last time on 12 December 2003 to ask him whether the phrase မုဆိုး အကျော် was the phrase actually used when he composed his homage poem to Shakespeare. Sayagyi (or) Aba (which I would use alternatively or in combination hence forth) confirmed that it was မုဆိုး ('hunter') rather than လူဆိုး ('scoundrel') which was alternatively and incorrectly used in some reproductions or versions of the 'Renown Sage' poem.

When I met Aba I mentioned about Harold Bloom, Sterling Professor of Humanities at Yale University in the United States who proudly give himself the appellation 'Bardolator'. 'Bardolator' is a spin on the word 'idolator' (worshipper of idols/'graven images'). Harold Bloom unabashedly indeed proudly deemed and declared himself to be a 'Bardolator' (worshipper of William Shakespeare). I also told Aba that Bloom has written that the coming centuries (Bloom did write centuries) would not again see a literary personage like William Shakespeare.

It can be stated here that from 1973 to 1984 Aba Sayagyi Minthuwun spent intermittently about 10 years, to translate into Burmese William Shakespeare's great play King Lear. Minthuwun's translation လီယာမင်းကြီး won the national literature prize (translation category) for the year 1984. Minthuwun wrote in the Preface of his superb translation of one of the great works of the 'Renown Sage' that he spent most of the night pondering on how to translate the phrase 'Nothing my Lord' said by Cordelia before settling on the Pali derived phrase "နတ္ထိပါအာရုဏ်".

I would add a brief observation and comment on Sayagyi's translation of the youngest sister Cordelia's pointed critique of her two elder sisters Goneril and Regan in King Lear. If they loved their father King Lear that much said Cordelia (almost mocking the saccharine, obsequious, hypocritical indeed lying pretence of love her sisters professed for their father Lear who was in obvious dotage) Cordelia said 'Why do they take husbands?'. Sayagyi translated that phrase as ဘာကြောင့်လင်နေကြပါသနည်း. I respectfully conjecture that William Shakespeare perhaps deliberately eschewed the more polite phrase 'why do they marry?' and use the more pointed and 'biting' sentence 'Why do they take husbands?'. Sayagyi Minthuwun's translation pellucidly 'captures' the biting, pointed, mocking and somewhat derogatory sense in which Shakespeare used that phrase.

Incidentally and to the best of my knowledge (and subject to correction) only two plays of Shakespeare has been translated into Burmese in full. They are Mann Tin's translation of Julius Caesar which won the national literature prize (translation category) in 1965 and Minthuwun's translation of King Lear which won the national literature prize in 1984. It would be good if literati well-versed in the Burmese and English languages and Shakespearean usages to attempt perhaps to translate if necessary jointly (but perhaps no more than two joint translators) a few of the great plays of Shakespeare. These would include but would not be limited to Macbeth, Othello, The Merchant of Venice and perhaps even Hamlet which may perhaps be the most difficult play to translate. The task of translating any of these plays would have been difficult but they could still be attempted.

Artist Myint Maung Kyaw

> All Burmese literati recognise Minthuwun's 'wide' and significant contributions to Burmese literature as well as his gentle and endearing personality.

On the occasion of my first and last meeting with Aba I read my translation and commentary of three poems of Aba that I had the privilege indeed the honour to translate into English with brief commentaries. The poems that I translated together with my commentaries 'Three Poems of Minthuwun' was published in December 1998 issue of Deakin Law News (news letter of the Deakin Law School) in Australia

About five years later beside the bed of Sayagyi I read my translation and comments to him. The poems that I translated and commented were ကဝိမော် 'The Renown Sage' above (composed in 1937). ဒေါင်းမိခင်၏ စကားသုံးခွန်း ('The Three Exhortations of Mother Peacock') composed around 1956 and နောင်တသံသရာ 'The Cyclical Continuity of Regrets' composed in November 1961.

After I had read my translation of the poems and commentary Sayagyi very graciously stated in Burmese that 'it is not that easy to penetrate and overcome the language and conceptual barriers inherent in a foreign language' into English. Sayagyi told me that he was 'very surprised, very glad and very much appreciative' of my efforts. ကျွန်တော်က သိပ်လဲအံ့သြ ('very surprised'), သိပ်လဲဝမ်းသာ ('very glad') and သိပ်လဲကျေးဇူးတင်တယ် ('much grateful'). I am touched and honoured by Sayagyi's kind words and would like to record my gratitude to him for his graciousness and generosity.

Homage and Obeisance to Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin

Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin (24 April 1888-22 March 1973) was among, many others, the teacher of Saya Minthuwun, Saya Zawgyi (U Thein Han) (12 April 1907- 26 September 1990) and Theikpan Maung Wa (U Sein Tin) (5 June 1899 – 6 June 1942). Under the guidance and encouragement of Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin these three and other writers, starting from the early 1930s, pioneered and launched the ခေတ်စမ်း ('testing the Age') literary movement. The poems, essays and short stories the ခေတ်စမ်း writers wrote moved away from the generally florid writings and traditional themes of Burmese literature and 'tested the age' with new themes and writing styles.

Among many other sterling achievements Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin translated from the original Pali what is in Burmanized Pali known as ဝိသုဒ္ဓိမဂ္ဂ of the Buddhist monk Shin Maha Buddhagosa as The Path of Purity being a translation of Buddhaghosa's Visuddhimagga (first publication 1922, Oxford University Press).

Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin was only 34 years old when his English translation from the Pali language of The Path of Purity was published. In the year 1922 his future students Theikpan Maung Wa, Zawgyi and Minthuwun were 23, 15 and 13 years old respectively. It was perhaps about another seven to ten years, in the late 1920s to the early 1930s that Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin inspired and encouraged his students Maung Sein Tin, Maung Thein Han and Maung Wun (as they would then have been known to Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin) as well as others to pave a new ခေတ်စမ်း literary movement.

When Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin passed away in March 1973 Saya Minthuwun wrote a tribute to his own Sayagyi which I recall reading at that time. Since Saya Minthuwun's tribute or homage to his Sayagyi was published a long time ago and since at the moment the writer has no access to Saya Minthuwun's article of 1973 it is only from his vague memory that the writer reproduces what he recalls. It would certainly be imprecise but one trusts that the reproduced sentence below reflects Saya Minthuwun's homage and reverence for his own Sayagyi. From my recollection in the Burmese language it reads:

ဝိမိ၏ မိခင်ဘာသာစကားမဟုတ်သော ပါဠိဘာသာမှမိမိ၏ မိခင်ဘာသာစကားမဟုတ်သော အင်္ဂလိပ်ဘာသာသို့ ဘာသာပြန် ဆိုနိုင်သော ဆရာကြီး ဦးဖေ (မောင်တင်) ၏ အဓိဌာန်ပါရမီ၊ ဝီရိယပါရမီနှင့်ပညာပါရမီတို့ကို ရိုသေစွာ ဂါရဝ ပြုပါသည်။

Saya Minthuwun wrote that he respectfully gave homage (from the Burmese phrases used I would add in great admiration, reverence and awe) at the determination, persistence and knowledge as well as the literary skills of his own Sayagyi in translating The Path of Purity from 'a language [Pali] which is not his mother tongue to a language [English] which is not his mother tongue'.

Tribute to 'Saya Zaw'

In pioneering the Khitsan ('New Age') literary movement Saya Minthuwn and Saya Zawgyi were (almost) contemporaries. Saya Zawgyi is about 2 years and 10 months older than Saya Minthuwun and Saya Zawgyi has apparently taught (tutored) Saya Minthuwun. I have read that at least some if not most or all of the time since their University days as students from the early 1930s and for more than 50 years the two great poets and scholars address each other (by Minthuwn to Zawgyi) as 'Saya Zaw' and Zawgyi addressed Minthuwun as 'Maung Wun'.

In August 1992, about two years after Sayagyi Zawgyi passed away in September 1990 Sayagyi Minthuwun composed the following poem in homage to his 'Saya Zaw'

ဆရာဇော်
========
တစ်ခေတ်ဆန်းရန်ဖို့
ခေတ်စမ်းကဏ္ဍာသီတဲ့
ဆရာကို ဇော်တစ်ဖော့ကိုမြင့်
အောက်မေ့မိ-အခါခါ...။
"အတူတွဲကာပါ့
သူလေ လောကီသားပေမို့
သကြိန်ခါ ရွှင်ပျော်ပါးချင်လိမ့်
သနားဖွယ် - ပိတောက်ဦးကိုဖြင့်
ရူးပါနှင့်ကွာ" .. တဲ့ ..။

ဖျာပုံ ရန်ကုန်လမ်းဆီက
ဒီဂုန်ဆန် လတာလမ်းမှာဖြင့်
လှမ်းနေကြ ... ကိုဗေဒါ
ဘာမကြောက်...ဇာနည်များ။
မြင်လေတော့ စိတ်ဝင်စား။
ဆရာဇော်
"ကမ္ဘာပေါ် ဗေဒါပန်းလိုကွဲ့
အားတက်ကာ တူယုဉ်လှမ်းလျှင်ဖြင့်
လွတ်လမ်းမကြာရမည်" ဟု
ဟောပြည့်နှင်းများ။
ကောင်းမြတ်စိတ်ထား။

မင်းသုဝဏ်
၂၁ - ၈ - ၉၂

21-8-92
The writer's 'free' translation:

Saya Zaw

In order to inaugurate
a new literary age
the [literary] wizard Zaw
the personage
[has initiated the khitsan 'New Age'
poems]:
[I] do recall and miss him
many a time

SEE PAGE- 12

Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, U Tun Tun Hein, discusses two bills disagreed on by the Hluttaws at a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses controversial bills

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw Joint Bill committee held a meeting over the literary and artistic copyrights bill and gambling bill over which the two Hluttaws had a disagreement.

The meeting was attended by U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and chairman of the Public Account Committee, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and Joint-secretaries and members of the Joint Bill Committee, officials of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, Pyithu Hluttaw Public Affairs Management Committee, the Supreme Court of the Union, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Information, the Office of the Union Government, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Education, the Union Attorney-General Office and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. —MNA ■

Union Minister for the Office of State Counsellor receives the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe holds talks with Ms. Pramila Patten, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for the Office of State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe received Ms. Pramila Patten, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, at the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Nay Pyi Taw at 1100 hours on 7 February 2019.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the matters relating to the implementation of the Joint Communiquewhich was signed between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. They also discussed the provision of the technical assistance by the United Nations to enhance the capacity building for the implementation of the Joint Communique.

Also present at the meeting were officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Knut Ostby, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator a.i.—MNA ■

AA insurgents have taken about 200 Myanmar ethnic nationals including schoolchildren to Bangladesh territory

It is learnt that Arakan Army (AA) insurgents have taken about 200 Rakhine and other ethnic nationals including 38 schoolchildren to Bangladesh territory on 3 February at 1810 hour. The people are from Kintalin Village and Kamaungwa Village of Paletwa Township of Chin State.

The government has been providing necessary humanitarian assistance to the persons displaced because of various reasons. It is also learnt that they will continue to do so. It is not known why the AA has taken the ethnic nationals to Bangladesh territory. One theory is that they have deliberately taken this action to create misunderstanding between the two neighbours.—**207**

Pyithu Hluttaw to review permitted investment on state owned properties, businesses

FROM PAGE-2

Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency supported the motion.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat then announced the Hluttaw's acceptance of the motion after the decision of Hluttaw was obtain and announced further for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the motion to register their names.

Hluttaw approves Boundary Measurement and Demarcation Bill

Next, Bill Committee member U Sai Tun Aye explained about amendment motions tabled for Boundary Measurement and Demarcation Bill returned by Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments and tabled a motion on 32 agreeable points and 36 disagreeable points.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker obtained the decision of the Hluttaw and on those points and announced the Hluttaw's agreement.

Afterwards Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker obtained the decision of the Hluttaw to approve the entire bill as per amended clauses and sub-clauses and announced the Hluttaw's approval.

The tenth-day meeting of the eleventh regular session of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw will be held on 8 February.

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Roundtable on film rhetoric, language use, translation coming to Film Development Centre

A roundtable on 'Film Rhetoric, Translating and Burmese Orthography' will be held at the Film Development Centre in Shwe Taung Kyar Road, Bahan Township in Yangon at 1 pm tomorrow.

The roundtable will be led by U Myo Myat Thu (Writer) and invites Maung Khin Min (Danubyu), U Win Nyein, screenwriter U Zaw Myint Oo, General Manager U Kyaw Swar Tun from Shwe Than Lwin Company, and U Kyaw, head of the translation department from Forever Group. The roundtable aims to inform young viewers of local and foreign films on how Burmese sounds are spelt and errors of the use of language.

The roundtable is organized by the Information and Public Relations Department and the management team of the Film Development Centre and aims to promote Myanmar's film industry. The invitation is open to everyone interested. —MNA ■ *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

Silkworm plant growers call for more external markets for value added products

Silkworms surrounded by mulberry leaves on display at the research centre in PyinOoLwin. **PHOTO: MNA**

EFFORTS are needed to produce value-added products through sericulture and find more domestic and external markets, said silkworm plant growers.

Silkworm plant is also known as mulberry. It can be used to produce value-added silk and mulberry tea, while the cocoons of silkworms can be used to make silkworm soap, said growers.

At present, silk thread produced in Myanmar is exported to China through the Lwejel border gate, and the volume of exports is increasing every year. In 2018, Myanmar exported over 7,900 kg of silk thread in June, 7,200 kg each in July and August, 15,300 kg in September, and 12,700 kg in October, according to the Agriculture and Market Information Agency.

"Mulberry tea is also being distributed across local shopping centers. Earlier, few people noticed such products. But now, people have come to appreciate them for their health benefits. If we package them well, the products can penetrate neighbouring countries," said a Mulberry grower.

The Kayin State Agriculture Department and the Japan International Cooperation Agency had conducted a trial plantation of silkworm plants on 3 acres and reaped good results, which prompted them to start silkworm breeding businesses.

"Demand for silk is growing in the international market and support from respective departments is required to gain a firm share in the market. More research also needs to be conducted to produce other highly valued products from the silkworm plant, in addition to silk thread," said the Vice President during his inspection tour of development works in Chin State in May 2018.

In Myanmar, silkworm plants are grown in Kachin State, Kayah State, Chin State, Shan State, and Mandalay Region, with plantations covering 6,437.98 acres. In 2017-2018, 231 silkworm eggcards were issued to silkworm plant research farms, and silkworm farms produced 11,868 pounds of cocoons, according to news released by the President's Office. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar-ROK trade stands at $234.7 mln in Q1

THE value of bilateral trade between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea in the first quarter of the 2018-2019 fiscal year reached US$234.7, according to figures released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's exports to South Korea are relatively higher than imports, with exports registered at $121.6 million and imports valued at $113 million.

Myanmar exports rice and broken rice, coffee, mangoes, pulses, apparel produced on cut-make-pack basis, shrimp and sesame oil, among other things, to South Korea, while it imports capital goods such as machinery and equipment, raw industrial goods such as fertilizers and garment materials, and consumer goods such as cosmetics.

The value of bilateral trade between the two countries was $424.7 million in the last mini-budget period, $798.4 million in the 2017-2018FY, $866 million in the 2016-2017FY, $657 million in the 2015-2016FY, $862 million in the 2014-2015FY, $1.57 billion in the 2013-2014FY, $623 million in the 2012-2013FY, and $667 million in the 2011-2012FY.

In Q1 of the current FY, one South Korea-listed enterprise brought in a capital of $5.7 million into the country. South Korea is Myanmar's sixth largest investor. Multinational corporations such as Posco, Daewoo, Samsung, and Hyundai from South Korea have already grabbed a market share in Myanmar.

Additionally, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) has provided a grant aid for sustainable rural development and capacity building in public service, technology, education, and building of fundamental infrastructure. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Regional trade exceeds $2.9 bln in Q1, reports Ministry of Commerce

THE value of Myanmar's regional trade with ASEAN countries through its sea route and border gates was estimated at US$2.94 billion in Q1 of the current fiscal year 2018-2019, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The ministry reported that imports in regional trade surpassed exports, with exports worth over $977 million and imports valued at $1.96 billion.

Since April, Thailand topped ASEAN countries having the largest trade with Myanmar, valued at $1.3 billion, followed by Singapore in second place with $896 million. Indonesia was listed third, with a trade value of $264.69 million, while Myanmar's trade with Malaysia reached $223 million, ranking in fourth place. Viet Nam stood fifth with an estimated value of $196 million.

Meanwhile, bilateral trade with the Philippines was $41 million, and bilateral trade with Cambodia reached $3.29 million, as Laos and Brunei's trade with Myanmar were less than $1 million.

The country's main export categories include agricultural and fishery products, as well as minerals, while imports included food and beverages, electronic tools, motor vehicles, and consumer goods. Apart from its main trade partner China, Myanmar's external trade was carried out mostly with its regional partners. Trade with countries in the European Union, however, remained uncompetitive, compared with regional trade partners. – GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar's import prices fall in current fiscal year

THE value of imports between 1 October, 2018 and 25 January, 2019 in the current fiscal year stood at US$5.8 billion, which declined by $6 million from the corresponding period in the last FY, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Over the past three months, import values in the private sector were $215 million less than in the last FY, while the public sector witnessed a small increase.

Capital goods, such as auto parts, vehicles, machines, steel and airplane parts are imported into the country, with estimated import values of $1.85 billion. This figure was down by $179.5 million compared to the same period in the last FY.

During that period, Myanmar imported $1 billion worth of consumer products, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and palm oil. Both the private and the public sectors saw a decrease of $93 million in import values of consumer products, compared with the corresponding period last year.

Intermediate goods make up most of the imports, with petroleum products and plastic raw materials being the main import items. The import of raw materials was valued at $2 billion, which is down by $94.8 million from the same period in the last FY.

The value of imports of consumer, capital and intermediate goods fell slightly in the current fiscal year, against the last FY.

During the same period, $730.5 million in raw materials for the Cut-Make-Pack (CMP) garment sector were also imported. —Ko Khant

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Sayagyi Minthuwun's Own Tribute to His Mentors and Sayas

FROM PAGE-9

[Saya Zaw wrote]
[in a pioneering Burmese poem published around 1928 regarding]
the Padauk flowers*
since they are also worldlings
in times of Thingyan
the budding Padauk flowers, in unison, also would like to be merry and frolic themselves:
have 'pity' on them:
do not pluck the Padauk flowers

From [Zawgyi's hometown] of
Pyapon to Yangon
on the tidal creek
by the river
are the hyacinths**
they are indeed
fearless heroes
[Saya Zaw's poetic mind]
becomes evocative:
' in this wide world
inspired by and like
the hyacinths
if joint efforts are made
and march [towards the goal]
the path of liberation
can be reached'
so Saya Zaw
guides and coaches us:
his was indeed a noble mind

(Composed in Burmese by Minthuwun on 21 August 1992)
Translated by Myint Zan

*Saya Zawgyi composed the Padauk flowers ဝိတောက်ပန်း poem around 1927 when he was about 20 years old. The poet pleaded with the readers not to pluck the Padauk flowers since like ordinary worldlings (လောကီသား) သူလဲလေ လောကီသားပေမို့ the Padauks would also, during the Thingyan Burmese New Year era want to 'frolic' သင်္ကြန်ခါ ရွှင်ပျော်ပါးချင်လိမ့် by displaying themselves on the trees and they would not have liked being plucked by human hands.

** Starting from around 1960 if not earlier Saya Zawgyi composed a series of poems on the theme of the hyacinth (Beda flowers) and the gracious determination of the hyacinth in overcoming the waves, the sludge and other vicissitudes they have had to face in their journey to and fro in the tidal creek. Saya Minthuwun in his tribute praised his 'Saya Zaw' for using the Beida flowers as similes and metaphors and poetic sources. The aim of Saya Zaw, Saya Minthuwun states is that the readers of Zawgyi's 'Hyancinth's way' (ဗေဒါလမ်း) poems may take inspiration from the grit and grace of the Beda flowers.

Shakespeare to whom Sayagyi Minthuwun has paid homage did not (and needless to say) actually taught him (i.e. Shakespeare did not, in a class room taught Minthuwun and was not a thin hsaya as such of him).

Unlike William Shakespeare Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin and Sayagyi Zawgyi taught Minthuwun. They were the ကြားဆရာ, မြင်ဆရာ, သင်ဆရာ(teachers from whom their pupils learned through seeing, hearing [from their teachers] and through actual teaching) of then student Maung Wun.

Sayagyi Minthuwun's appreciation and homage towards his own mentors and teachers are indeed exemplars of eloquence and generosity.

Only in his homage poem to William Shakespeare in Burmese composed in the year 1937 did Aba Sayagyi Minthuwun ended his homage with a wish or prayer, if you will. As a result of paying homage to the renown sage, wrote the self-effacing, gentle Burmese poet his wish was that his 'mind be as wide as the sky'.

As this writer has written in his own tribute 'Minthuwun: As wide as the sky' published in The Dawn newspaper in Pakistan on 12 September 2004 Aba Sayagyi Minthuwun's wish has been fulfilled quite some time before Sayagyi passed away. All Burmese literati recognise Minthuwun's 'wide' and significant contributions to Burmese literature as well as his gentle and endearing personality. Minthuwun's 110th birth anniversary is yet another occasion to reiterate our tributes and for us –again- to honour him.

****

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CHERRY VESTA VOY. NO. (007N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CHERRY VESTA VOY. NO. (007N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301185

Nine die in house fire in Philippines' Pasay City

MANILA — Nine people died when fire razed a house in Pasay City in the Philippine capital on Thursday morning, the Philippine Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) said.

The bureau said the fire, which broke out at around 2:10 am, razed a house in Maricaban, Pasay City, killing the victims aged between three and 44.

Only a woman reportedly survived the accident, the bureau said. The fire was declared under control at 3:07 am and was officially out at 3:14 am. The bureau said that the BFP is still investigating the cause of the fire. — Xinhua ■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICTY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(7/2019)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats and United States Dollars.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-178(18-19)	Applied Research Centre (8) Items	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-179(18-19)	Liquid Sperse (200) Can	Ks
(c)	IFB-043(18-19)	Applied Research Centre (5) Items	US$

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricty and Energy Website Portal (www.moee.gov.mm) as from **8 February 2019**. Tender forms will not be sold.
3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm** on **8 March 2019**.
4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **8-3-2019, 14:00 pm**

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. + 95 67 – 411206

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 12th (Tuesday) February 2019 "UNION DAY" being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

Announcement of Transferring Distributor for Registered Pesticides

Distribution of the following Pesticides registered by **LIMIN CHEMICAL CO., LTD.** is transferring from **LIMIN CHEMICAL (MYANMAR) CO., LTD.** to **Diamond Light International Trading Co., Ltd.** Any objection regarding this transfer can notify at Joint. Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, west Gyogone, Insein within two weeks.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registeration No
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Union Minister U Kyaw Tin receives Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary of Asia and Americas Group of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand separately

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin received Ms. Pramila Patten, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw at 2:00 pm on 7 February 2019.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the matters pertaining to the implementation of the Joint Communique which was signed between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the United Nations to prevent conflict-related sexual violence and the provision of technical assistance and advice by the United Nations in drawing up a national action plan to address the issue.

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin shakes hands with Mr. Ben King, Deputy Secretary of Asia and Americas Group of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin shakes hands with Ms. Pramila Patten, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. **PHOTO: MNA**

Also present at the meeting were officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Knut Ostby, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator a.i.

Similarly, U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation received Mr. Ben King, Deputy Secretary of Asia and Americas Group of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand on 7 February 2019 at 3:30 pm at the Ministry of International Cooperation, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to the enhancement of bilateral relations and strengthening cooperation in Agriculture and Livestock, Renewable Energy and Human Resources Development sectors, continued provision of constructive assistance in Myanmar's democratic transition process and situation in Rakhine State.—MNA ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Telecom International Myanmar Company Limited ("Mytel"), a company incorporated in Myanmar and located office at No. (61,63), Zoological Garden Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, Myanmar, has registered following trademark in Myanmar with Registration No. (**13723/2018**) at the Office of the Registration of DEEDs in Yangon, and Mytel is the legal owner and proprietor of the same:

Reg. 13723/2018

The above mentioned Trademark will be used for **"Telecommunication & Entertainment Services"** and will be used as appropriate to our Company's business purposes in the whole of the Republic of Union of Myanmar and International Class (35, 38, 41, 45), we will use this Trademark with all kinds of designing, in various of sizes and variety of color.

By this caution, we hereby prohibit anyone from using, duplicating, forging, copying the whole or any part of the above mentioned Trademark, which shall be solely used by, Telecom International Myanmar Company Limited.

Anyperson who uses our Trademark in breach of conditions under above paragraphs, shall be taken legal action in accordance with the existing laws.

As per assignment
Daw Aye Aye Aung, (Advocate)
LL. B, D.B.L, D.M.L, D.I.L
Telecom International Myanmar Company Limited.
No. (61,63), Zoological Garden Road, Dagon Township,Yangon.

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Mytel Wallet International Myanmar Company Limited ("Mytelpay"), a company incorporated in Myanmar and located office at No. (61,63), Zoological Garden Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, Myanmar, has registered the following trademark in Myanmar with Registration No. (**13724/2018**) at the Office of the Registration of DEEDs in Yangon, and Mytelpay is the legal owner and proprietor of the same:

Reg. 13724/2018

The above mentioned Trademark will be used for **"Financial Service"** and will be used as appropriate to our Company's business purposes in the whole of the Republic of Union of Myanmar and International Class (36), we will use this Trademark with all kinds of designing, in various of sizes and variety of color.

By this caution, we hereby prohibit anyone from using duplicating, forging, copying the whole or any part of the above mentioned Trademark, which shall be solely used by Telecom International Myanmar Company Limited.

Anyperson who uses our Trademark in breach of conditions under above paragraphs, shall be taken legal action in accordance with the existing laws.

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

Yangon Water Bus plans for Bothataung-Twantay route

YANGON Water Bus will offer Bothataung-Twantay cruises for passengers, according to the Yangon Water Bus.

Yangon Water Bus will operate this route to allow the public to tour handicraft businesses and enjoy sunsets along the Yangon River. The trip will allow passengers to watch the making of pottery, as well as items from the handloom industry, and to go on pilgrimages to Shwesantaw pagoda. Yangon Water Bus will offer these cruises on 9 and 10, February, departing at 9 am and arriving back at Bothataung jetty at 3:00 pm. The round trip will cost K 7,000 per person, inclusive of lunch boxes, travel charges within the town, insurance, coffee and bottled water.

A ferry operated by Yangon Water Bus run up and down the Yangon River in Yangon. **PHOTO : ZAW GYI**

According to passengers' requests, Yangon Water Bus will run weekend specials. Tickets can be bought in advance from the Yangon Water Bus website and at Bothataung jetty.

Also, on 12 February Yangon Water Bus will conduct an amateur mobile phone photo contest.—Pwint Thisa ■ *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

Nearly 70,000 tons of rubber exported in Oct-Jan

MYANMAR exported 69,830.450 tons of rubber, worth US$86.966 million, between 1 October 2018 and 18 January 2019 in the current fiscal year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Exports have increased in the current FY compared with the same period in the 2017-2018FY, when Myanmar shipped rubber amounted to 54,923.452 tons, valued at $66.393 million.

Production experts have estimated that the price of global rubber is likely to rise this year. "We expect the price of global rubber to increase. It depends on the demand and supply," said an official from the Myanmar Rubber Agriculture Production Association. Currently, the price of rubber has fallen in the local market to about K100 per pound.

Myanmar mainly exports rubber to neighboring China via five border gates, namely, Muse, Lwejel, Kanpiketee, Chinshwehaw, and Kengtung.

Myanmar harvests nearly 200,000 tons of rubber annually China usually buys about 80 per cent of Myanmar's rubber. The remaining 20 per cent is shipped to Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia. Rubber is produced mainly in Mon State, Kayin State, Taninthayi Region, Yangon Region, and Bago Region of Myanmar. Currently, the country has over 1.6 million acres of rubber plantations, with over 700,000 acres producing latex.

During the six-month interim budget prior to the 2018-2019 FY, Myanmar exported 38,854 tons of rubber worth $46.887 million.—GNLM ■ *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

PHOTO : MNA

Anti-trafficking police rescue Nepalese girl

THE Anti-Human Trafficking Police rescued a Nepalese young woman staying in a hotel in Pazundaung Township at the request of the embassy of Nepal on 5 February. Although she holds a passport, the girl contacted her brother in Nepal, seeking his help to return to her country, after she lost touch with her broker. When questioned, the girl told police she got in touch with a woman employed as a maid in Kuwait last month. The woman persuaded the young woman to come to Myanmar and find work as a maid, and got her in touch with a broker from Nepal.

The broker first sent the young woman to Tamu town through India, and then to Yangon on 22 January. But when she lost touch with the broker on 4 February, the young woman tried to get in touch with her brother, who then applied to the embassy of Nepal in Myanmar to help find her.

The Anti-Human Trafficking Police will hand over the young woman to the Nepalese embassy.— MNA ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Wild elephant poached in Ngapudaw

A wild male elephant, about 8 years old, was found dead on 6 February, with its skin, ears, and tusk removed by suspected poachers, said authorities.

Officials from the local Forest Department estimated that the male elephant was killed three days ago in the Hsinma forest in Ngapudaw Township of Ayeyawady Region.

The authorities found the carcass after they were informed by a villager from Pyawgone Village. A combined team comprising officials from the Forest Police Force, Township Forest Department, and other Wild Elephant Protection teams inspected the carcass. The elephant measured 6 feet by 6 inches. The Ngapudaw Township Forest Department and Ngayotekaung Police are continuing their investigations to arrest those connected with the case.— Hla Min Htut (IPRD)■

(Translated by Nwe Nwe Tun)

Authorities inspect an elephant carcass and parts of elephant skin.
PHOTO: MPF

Dr. Win Myat Aye receives UN Special Representative Ms. Pramila Patten

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Dr. Win Myat Aye, received a delegation led by Ms. Pramila Patten, the United Nations Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, at his ministry's meeting hall yesterday

Speaking at the meeting, Dr. Win Myat Aye said Myanmar has formed the Myanmar National Committee on Women (MNCW) to undertake broad implementations for women's development. He said it also consists of representatives from civil society organizations that are leading women's affairs. He gave assurances that Myanmar is working in line with the six prioritized sectors since signing the Joint Communique to prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence on 7 December 2018. He said legislation is in process to enact The Prevention and Protection of Violence against Women Law, Child Rights Law, and The Suppression of Prostitution Act as soon as possible. He said officials from the judiciary and security sectors receive training on men and women's affairs, and fair social coexistence. He said work is underway to open centers for reporting and resolving sexual abuse in one location.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye and Ms. Pramila Patten, the United Nations Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict pose for the documentary photo yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Dr. Win Myat Aye said processes are in motion for receiving victims of human trafficking, reintegration and rehabilitation. He said they submit regular reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and has just recently submitted the CEDAW Exceptional Report to the CEDAW committee. He said the Committee on Prevention and Protection of Children in Armed Conflicts was formed on 7 January 2019 and procedures related to the 6 Grave Violations are being conducted. He said they are implementing the suggestions of the Advisory Committee on Rakhine State and mentioned the performance of the Independent Commission on Enquiry.

Dr. Thet Thet Zin, President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation (MWAF), also explained MNCW's and MWAF's processes.

Next, the UN Special Representative responded, saying that thye have observed positive developments in Myanmar. She acknowledged Myanmar's various committees have been undertaking numerous tasks and collaborating on many occasions. She made requests to further exert energy in carrying out the points mentioned in the Joint Communique.

The meeting continued with a discussion on preventing and protecting domestic violence against women and other related topics. —MNA ■ *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

First Myanmar-New Zealand Foreign Office Consultations held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE first Myanmar-New Zealand Foreign Office Consultations was held on 7 February 2019 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was co-chaired by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Ben King, Deputy Secretary, Asia and Americas Group of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand.

During the meeting, they discussed matters pertaining to the promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation, Foreign Policy settings and priorities as well as security and stability in the region. They also deliberated on Myanmar-New Zealand Joint Commitment for Development (JCfD) and its priority areas such as agriculture, renewable energy, knowledge and skills and disaster risk management, and potential new areas of cooperation. Permanent Secretary also briefed on the Government's priorities and ongoing efforts for peace and national reconciliation, recent developments in Rakhine State and transnational crimes and counter narcotic efforts. They also exchanged views on regional and international issues, including ASEAN regional architecture and Indo-Pacific geopolitics.

First Myanmar-New Zealand Foreign Office Consultations in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Permanent Secretary U Myint Thu hosted the working lunch for the New Zealand Delegation led by H.E. Mr. Ben King, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand at M-Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA ■

CBM to ease bank ownership limit, allow 100pc foreign stake only after 2020

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) will permit 100-per-cent foreign investment in banks only after 2020, said officials.

At present, most banking businesses in the country are operating as companies. According to the Myanmar Companies Law, foreigners are permitted to own a stake of up to 35-per-cent in local companies. Further negotiations will have to be made in the future for raising the ownership limit and changing the classification of companies as domestic and foreign, said officials with the central bank.

"Foreign bank branches are currently being operated under the supervision of the Central Bank of Myanmar. We will allow 100-per-cent foreign-owned banks to be incorporated in Myanmar soon. At the moment, we are not sure as to whether the scale of foreign investment will be 35 per cent or not. We have not issued an announcement about this yet. If the CBM issues the announcement, the foreign bank branches will get the mandate to be operational like local banks," said U Bo Bo Nge, the vice governor of the CBM.

Currently, the central bank considers foreign banks or financial institutions with 35-per-cent venture investment as domestic private banks.

To promote access of local businesses to finance, all branches of foreign banks were permitted to provide financing and other banking services to them in November 2018.

"The CBM plans to allow foreign banks to make a 100-per-cent investment. We have already announced it. We will announce the details regarding the rights of the foreign banks very soon. This will put foreign banks on an equal footing with local banks, in line with the international system. Local people who wish to save money in the bank will find it easier to open a bank account," said U Bo Bo Nge.

Previously, companies with even 1-per-cent stake owned by a foreign investor were classified as foreign companies. Such companies did not have permission to buy land or engage in other businesses. After the Myanmar Company Law came into force in August 2018, foreign investors were allowed to hold a stake of up to 35 per cent in local companies.

The CBM has so far issued licences to three state-owned banks, 19 local private banks, and 13 foreign bank branches.—Aye Yamon Oo *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

Final year team wins University of Veterinary Science Rector Cup

THE University of Veterinary Science (Yezin) held the final match for its Rector Cup, under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, on Wednesday afternoon.

The final year team secured the championship title of the tourney by beating the third year team 4:0.

Six teams from the first to the final year from the university participated in the football tourney, held from 25 January to 6 February.

After the final match, an award-giving ceremony was held with officials presenting the trophy to the winning team and prizes to the best players.

The final year team celebrates the victory after winning the championship title of the Rector Cup for the Univeristy of Veterinary Sceince (Yezin). **PHOTO : MNA**

Mg Zin Bo Bo from the final year was adjudged the best goalie, Mg Thein Than Win from the final year took the award for the best defender, Mg Lutlar Maung from the third year was named the best midfielder, Mg Soe Min Hein from the third year was adjudged the best striker, and Mg Ar Kar Soe from the final year was named the player of the tournament.

During the ceremony, the Rector of the University, Dr. Mar Mar Win, presented the trophy to the champions — the final year team.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*

MNL to be postponed as U-22 team gears for AFF Championship

WITH the U-22 national football team scheduled to compete in the AFF U-22 Championship 2019 at Phenom Penh, Cambodia, from 17 to 26 February, the Myanmar National League matches will be postponed for about a month.

The league will restart after 2 March, said MNL officials.

The national team is aiming for success in the championship and needs to prepare for the tourney, said officials.

Almost all major MNL players are on the U-22 national football team, and that's the main reason for postponing the matches for a month, said a source with the Myanmar National League.

The U-22 team has 28 players, of whom 24 players are from the Myanmar National League, two are from League II, and two are from the MFF youth team, said the source.

The postponement was decided by the MNL authorities, and fixtures for all the national league matches were initially drawn keeping the postponement in mind, said the source.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Myanmar women footballers along with MFF coaches and officials left for India from the Yangon International Airport yesterday to take part in the Hero Gold Cup. **PHOTO : MFF**

Hero Gold Cup: Women footballers leave for India

At the invitation of the Indian Football Federation, the Myanmar national women's football team left for India yesterday for the Hero Gold Cup, a four-nation series, which will be held from 9 to 15 February, said a source with the Myanmar Football Federation.

U Bhone Naing Zaw, the CEO of the MFF, and other officials saw the team off at the Yangon International Airport yesterday

The team has 20 footballers and is being led by head coach U Win Thu Moe.

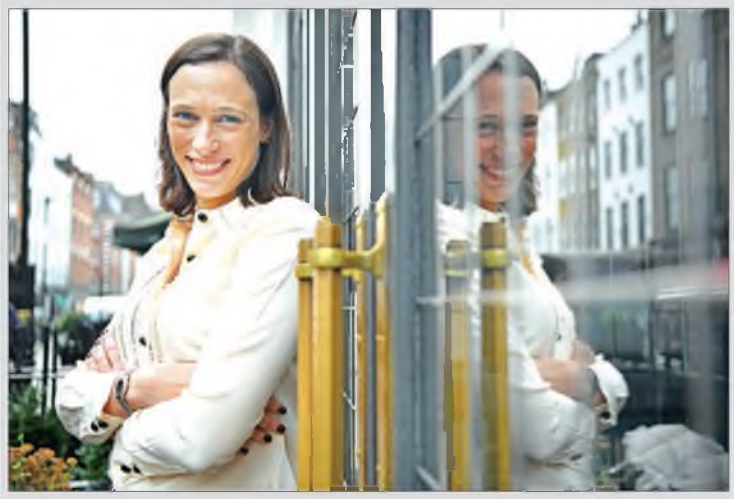
Besides U Win Thu Moe, team administrator U Tin Myint Aung and other members of the coaching team are accompanying the team for the tourney in India, said the source.

Myanmar will play against Nepal in the opening match of the tourney on 9 February. It will compete against Iran on 11 February and India on 13 February

The tournament will be played in the round-robin format, with the two top teams competing in the final on 15 February, said the source.—*Lynn Thit (Tgi)* ■

Female CEO undaunted by hostile reception in English football

LONDON (United Kingdom) —Katrien Meire endured a baptism of fire in English football, with disgruntled fans even travelling to Belgium to present her parents with a dossier on how terrible she was as chief executive of Charlton. But the Belgian lawyer, one of a handful of women in the boardrooms of English clubs, refused to be cowed and is now plotting how to lift sleeping giants Sheffield Wednesday back into the Premier League. The 34-year-old was chief executive at Charlton from the start of 2014 until the end of 2017, during which time the south London side were relegated to the third tier of English football.She was blamed by supporters, who were angered by the manner in which she and owner Roland Duchatelet ran the club.They took exception to being labelled "customers" and to the succession of foreign managers—one fan harangued Meire on a train over the appointment of Israeli manager Guy Luzon.A statement on the Charlton website accused some fans of wanting the club to fail as the atmosphere turned toxic.Meire, who had initially approached Duchatelet out of the blue, offering him advice on broadcasting rights, understands that fans are emotionally involved but says the Charlton supporters went too far."It is not nice to read in the papers you are a horrible person, that you are horrible at your job, attacking my personality, attacking me as a whole," she told AFP.—AFP ■



Katrien Meire plotting Sheffield Wednesday's path back to Premier League. **PHOTO: AFP**