DEVELOPING OUR AGRICULTURAL SECTOR WILL REMEDY LONG-TERM ISSUES PAGE-8 (OPINION)

NATIONAL
State Counsellor meets residents of Myeik District
PAGE-3

NATIONAL
Union Minister for Office of the Union Government meets GAD staff in Taninthayi Region
PAGE-6

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 304, 10th Waxing of Tabodwe 1380 ME | www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com | Thursday, 14 February 2019

State Counsellor attends stake-driving ceremony for orphans nursery (Nay Pyi Taw)

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the stake-driving ceremony for the construction of an orphans nursery at Wunna Theikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

The ceremony was also attended by Daw Cho Cho, the wife of President U Win Myint, Daw Su Su Lwin, the wife of former President U Htin Kyaw, Daw Khin Thet Htay, the wife of Vice President U Myint Swe, Dr. Shwe Hlwan, the wife of Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Daw Yin May, the wife of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Daw Aye Thida, the wife of the Union Election Commission Chairman, Union ministers and the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and their wives, the Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, ambassadors, responsible staff from the Orphans Reduction and Protection Association (Myanmar), donors, and invited guests.

At an auspicious time, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi drove the stake into the ground and sprinkled scented water on it.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association Chairman U Shein Win, and Orphans Reduction and Protection Association (Myanmar) Chairperson Daw May Yin Tun also drove the stakes at designated places and sprinkled scented water on them.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor performed the ritual of golden and silver showers to mark the completion of the ceremony.

The Orphans Reduction and Protection Association (Myanmar) has donated the land for the nursery to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. —MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi driving the stake for the construction of an orphans nursery at Wunna Theikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL
Bogyoke Aung San's 104th birth anniversary celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw
PAGE-10

NATIONAL
Pobbathiri Tsp opens park with Bogyoke Aung San statue to commemorate martyr's 104th birthday
PAGE-14

NATIONAL
RCSS/ SSA armed group takes away things from Tatmadaw vehicle in southern Shan State
PAGE-12

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw approves motion to promote sports

Dr. U Sein Mya Aye. **PHOTO: MNA**

Lt-Col Sai Aik Hla. **PHOTO: MNA**

Daw Khin Sandi. **PHOTO: MNA**

Dr. Daw Khin Soe Moe Kyi.

Dr. Mya Lay Sein. **PHOTO: MNA**

By Aye Aye Than (MNA)

THE Pyithu Hluttaw approved a motion, submitted by MP Dr. U Sein Mya Aye of Dala constituency, to encourage the sports sector by adopting plans and making budget allocations, after the MPs of the Hluttaw debated the issue yesterday.

In his motion, Dr. U Sein Mya Aye urged the Union Government to promote the country's sports sector through plans and funds as sports can help bring up the youth as a healthy and fit generation, ensure the physical and mental development of working people, help senior citizens enjoy a healthy life, and prevent use of narcotic drugs among people.

During the discussion on the motion, Lt-Col Sai Aik Hla, a Representative of the Tatmadaw, stressed the need for adopting plans and polices which can help produce diet experts as athletes need to follow a proper diet.

He suggested an incentive program for athletes at the university level, which takes sports into account for priority programs at the universities.

"Only when people are healthy can the productivity of the country be improved, and the costs for medication for illnesses caused by lack of physical exercise be reduced. Therefore, the Union Government must lay down a policy for the development of sports in the country and must enact the Myanmar National Sports Law," said Lt-Col Sai Aik Hla.

Daw Khin Sandi of Launglon constituency and Dr. Daw Khin Soe Moe Kyi of Pyay constituency supported the motion, advising the ministries concerned to lay down effective plans and urging the Ministry of Planning and Finance, the Finance Commission, and the Pyithu Hluttaw to provide a suitable budget, when the ministries seek funds from them.

Afterwards, 12 MPs took part in the debate.

In response to the discussion, Dr. Mya Lay Sein, the Deputy Minister for Health and Sports, stressed the need for Human Capacity Building as part of efforts for producing quality trainers, as it is difficult to get professional trainers at present.

She also supported the motion and urged the Hluttaw to approve it, expressing the hope that the country would see healthy youth and citizens, when they can take physical exercises conveniently in community areas.

The Hluttaw approved the motion after seeking remarks from the MP who submitted the motion. *(Translated by GNLM)*

Amyotha Hluttaw

Eleventh regular session of Second Amyotha Hluttaw holds eleventh-day meeting

By Aung Ye Thwin, Lu Maw

THE eleventh-day meeting of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw's eleventh regular session was held, yesterday, in the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

Asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, as well as an amended bill was announced to discuss at the Hluttaw session.

Question and answer session

At the question and answer session, Daw Nan Moe Moe Htwe of Kayin State constituency 4 asked if there was a plan to upgrade the Paingkyone Bridge to a concrete or bailey bridge, with casting iron floor in the 2019-2020 FY. The bridge is situated in Hlaingbwe Township, Kayin State. Regarding this query, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw replied that implementation process would be conducted once the funds were received from the capital funding of the Kayin State government. Moreover maintenance works would be carried out before the bridge was upgraded.

U Whey Tin. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Khin Win. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Soe Aung. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Nyi Tun. **PHOTO: MNA**

Construction project of the concrete bridge

U Whey Tin of Chin State constituency 11 asked if there was a plan to expand the concrete roads starting from Paletwa-Matupi Roads to Kaladan River-Crossing bridge (Paletwa), Kinwas Village, in 2019-2020 FY. Then Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw replied that the Ministry of Construction would ask for the allotment of K 4210.0 million in order to carry out the construction project in the 2019-2020 FY.

Road upgrading

U Khin Win of Magway Region constituency 2 asked whether it had plans to upgrade the road connecting other villages from Swe Paukkan to Nyaungzin villages, Chauk Township, Magway Region. Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw replied that implementation would be conducted with the use of the Union Fund and funding of the Magway Region government.

Q&A session

Similarly, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun answered the queries raised by U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5, U Zon Hle Htan of Chin State constituency 4, Daw Thiri Yadana of Mon State constituency 12 and Tatmadaw representative Lt Col Thant Swe.

The Boundary Measurement and Demarcation Bill

Then Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced for Hluttaw representatives interested in discussing the Boundary Measurement and Demarcation Bill which had sent back from the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments, to register their names. That bill had been sent after making the approval of the Amyotha Hluttaw. The twelfth-day meeting of the eleventh regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw will be held on 14 February.—*(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, First Lady Daw Cho Cho and Daw Su Su Lwin, the wife of former President U Htin Kyaw, attend the stake-driving ceremony for orphans nursery in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE - 1)**

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for the photo together with attendees during the stake-driving ceremony for orphans nursery in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE - 1)**

State Counsellor meets residents of Myeik District

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with the authorities and local people in Myeik in Taninthayi Region. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

THE Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi left for Myeik in Taninthayi Region from Nay Pyi Taw by special flight yesterday.

She was accompanied by Union ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, and U Ohn Win, Deputy Minister U Hla Maw Oo, and other officials.

The State Counsellor and her entourage were welcomed at the Myeik Airport by Peace Commission Chair Dr. Tin Myo Win, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister Dr. Lei Lei Maw, regional Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Maung Aye, regional ministers and Hluttaw MPs, departmental officials, and ethnic cultural troupes.

The State Counsellor was also warmly welcomed by local residents holding up posters of her images along the roads of Myeik.

The State Counsellor arrived at B.E.H.S. 7 Myeik and delivered a speech at the ceremony to award winners of the district-level competitions commemorating the 104th birth anniversary of Bogyoke Aung San, the architect of Myanmar's independence.

> ... It is important for adults to have the right mindset so children can be steered on the right path to education and good values.

Importance of right conduct

The State Counsellor first thanked the local residents of Taninthayi Region for issuing her a warm welcome. She acknowledged the Children's Day competitions held regularly on her father, Bogyoke Aung San's birth date, and highlighted the fact that awards are only gained through one's own hard work, and only awards worth gaining are worth taking pride in. She said the reward of helping other people is the next best thing, and said her father was a victor who didn't need a reward, as he had received loving-kindness from the entire country.

One of the awards at the ceremony was for the best impersonation of Bogyoke Aung San, and the child who received that award has artistic talents, said the State Counsellor. She added it was more important to replicate her father's goodwill for the country, than his physical characteristics.

The State Counsellor said the modern age has seen fewer acts of selflessness as a growing number of people teach the young that working for self-interest is the only logical path. She said it is important for adults to have the right mindset so children can be steered on the right path to education and good values.

The State Counsellor said if the majority of students do not wish to attend a school, then that school can be said to be not doing so well. Conversely, if a child is happy to attend a school, even if it is lacking in proper facilities, then that school can be termed as successful, she said. Children learn things taught to them by heart when they enjoy learning, she added.

The State Counsellor said the government will help with whatever budget it can afford for schools, but it is equally important for teachers to ensure students have an enjoyable and engaging learning environment.

"The main resource of a country is its people. Our children are like our bank savings, when it comes to our future. They will become the strength we can call upon when needed. That's why I would like to implore teachers and parents to strive so children become an endless treasure that will benefit the entire nation," said the State Counsellor.

SEE PAGE-4

State Counsellor meets residents of Myeik District

FROM PAGE-3

She pointed out that Taninthayi Region is not one of the wealthiest regions in Myanmar and, thus, requires everyone's cooperation to achieve regional development and prosperity, with the central government assisting in every capacity it can manage. However, as Myanmar is not a prosperous country, we cannot provide as much aid as we want to one area alone, while there are six other regions and seven states that require attention as well, said the State Counsellor.

She said the state or regional government is mainly responsible for using the support provided to undertake effective implementation. Those who shirk their duty cannot take responsibility for others, so it is important for everyone to carry out their respective responsibilities to the fullest for the benefit of the entire country, said the State Counsellor.

She said her ruling party has never broken a promise made to the people, and never will. She said they will take effective action, within the legal framework, on any incident that might harm the people. All who have assumed the responsibility of working for the benefit of the entire country and its people need to be straightforward in their duties and perform them with dignity, said the State Counsellor. She concluded her speech by requesting parents and teachers to guide children to become honest and accountable adults in the future.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by local residents at the Myeik Airport in Myeik. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

State Counsellor, officials confer awards

The State Counsellor then watched primary school and high school students, who won first prizes at district-level competitions, perform an impression of Bogyoke Aung San delivering a speech.

Next, the State Counsellor conferred awards to the primary school students who stood first, second, and third place at the competitions.

Following this, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, and U Ohn Win, PC Chairman Dr. Tin Myo Win, the regional chief minister, and Deputy Minister U Hla Maw Oo conferred awards to primary school and high school students who won first, second and third places at the district-level competitions for performing Bogyoke Aung San's speeches, ad-lib competitions, painting and composition.

> Union Government's visits to the states and regions are for getting an on-the-ground perspective of the people's actual situation.

The State Counsellor then took a documentary photo with the award-winning students and toured their art exhibition hall.

Meeting with Myeik residents

Afterwards, the State Counsellor met residents of townships in Myeik District at Pale Yadanar Hall in Myeik.

In her address to the assembled residents, the State Counsellor explained that the government's visits to the states and regions are for getting an on-the-ground perspective of the people's actual situation, the extent of their development, and how best to address their challenges. She added that they also inspect whether the state or regional government is fulfilling their assumed duties.

The State Counsellor said she last visited Taninthayi Region before the 2015 general elections and she intends to see how much the region has developed in the three years since. She said some areas in Myanmar have developed quickly while other are still lagging behind and said there must be an explanation to this difference in the rate of development. She said whatever disadvantage might be delaying development, it is the duty of the government to identify it and provide a remedy as best as it can.

SEE PAGE-5

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for a documentary photo with the award-winning students at B.E.H.S 7 in Myeik yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

There needs to be close relations between the local governments and the local people: State Counsellor

FROM PAGE-4

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the awarding ceremony of the district-level competitions to mark the 104th birth anniversary of Bogyoke Aung San in Myeik on 13 February. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

The State Counsellor shared her experience of watching the students of B.E.H.S. 7, earlier in the day, perform impressions of her father's speeches in commemoration of his 104th birth anniversary. She said the children were so talented that had she known beforehand, she would not have prepared to give a speech as her father's words, portrayed by the students, remain true even now. She highlighted the need for critical reflection as the words her father spoke are still relevant over 70 years after gaining independence as it could mean the country has not progressed much since that time.

The State Counsellor said she is delighted at seeing the changes in the mentality of the children of country within two to three years. She said this could be contributed to the improving education system or the genuine shift in mentality of the people. She said everyone must continue to maintain the mindset that have taken the right path.

The State Counsellor said the main prerequisites for success are discipline and diligence. She said it is important to have the right intention as the performance of your actions decide the outcome you will receive.

In accordance with the democratic rights, the people would vote for a party which can serve in their interests, she said, adding that health and education the basic needs of the people.

The State Counsellor continued to say that wherever she met with the people, they voiced their needs mainly water supply, drinking water, transportation, electrification, education and health, and returning confiscated land.

Efforts to overcome challenges to resolving land grabbing issues

The Union Government is making efforts for resolving the nationwide land confiscation issues that happened after 1988.

The efforts have been fruitful, with land returned to the rightful owners.

"During the last nearly three-year period of our term, we've felt that we've had to pay off decades-old debts," said the State Counsellor.

"We cannot complete this job overnight. But, we are trying hard to complete the task as soon as possible. We will never forget the promises that we made to the people. The first promise is national reconciliation and peace. After that, rule of law and internal peace."

She continued to say that peace and stability in the country, socio economy development can not come without the rule of law.

"We promised the people that we will amend the constitution as part of efforts for building a genuine democratic federal Union. As all of you know, today the steps are being taken at the Hluttaw. We do not easily make promises that we cannot keep. We decisively make promises that we can keep."

"Giving promises to the people easily shows disrespect to the people. We never make a promise that we can not keep. Based on this policy, we work with the people. We never ever trick the people. We never do activities that can cause grievances to the people. We can take responsibility for our work. But, people must do their duty."

> "We promised the people that we will amend the constitution as part of efforts for building a genuine democratic federal Union."

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi looks at the paintings and photos displayed at the ceremony for commemorating the 104th birth anniversary of Bogyoke Aung San at B.E.H.S. 7 in Myeik. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

"It is important for the people to be dutiful citizens to retain the rights given by the democratic system. Therefore, I remind the people frequently that if you want rights, you must be dutiful. If you don't know even your duty, demanding rights is not appropriate. If you are not dutiful, you cannot enjoy your rights,"

She also urged the regional and state governments to work closely with the people, pointing out that questions raised by the people during her recent trips to regions and states can be solved by the governments concerned.

"There needs to be close relations between the local governments and the local people," said Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor listened the voices of the local people and explained the tasks be carried out by the government and the situation to be cooperated by the people.

At the meeting, the local people voiced to prevent floods, to enact the Universal Healthcare Law, to enforce land lease tax, to build rest rooms for local and foreign travellers on the islands in the region, to reopen fish auction market, to open Mawtaung border gate, to implement the hydropower plant in the Taninthayi Region, to conduct vocational trainings, to conduct ethnic language teaching programs, to coordinate for formation of a township-level cooperation committee between Myanmar and Thailand, to conserve the mangrove forests, to solve land issue of Myeik Technological University, to relax some restrictions on sea cruising, to appoint more teachers in the region and to solve some issues in which people are facing charges.

Union ministers and Taninthayi Region Chief Minister explained about the measures to be taken by the ministries concerned and the regional government to solve the issues presented by the people.

The State Counsellor also promised to solve the issues that can be solved as soon as possible and urged the authorities to put the some issues that can not be solved yet on the record. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister for Office of the Union Government meets GAD staff in Myeik, Taninthayi Region

U Min Thu, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, on his visit to Myeik Township, met with staff of the General Administration Department (GAD) from township, district, and regional level offices at the Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik Township, Taninthayi Region, yesterday evening.

First, U Khin Maung Kyaw, head of Taninthayi Region GAD, introduced the Union Minister to everyone in attendance. He then explained about the Region GAD's processes and performances.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Min Thu said that the staff of the General Administration Department have performed their duties in order to stabilize the administrative mechanism of the state while spreading the administrative system and authority of the state throughout successive political systems. He added that the General Administration Department remains the backbone of the administration of the State and urged staff to place to value their individual duties.

The Union Minister acknowledged the common perception of the public on the GAD and told the staff there is no need to be discouraged. He asked the staff to understand that the GAD simply follows the policies set by the political system and the executive pillar.

Union Minister U Min Thu greets GAD staff in Myeik, Taninthayi Region yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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).

It soon became common for GAD staff to question what changes they should make in line with the GAD's transfer, said the Union Minister. He said the President has already laid down guidelines for staff to follow.

He said GAD staff need to maintain the stability of the administrative mechanism while making the reformation with added momentum. After transferring ministries, the first three months of 2019 have been designated as the stabilization period for the GAD. At the same time, arrangements were being made to conduct the systematic implementation of the next three months for reform process. As for him, he paid special attention to the opinions of the staff after making careful consideration; it was found that the staff had set their determination to stand with the people with full confidence. The Union Minister said he is convinced that nothing is impossible to those who had firm determination, based on their experience in administrative and different political systems. As for the GAD, preparation was being made to bring about the dramatic changes for the people with new appearance, vision and aspiration as of 2019. The Union Minister urged them to strive for winning the public trust and respect. He said that plans were underway to convene a workshop in Nay Pyi Taw for the GAD staff this month, which aims at sharing expert experience on administrative reforms, lessons, and examples.

Plans were being made to lay down the procedures of the transformation that included ideas and visions to make the changes, said the Union Minister.

In short, the GAD has carried out their duties throughout the successive periods of governments, and which remains the backbone of the administration of the State while carrying out exemplary reforms and to stand as a strong administrative pillar that is responsive to the public.

At the workshop, vision and mission of the GAD would be evaluated in accordance with rules, regulations, instruction and procedures while carrying out to compile the manuals of the staff that included applying the administrative power, human resource management, appointment of the GAD staff, capacity-building and transformation of teaching methods.

At the same time, arrangements would be made to choose three cities, in terms of prioritized cities, among the states and regions of the State, under the 'One State- One Township Project'.

Thus, all the states and regions would choose the most promising cities among their area while striving to implement it with success.

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 Win Ko Ko Aung)

Myanma Children's Day observed in Nay Pyi Taw

MYANMA Children's Day was observed at Nay Pyi Taw's Wunna Theikdi Stadium yesterday with Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye attending the event.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Union Minister expressed hope that parents will find ways to nurture children to lead better lives in Myanmar.

The Union Minister also expressed admiration for aspects of Bogyoke Aung San, including his excellent leadership skills that brought independence to Myanmar, encouraged children to nurture love for their nation.

The Union Minister also showed his delight over the active participation of the parents in the Children's Day ceremony

Next, Dr. Yuzana Saw Myint gave a presentation on early childhood care and development (ECCD) starting from infancy to solely breastfeeding babies up to 6 months old, to providing nutritional supplements for six months after weaning. This was followed by presentations from Dr. Mya Thida, secretary of the Orphans Reduction and Protection Association, on the period after pregnancy and receiving sufficient nutrition for breastfeeding mothers, and on gauging childhood development by local ECCD expert Dr. May Tun Chit.

Afterwards, the entertainment section was held and singer Sumo and a child named Ma Thu Thu Han Thar sang an educational song for environmental education. The Union Minister, Deputy Minister and committee members conferred awards to children and their parents who won prizes at the ECCD measurement and physical and mental capabilities contests. Attendees then watched a live demonstration on proper handwashing. — MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye hands over a prize to a child and mother who won an ECCD contest during Myanma Children's Day celebrations held in Nay Pyi Taw **PHOTO: MNA**

THE CENTRAL

WHERE THE FINEST MEET

INYA LAKE VIEW

ONLY 8 UNITS LEFT

THE CENTRAL PRESTIGE
YANGON

HOTLINE
+959 777 773 770
/THECENTRALYANGON

PROJECT LOCATION
Corner of Kabar Aye Pagoda Road and Kanbe Road, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar

GALLERY SHOWROOM
No. 7-8, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
www.thecentral.com.mm

All information contained herein, including but not limited to statements, drawings, designs, illustrations, photographs, visual representations, models, renderings, areas, specifications, dimensions, plans, graphic materials, features and amenities, depictions of the fittings, finishes, features and other displays in the project, buildings or units (the "Materials") are conceptual and are for reference only to portray artistic impression of the lifestyle that our project aims to create and achieve. All areas and dimensions are approximate measurements subject to final survey, construction variances, and approval by the relevant authorities. Any part or all of the Materials are subject to modification, revision, change or withdrawal at the sole discretion of Marga Landmark Development Co., Ltd. ("Marga Landmark") without any prior notice to any person, and should not be relied upon as representations or warranties, whether express or implied, as to the final details of the project, buildings or units, and consequently cannot and should not form part of a binding offer or contract in respect of the project, buildings or units. Only Myanmar citizens or persons having the investor status in Myanmar may invest in this project. Marga Landmark recommends that interested or relevant persons should seek professional advice. Marga Landmark proposes that interested persons should perform on-site due diligence to gain a better understanding of the development site, its surroundings and nearby public facilities. All intellectual property rights relating to the Materials are owned by, and shall remain the exclusive property of Marga Landmark. Any unauthorized dissemination, reproduction, display or usage of any part

14 FEBRUARY 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Developing our agricultural sector will remedy long-term issues

AN important requirement of the current times is the need for an increase in well-paid jobs. If the authorities can fulfil that requirement, then, the people of the country will be satisfied, and the future of the nation will be secured.

At present, Myanmar's economy is not equipped to create enough jobs to support the nation's growing population. While employment prospects are good in urban districts, jobs are getting scarcer in rural areas. Youths in rural areas are mainly affected, as they have to either take up whatever work can be found or, leave their hometown to look for work in the cities or, abroad. While this is a good opportunity for them to find better work, it will severely drain our country's human resources in the long-run, if left unattended.

> This MSDP pillar will create much needed job opportunities, fulfil the nation's food demands, and contribute to global food resources, if we all work together to ensure its success.

Myanmar is an agricultural country with 70 per cent of its land used for farming. Farming needs to be sustainable and effective in the rural areas so that local residents can lead fulfilling lives. It will also elevate the agricultural sector's contribution to the nation's economic development. Currently, there is a shortage of workers in agriculture due to few opportunities for development.

To remedy this, the Union Government drew up the Myanmar Sustainable Development Programme and began systematically implementing it in all sectors of the country last year, hoping to accomplish its intended purpose in 12 years, to meet the 2018-2030 deadline. The MSDP's third pillar — People and Planet — is concerned with food production, including rice and agriculture products.

This MSDP pillar will create much needed job opportunities, fulfil the nation's food demands, and contribute to global food resources, if we all work together to ensure its success. This will also solve the shortage of agricultural workers affecting the country.

We must be serious in executing the third pillar because our population will continue to grow and that means there will be increasing demands on our food supply along with an increasing search for employment. We must strive to ensure our youths, especially those from rural areas, are included in building and developing our nation. We must open the way for our youths to incorporate modern ideas and innovation in their vocational and formal education.

We urge everyone to participate in implementing the MSDP as it is a solution to the present issues concerning our nation, and to prevent foreseeable future issues from arising. Our agricultural sector is the pride and backbone of our nation, and we must all contribute towards its development and sustainability.

Continuous oil well tests will contribute to economic growth

By Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing (SMART)

DURING the monthly press conference held by the Ministry of Energy and Electricity's (MOEE) on 17 January 2019, U Nyan Tun, deputy managing director for Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE), said that a well test will be done in Myaing Township, Magway Region to examine the hydrocarbon properties therein.

It will be the first time a well test is carried out in the area. "Drilling will start on January 26," U Nyan Tun said.

The Myaing deep hole well No.1 is located at the south of the Myaing Anticline in the Chindwin sedimentary basin. Exploration will be conducted to determine the presence of oil or gas at the middle of the anticline.

"According to expert analysis, there is a high possibility that either oil or gas can be found. If oil or gas is found, we will proceed to production," MOEE deputy permanent secretary U Htay Aung explained.

It is estimated that the oil well may produce about 3 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. "According to the geology contours we have received, it is estimated that the well could contain around 82 billion cubic feet of recoverable reserves," the MOEE said in a statement.

If the well test is successful, plans to drill another 11 oil wells will be carried out. Locals will be compensated for any farmlands affected as a result of the drilling, said U Nyan Tun.

No decision has been made on where and how the natural gas, if discovered and produced, will be utilized. "We will decide depending on the amount and type of gas. It is too early to say where this gas will be used," U Nyan Tun said.

In generating electricity for consumption in the country, we need more natural gas.

In 2017-2018, the country generated a total of (19,193) Gigawatt hours and that (42) per cent came from the utilization of gas turbines. A total of only (39) per cent of households in the country is getting electricity from the national grid. The Union of Myanmar holds (11) millions households across the country, and that (6 point 7) millions households are not looped in the national grid of the country.

An oil well in Chauk oil field in Magway Region . **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

The Ministry of Energy and Electricity has laid down the project in providing electricity to (99) per cent of households in the country by 2030, which eventually needs (16,600) Megawatt (MW) to operate with heavy machineries and modern devices to generate the required electricity.

In the year 2030, the gas turbines with the capacity of (8,919) Megawatt would be functioning in the country. As of today, Myanmar is utilizing gas turbines in generating electricity with the daily consumption of (440) million cubic feet gas. Only (40) million cubic feet gas is available from onshore resources, and that (400) million cubic feet gas has been acquired from the offshore sources. The cost of onshore gas is much lesser than the cost of offshore gas.

Looking back into the pages of Myanma oil and gas factsheets, the Revolutionary Council government had nationalized the BOC, IBP and BBPC owned by the foreign firms in 1962, and that it had purchased (49) per cent owned by the BOC and the IBP at the value of (62.5) million Kyats.

On 1 January 1963, the government had established the state owned oil industry. Beginning for that time, the exploration of oil and gas has been initiated by national experts and professionals, and eventually the following explorations have been successfully created and utilized.

Oil and natural gas land resources stand as per following list (one).

1. Myanaung 1964 (Ayeyawaddy Region)
2. Pyay 1965 (Bago Region)
3. Shwepyithar 1967 (Ayeyawaddy Region)
4. Pyalo 1969 (Magway Region)
5. Mann 1970 (Magway Region)
6. Letpando 1974 (Magway Region)
7. Peppi 1976 (Magway Region)
8. Htaukshabin 1978 (Magway Region)
9. Htantabin 1980 (Ayeyawaddy Region)
10. Tatma 1981 (Mandalay Region)
11. Kanni 1985 (Magway Region)
12. Apyauk 1991 (Ayeyawaddy Region)
13. Kyaukkwet 1995 (Magway Region)
14. Nyaungdon 1999 (Ayeyawaddy Region)
15. Thagyitaung/Sabe 2001 (Magway Region)
16. Maubin (South) 2007 (Ayeyawaddy Region)

In the past, natural gas extracted from Myanaung and Shwepyithar were being utilized in the functioning of the turbines in the electricity generation in Myanaung.

Now, the turbines in Myanaung are generating electricity with the use of gas extracted from Yadana Offshore gas fields. Similarly, in the past, the natural gas extracted from onshore Aphyauk areas were used at Ahlon and Hlawga natural gas fired power plants. Now, gas is being acquired from Yadanamyay Offshore oil and gas fields in the use of generators. While using the gas being purchased from the onshore areas, the cost was moderate and low.

When we look at the list (one) for (16) year's time, total of (8) natural oil and gas fields have been explored and identified from 1964 to 1980. The Mann oil field that was explored in 1970 has been producing (25,000) oil barrels a day in 1979-80, and stands out as the most profuse oil field of the country.

Until now, the Mann Oil Field is still producing (1,188) oil barrels per day. In (38) years, only (8) natural oil and gas fields had been found such as from 1980 to 2018. From 1964 to 1980 in (16) years time, total of (8) natural gas and oil fields had been explored.

However, during (38) years period from 1980 to 2018, it was only (8) natural oil and gas fields being explored, and that was the case study to be reviewed over the list (Two).

The list under referral showed the oil drilling machineries being purchased by Myanma Old and Gas Enterprise. In 2007, that is the year after 1983, only four oil drilling machines were being purchased. The capacity and strength of the drilling machines being acquired in 2007 were not functioning in top gear compared to the previous machines being bought in 1971 and 1983.

After 2007, there was no newly found oil and gas field in the country. Only when we could dig more new areas, then there are possibilities in finding oil and gas fields. According to the data and information across the world, it has the chance to find three oil fields out of ten exploration fields, indicating the fact that we need to dig more and much more.

During 1983 to 2003, the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise had deployed over (30) drilling machines and explored nearly (50) fields each year, however, currently with (16) drilling machines, the country is concentrating only on (20) fields each year.

When we could explore the onshore oil and gas exploration, it would be more advantages and beneficial to the national economy.

Dig fast, dig hard for more resources for the country. Each year, we have been incurring loss for about (400) billion Kyats in electricity generation and distribution. Each year for the exploration of oil stands out at (60) billion Kyats, and therefore, we could find out what are the things to be changed and altered as fast as possible.

If we could produce more oil and gas from the onshore areas, then the gas being sought from the offshore area and the LNG purchased from abroad could be reduced. When we could reduce the purchase of such oil and gas into the country, we could save foreign currency of the nation.

With the intent to produce the oil and gas from the onshore areas, the following suggestions are being submitted for consideration in pragmatic approach in the fastest possible time.

1. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise should be reorganized as a corporate. [Note: It is not to be handed over to the private ownership. It is only the administrative paradigm to transform similar to the PETRONAS and the PTT.
2. The potential areas such as that of the Pyalo, the Htantabin, and the Ayeyawaddy Delta area are to be deployed in the approach with 3D Seismic in exploring the old and gas. The news plans must be modified and seek more budget for better implementation.
3. The most potential and possible areas must be given priority for exploration and drilling. The news plans must be modified and seek more budget for better implementation.
4. More new drilling machines are to be purchased.
5. The companies that are interested to explore in the onshore oil and gas areas must be given more special concession, and sign for sharing in the exploration business.

The writer of this article holds the view that we are at an opportune time to drill continuous well tests so that we can unearth rich resources that will contribute to our economic growth.

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)

List of Table on the purchase of machineries

Subject	Machine type	No. of Machine
Purchased by BOC	National 80B GM	1
	National 80B Paxman	1
	T-45 Series	1
	National 50	3
Purchased by POI in 1964-1968	L-350 Card Well	1
	National 55	1
	4LD (Rumanian)	2
	National 80B GM	1
	National 80B Paxman	1
	T-45 Series	2
	National 50	3
	D.M.A Cardwell	1
Purchased by MOC in 1971-1983	National 55	7
	Gefco	4
	Gardner Denver	3
	TM 350	10
	USS Oil Well	1
	Emsco C2 T3	1
	Emsco D3 T2	2
Purchased by MOGE after 2007	ZJ-40	2
	ZJ-70	2

H.E. U Soe Lynn Han presents Credentials to President of the European Council

Ambassador U Soe Lynn Han, Head of the Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the European Union (European Commission/ European Council), presented his Credentials to the President of the European Council, His Excellency Mr. Donald Tusk, on 23 January 2019, in Brussels.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Call for Nominations for the ASEAN Prize 2019

The ASEAN Secretariat is calling for nominations for the ASEAN Prize 2019—a prestigious regional award which aims to acknowledge the inspiring and outstanding achievements of an individual or organisation in fostering the ASEAN identity, promoting the ASEAN spirit and championing the ASEAN way.

Nominees should have exceptional merit in contributing to the following designated focus areas:

- Collaboration between ASEAN Member States;
- Collaboration between ASEAN and the world;
- People-to-people engagement among ASEAN Member States;
- Economic integration and promotion of standards between ASEAN Member States; or
- Excellent contribution to ASEAN Community Building.

A Judging Committee, consisting of eminent high-level members, including incumbent and former ASEAN Secretaries-General, will select a recipient who will be awarded the ASEAN Prize Trophy and a cash prize of US$20,000. This year's prize will be presented during the 34th ASEAN Summit in June in Bangkok, Thailand.

In 2018, the inaugural ASEAN Prize was awarded to Ms Erlinda Uy Koe, a dedicated community leader from the Philippines, honouring her exemplary contributions to the cause of an inclusive ASEAN community. The Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Hsien Loong, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dato Lim Jock Hoi, presented the trophy and prize money to Ms Koe at the Opening Ceremony of the 33rd ASEAN Summit in Singapore in November 2018. The sponsors for the inaugural ASEAN Prize were Temasek Foundation Connects of Singapore, the Ayala Corporation of the Philippines and Yayasan Hasanah of Malaysia.

Submissionsfor ASEAN Prize 2019 are open from now until 8March 2019. Nominee must be an ASEAN citizen or an ASEAN-based organisation. Thenomination form for ASEAN Prize 2019 can be downloaded at the ASEAN Secretariat Website https://asean.org/call-nominations-asean-prize-2019/. The Nominee must submit the duly filled-in form to the ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office No.9, Nay Pyi Taw or dgasean@gmail.com and psaseanmmr@gmail.com no later than 8 March 2019.

In the nomination form, the nominee need to elaborate within three to five pages highlighting the achievement the nominee has contributed to the building of a rules-based, people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community, and intra-ASEAN collaborative efforts, for the period of January 2018 to January 2019. The nominee should also share future plans in continuing the work after winning the prize. For further information, please visit the ASEAN Secretariat Website.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
Trade Mark Ads
Call
Thin Thin May,
09251022355
09974424848
Advertise with us/ Hot Line : 09974424848

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR
Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT
Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS
Zaw Min
Zaw Htet Oo
Win Ko Ko Aung

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR
Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS
Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

TRANSLATORS
Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTER
Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER
Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAM
Tun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe

EDITORIAL SECTION
(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/TheGNLM

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Bogyoke Aung San's 104th birth anniversary celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw

THE 104th birth anniversary of Bogyoke Aung San, the architect of Myanmar's independence, was celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory yesterday

Union Minister for Information, Dr. Pe Myint, and Union Minister for Education, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, attended the event, which was held at the Mingalar Kandaw Hall in Pyinmana. The Union Ministers first watched students performing on stage, toured the photo exhibition commemorating the Bogyoke's birthday, book displays, and then observed people participating in competitions organized by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation.

Union Ministers Dr. Pe Myint and Dr. Myo Thein Gyi observe drawing contest to commemorate the Bogyoke's birthday at B.E.H.S 7 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Union Ministers then observed cartoons exhibition commemorating Bogyoke Aung San at Kandaw Mingalar Park and took a documentary photo with the cartoonists and students in attendance.

The Union Ministers also visited B.E.H.S. 7 and observed a seminar, wall posters and photo to exhibition, booths, and student entertainment performances commemorating the Bogyoke's birthday.

The Union Ministers then attended a recital ceremony and art exhibition held to commemorate the park with Bogyoke Aung San's statue in Pobbathiri Tsp, which was opened to the public on 12 February (Union Day). They took a commemorative photo with officials present.

Lastly, the Union Ministers visited B.E.H.S. 13, where they observed a seminar and competitions on poem recitals, storytelling and coloring held to commemorate the Bogyoke's birthday, and then took a documentary photo with the students.

Bogyoke Aung San's birth anniversary is also celebrated as the Children's Day in Myanmar and is commemorated with seminars, coloring, art, poem recitals, storytelling and puzzle competitions in the Union territory

The Information and Public Relations Department also displayed books on Bogyoke Aung San, his college life, political campaigns, participation in the Tatmadaw, and photos depicting his journeys to Britain and Japan at the various celebrations.

Attendees were gifted with Aung San's diaries, commemorative birthday posters and pamphlets. Local elders and civil society organizations also prepared free meals of naan and boiled peas (Bogyoke's favorite food), tea, water and other food items. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Ministers Dr. Pe Myint and Dr. Myo Thein Gyi observe students participating in colouring performance at Mingalar Kandaw Hall in Pyinmana yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Write for us

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

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

Drugs seized in Shwegu Township

A combined team comprising officials with the Shwegu Township police seized drugs from a shop and a home near the Maik San Wah Khat camp in Shwegu Township on Tuesday

The combined team searched a shop owned by Aung Min Tun, also known as Thar Cho, and found 14,800 stimulant tablets, 50 grams of heroin, and K508,000 in cash.

The team also searched a house belonging to Thaung Kyaw, also known as Shan Gyi, and found 1,230 stimulant tablets and K131,000 in cash.

The police have filed charges against the two men under the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.— Ko Ye *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

Myanmar merchants to buy pulses at reasonable rate if prices drop during harvest

THE Myanmar Pulses, Beans, and Sesame Seeds Merchants' Association is preparing to purchase pulses at a reasonable rate, if the price drops drastically during harvest time.

Mung beans, pigeon peas, and green grams are harvested in the months of March and April. Their harvest time is approaching, and India has not yet responded to a plan for purchase of pulses under a government-to-government agreement, prompting the related authorities and merchants to prepare for necessary measures to protect growers' interests.

"Pulses depots, the Commerce Ministry, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation are working out plans to tackle with possible problems. In addition to a quota system, the government will try to provide loans to SMEs, and merchants, in turn, are preparing to purchase pulses at a reasonable rate, if the prices of beans plunge to a great extent," said U Min Ko Oo, the secretary of the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, and Sesame Seeds Merchants' Association.

"At present, only a small volume of mung beans and pigeon peas are stockpiled in the pulses market. Additionally, the number of pigeon peas growers has decreased this year. This being so, we do not have concerns over pigeon peas, even if India does not purchase them. But, most growers have cultivated mung beans. Therefore, the Myanmar pulses association is preparing to purchase them at a fair price, in case the price plummets," said U Min Ko Oo.

Myanmar pulses are kept on display for sale in a shop at a market. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

"Only small stocks of pigeon peas are left in the domestic market, and only 400,000-500,000 tons of pigeon peas are likely to be produced in the coming season. India's ban on pulses importation will not affect the pigeon peas market, as we can export them to other foreign markets. The prevailing price of pigeon peas is K830,000 per ton. Mung beans are priced just above K600,000 per ton. As 80 per cent of mung bean growers have cultivated mung beans, so, over 400,000 tons is likely to be produced. During the upcoming harvest time, we need to prepare only for mung beans," he said.

Moreover, Myanmar will demand India increase the quota limit for imports, and will work towards creating a G-to-G agreement for the pulses industry, according to the association.

"The Commerce Ministry sent a draft G-to-G agreement to India through the Indian embassy in Myanmar two months ago, but there has been no response yet. If they allow their merchants to resume pulses importation under the quota limit, we need to request them to set a separate quota limit. Concerning this matter, the Union Minister for Commerce will visit India and meet with the related department officials. He will try to strengthen economic ties between the two countries," said U Min Ko Oo. India's move to restrict importation of pulses in August 2017 has severely affected growers in Myanmar. Following the Indian provincial court's notice halting the importation of pulses and beans on 30 January, the prices of mung beans and pigeon peas dropped.

There is demand from Nepal and Pakistan in the market, and mung beans are fetching K620,000 per ton for old stock and K632,000 per ton for fresh stock, while pigeon peas are priced at K710,000 for old stock, and K830,000 for new stock, according to traders in the pulses market.

In 2017, local merchants united to purchase mung beans and pigeon peas after India restricted pulses importation, said U Min Ko Oo.

Myanmar ships over 1 million tons of different varieties of pulses to other countries annually, and mung beans, green grams, and pigeon peas make up a majority of the exports. — Maung Sae Aung/ Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

WORLD

Mexican drug lord convicted by NY jury

NEW YORK (United States)—Mexican mobster Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was convicted on Tuesday of crimes spanning a quarter-century in a trial that laid bare his lavish lifestyle and penchant for extreme violence as the head of one of the world's most powerful gangs. The 61-year-old former boss of the notorious Sinaloa cartel—famed for his brazen escapes from Mexican prisons—faces life in prison for smuggling tons of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and marijuana into the United States.

He was also found guilty on money laundering and weapons possession charges during a three-month trial in which witnesses described the mob boss beating, shooting and even burying alive those who got in his way "The verdict was a tremendous victory for the rule of law, for Mexico, the United States and other countries that have been victims of the Sinaloa cartel," Mike Vigil, former head of international operations for the US Drug Enforcement Administration, told AFP.—AFP ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

AMOREPACIFIC CORPORATION, a company registered under the laws of Republic of Korea, which is located at 100, Hangang-daero, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea, is the sole owner of the following trademarks:

AMOREPACIFIC
Reg. No. 13344/2018

In respect of **Class 21:** Eyebrow brushes; Combs; Toilet sponges; Fitted vanity cases; Cosmetic utensils; Toilet brushes; Powder puffs; Electric toothbrushes; Non-electric toothbrushes; Cups, not of precious metal; Floss for dental purposes; Shaving brushes.

려 呂
Reg. No. 13345/2018

LANEIGE
Reg. No. 13343/2018

MAMONDE
Reg. No. 13346/2018

IOPE
Reg. No. 13347/2018

雪花秀 Sulwhasoo
Reg. No. 13348/2018

In respect of **Class 21:** Eyebrow brushes; Combs; Toilet sponges; Fitted vanity cases; Cosmetic utensils; Toilet brushes; Powder puffs; Electric toothbrushes; Non-electric toothbrushes; Cups, not of precious metal; Floss for dental purposes; Shaving brushes.

In respect of **Class 35:** Wholesale services of cosmetics; Retail services of cosmetics; Sales agency services of cosmetics; Sales arranging services of cosmetics; Procurement of goods for others in the field of cosmetics; Consumer research in the field of cosmetics; Providing commercial information services in the field of cosmetics; Import-export agency services; Advertising; Commercial administration of the licensing of the goods and services of others; Wholesale services of green tea; Retail services of green tea; Wholesale services of cosmetic utensils; Retail services of cosmetic utensils; Wholesale services of health functional foods; Retail services of health functional foods.

AMOREPACIFIC CORPORATION claims the trademark rights and other relevant intellectual property rights for the marks as mentioned above. AMOREPACIFIC CORPORATION reserves the rights to take legal measures against any infringer who violates its intellectual property or other legal rights in accordance with the concerned laws of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Daw May Thwe Hlaing, LL.B., LL.M., DIPL, (H.G.P.)
For **AMOREPACIFIC CORPORATION**
Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com
Dated: 14th February 2019

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR BANDA VOY. NO. (126 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BANDA VOY. NO. (126 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE
M.V KOTA HARTA VOY. NO. (KHAR 0032N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HARTA VOY. NO. (KHAR 0032N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 2301185

Advertise
with us/ **Hot Line** : 09974424848

RCSS/ SSA armed group takes away things on Tatmadaw vehicle in southern Shan State

ABOUT 50 members of Restoration Council of Shan State-RCSS/Shan State Army-SSA armed group stopped a vehicle carrying two commanding officers between Mongpyin and Kengtung in Shan State (East) and took away things on the car on 12 February, according to the news released by the Tatmadaw True News Team. The RCSS/SSA is the EAO which signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement on 15 October, 2015.

As part of efforts for gaining the eternal peace in the country, the Tatmadaw declared unilateral ceasefire on 21 December, 2018, at five military commands including Triangle Command. On 26 January, 2019, the Tatmadaw issued a warning to EAOs to follow its "Ceasefire and eternal peace" announcement.

SEE PAGE-13

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS CONSULTANT
C4-CS5
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

Client: Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC)

Country: Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Project: Myanmar Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Management Project

Loan No.: 60800-MM

Assignment Title: National Environmental Safeguards Consultant

Reference No.: C4-CS5

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) in the form of a credit toward the cost of Myanmar Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Management Project. The Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC), an implementing agency for the Project, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this credit for Consulting Services.

YCDC wishes to invite eligible Individual Consultant to express his/her interest in providing his/her services as National Environmental Safeguards Consultant.

The National Environmental Safeguards Consultant shall be responsible for the following tasks inter alia: (i) Provide technical oversight for the environmental screening of sub-projects identified under the project, ensuring the screening process complies with the ESMF; and advice on the site-specific safeguard instruments required (e.g. Environmental and Social Management Plan, etc.); (ii) Assist YCDC and International Environmental Consultant with the review of contractors' proposals regarding environmental safeguards requirements and identify gaps not covered by the proposed mitigation and environmental measures and/or budget; (iii) Support the design, preparation, and implementation of the Environmental Safeguards Training Program for the Project coordinating as necessary with environmental safeguards capacity building initiatives taking place in Myanmar, in coordination with YCDC's safeguards focal points; (iv) Supervise the Contractor's performance, and handling of site-specific environmental issues, and provide corrective instructions if needed; (v) Prepare periodical environmental monitoring reports, including reports on environmental part of ESMP implementation status to YCDC and prepare environmental supervision statement during the construction phase (vi) orient staff of implementing agency and contractor on the Bank's environmental safeguards policy requirements, standards and procedures; and assess implementing agency capacity on environmental safeguards and recommend appropriate capacity building measures.

It is envisaged that the services will be carried out on basis for 500 days (300 days of full time and 200 days of part time) over 54 months with an expected start of April/May 2019. The location of the service will be at YCDC in Yangon.

YCDC now invites eligible Individual Consultant to indicate his/her interest in providing the Services. Interested individual consultant must provide information indicating that he/she is qualified to perform the services: Curriculum Vitae (should include a description of education and general qualifications, similar assignments, experience in similar conditions etc. and the names, business contacts and email addresses of three referees).

The successful candidate must have (Essential Qualifications and Knowledge/Experience): (i) At least in Master's degree in environmental management, environmental engineering, or related fields; (ii) Minimum 5 years' experience in Myanmar or in the region regarding to the compliance of environmental safeguards policies including environmental management; (iii) Experience in moderating and facilitating group discussions in public preferred; (iv) Excellent written and oral communication skills in English language and Myanmar language; (v) Knowledge and experience of working with environmental safeguards policies of the World Bank and/or Asian Development Bank preferred; (vi) Knowledge and experience of working with Myanmar legislations related to ESIA preferred.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers* January 2011, revised July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant Selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours [9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday].

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by February 27, 2019 before 3:00 p.m.

Yangon City Hall
Contact Person: U Aung Kyaw Thu
Finance and Accounts Department
1st Floor, Yangon City Hall,
Kyauktada Township, Yangon,
Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Tel: ++ 951388732
Fax No. : 951388732
E-mail: *ycdcdba@gmail.com*

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Thilawa Multipurpose International Terminal Co., Ltd., a company incorporated in Myanmar and having its registered office at Thilawa Area Port Plots 25 & 26, Thanlyin-Kyauk Tan Township, Yangon, Myanmar is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

TMIT

Thilawa Multipurpose International Terminal Co., Ltd.

Reg. No. 4/14398/2018 (3.1.2019)

In respect of "Transport, packaging and storage of goods and travel arrangement; transport of people, animals or goods from one place to another (by rail, road, water, air or pipeline) and services necessarily connected with such transport, as well as services relating to the storing of goods in a warehouse or other building for their preservation or guarding; port services;) operation and management of ports; port handling; warehousing; operating a container freight station; freighting" all included in **International Class 39.**

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

Daw Htoo Htoo, *H.G.P*
For **Thilawa Multipurpose International Terminal Co., Ltd.,**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road &
Thein Phyu Road,Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated **14 February 2019** hh@kcyangon.com

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **ASEV & Friends Ltd.,** a company incorporated in Myanmar and having its principal office at **No. 17, 3rd Fl., Kantharyar Rd., Waso Qtr., Dawbon Tsp., Yangon, Myanmar** is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark(s):-

SANCTUARY HOTELS & RESORTS

(Reg. No. IV/10661/2018)

in respect of: "Management services in relation to businesses of hotels; management services in relation to businesses of resorts" in class 35.

"Hotel services; resort services; management services, namely management of arrivals and departures in relation to reception services of hotels & resorts" in class 43.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

For **ASEV & Friends Ltd.,**
BY ITS ATTORNEY
Dated: 21 / 01 /2019

Advertise
with us/ Hot Line :
09974424848

RCSS/ SSA armed group takes away things on Tatmadaw vehicle in southern Shan State

FROM PAGE-12

Tatmadaw True News Team said in the statement that the action of taking away the things owned by the members of the Tatmadaw is an opposite challenge for the eternal peace.

The statement said the Tatmadaw has already informed the RCSS/SSA to return the things they took away to the Tatmadaw as soon as possible, and if not, the Tatmadaw will take necessary actions.

The Tatmdaw will also take actions against the military officers in accordance with the military rules for their negligence during the ceasefire period, according the Tatmadaw True News Team. — MNA ■

(Translated by GNLM)

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
Central Committee for Holding Myanma Gems Emporium
The Information on Fifty-Sixth Myanma Gems Emporium 2019

1. The significant **Fifty-Sixth** Myanma Gems Emporium will be held on March 11 to 20 , 2019 at Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.
2. Rough jade, rough gems, cut and polished gemstones, jewelries, jade carvings , gold and silver wares and gemstone pictures will be sold in Euro currency at the Emporium.
3. Gems lots and jade lots will be put up for sale through open tender system and specifying reserve prices as follows;

Sr.	Kind of Gem	Reserve Price (Euro) for Open Tender
(a)	Pearl	500 and above
(b)	Gems	500 and above
(c)	Jade	5,000 and above
(d)	Finished product and Jade Carving	1,000 and above

4. Foreign visitors eligible for the following qualifications will be granted admission to the **Fifty-Sixth** Emporium 2019, excluding those blacklisted for their default on payment in the previous emporiums;
   (a) The person who was invited by the Emporium Central Committee with invitation card.
   (b) The person who requested the invitation card via the Foreign Jade Associations.
   (c) The person who requested to receive the invitation card through the respective Embassies and Consulate - General.
   (d) Foreign visitors are permissible to make bids for the lots up to the value of the **10-fold** of the minimum deposit paid by the types of gemstones. The minimum amount of deposit to be paid and the amount permitted to bid are as follows;

Sr.	Kind of Gem	Deposit to be paid	Permitted limit to bid
(1)	Gems	€ 2,000	€ 20,000
(2)	Jade	€ 20,000	€ 200,000

   (e) Making bids for lots priced more than the permitted limit is required to make additional deposit **(10% of its value)** to the Account No. EEM 400034 opened with the Myanma Economic Bank (Nay Pyi Taw) by the name of The Central Committee of Emporium (Deposit). Deposit must be made by the preview deadline as below;

2

Sr.	Kind of Gem	Kind of selling system	Deposit Payment Date
(1)	Gems	Open Tender	March 13, 2019
(2)	Jade	Open Tender	March 14, 2019

5. Starting from **25th February 2019**, admission card will be issued at the Maniradana Jade Hall, Registration Office to the foreign merchants who have already paid the deposit ahead.
6. Application Forms for admission to Emporium can be downloaded from provided websites (www.mining.gov.mm or www.mge.gov.mm), starting form **16th February 2019**. Application can also be submitted via On-Line Pre-Registration System from www.mge.gov.mm. The requirements to make the admission card are as follow;
   (a) Name, Passport and National Scrutiny Card No. (Passport Issuing Country)
   (b) Clear Photocopy of Passport.
   (c) Clear Two passport photos taken within one month.
   (d) Complete contact information, (to state Phone No., Fax No. and E-mail if applicable).
   (e) Admission fee – K 150000 (MMK).
7. Buyers shall settle payment for the purchases within deadline as prescribed by the Sales Agreement. The necessary arrangements will be made if the buyer desires to bring his/ her fully paid purchase along with them.
8. Shipment of fully paid purchase to the buyer is made under the EXW(EX Works)System. Purchase will be timely despatched once the buyer has made full payment for the purchase. Emporium Central Committee will be responsible for loading the merchandise onto the Transportation Vehicles from the Emporium Hall while the buyer himself or his authorized representative company will be held liable for the remaining processes.

Emporium Central Committee

Advertise
with us/ Hot Line :
09974424848

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
NATIONAL SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS CONSULTANT
C4-CS6
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

Client: Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC)
Country: Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Project: Myanmar Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Management Project
Loan No.: 60800-MM
Assignment Title: National Social Safeguards Consultant
Reference No.: C4-CS6

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) in the form of a credit toward the cost of Myanmar Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Management Project. The Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC), an implementing agency for the Project, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this credit for Consulting Services.

YCDC wishes to invite eligible Individual Consultant to express his/her interest in providing his/her services as National Social Safeguards Consultant.

The National Social Safeguards Consultant shall be responsible for the following tasks inter alia: (i) Provide technical oversight for the social screening of sub-projects identified under the project, ensuring the screening process complies with the ESMF and RPF; and advice on the site-specific safeguards instruments required (e.g. Environmental and Social Management Plan, Resettlement Plans …etc.); (ii) Assist YCDC and International Social Consultant with the review of contractors' proposals regarding social safeguards requirements and identify gaps not covered by the proposed mitigation and social measures and/or budget; (iii) Support the design, preparation, and implementation of the Social Safeguards Training Program for the Project coordinating as necessary with social safeguards capacity building initiatives taking place in Myanmar, in coordination with YCDC's safeguards focal points; (iv) Advise YCDC on stakeholder and community engagement, including grievance redress mechanism (GRM) establishment and work with YCDC is to ensure the effectiveness of the GRM; (v) Supervise the Contractor's performance, and handling of site-specific social issues, and provide corrective instructions if needed; (v) Prepare periodical social monitoring reports, including reports on social part of ESMP implementation status to YCDC and prepare social supervision statement during the construction phase (vi) orient staff of implementing agency and contractor on the Bank's social safeguards policy requirements, standards and procedures; and assess implementing agency capacity on social safeguards and recommend appropriate capacity building measures.

It is envisaged that the services will be carried out on basis for 500 days (300 days of full time and 200 days of part time) over 54 months with an expected start of April/May 2019. The location of the service will be at YCDC in Yangon.

YCDC now invites eligible Individual Consultant to indicate his/her interest in providing the Services. Interested individual consultant must provide information indicating that he/she is qualified to perform the services: Curriculum Vitae (should include a description of education and general qualifications, similar assignments, experience in similar conditions etc. and the names, business contacts and email addresses of three referees).

The successful candidate must have (Essential Qualifications and Knowledge/Experience): (i) At least in Master's degree in social science or related fields; (ii) Minimum 5 years' experience in Myanmar or in the region regarding to the compliance of social safeguards policies including involuntary resettlement; (iii) Experience in moderating and facilitating group discussions in public preferred; (iv) Excellent written and oral communication skills in English language and Myanmar language; (v) Knowledge and experience of working with social safeguards policies of the World Bank and/or Asian Development Bank preferred; (vi) Knowledge and experience of working with Myanmar legislations related to involuntary resettlement and GRM preferred.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers* January 2011, revised July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant Selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours [9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday].

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by February 27, 2019 before 3:00 p.m.

Yangon City Hall
Contact Person: U Aung Kyaw Thu
Finance and Accounts Department
1st Floor, Yangon City Hall,
Kyauktada Township, Yangon,
Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Tel: ++ 951388732
Fax No. : 951388732
E-mail: *ycdcdba@gmail.com*

Pobbathiri Tsp opens park with Bogyoke Aung San statue to commemorate martyr's 104th birthday

People seen at the opeing ceremony of Bogyoke Aung San Statue and commemoration of Bogyoke Aung San's 104th birthday in Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. **PHOTO : KYAW ZIN HTEIK**

POBBATHIRI Township in Ottara District, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area opened a Bogyoke Aung San statue and park yesterday to commemorate the 104th birth anniversary of the independence architect.

In the opening ceremony, winners of painting, essay, and sepak takraw competitions were given awards and musical performances also entertained the attendees at night.

The ceremony was opened with the song 'Htarwara Thitsar' sang by the students of No.13 Basic Education High School in Pobbathiri Township. Students from Hein Yadana Aung Private High School and Khaung Laung Than Private Primary School then entertained with 'See Lone So Lae Thwe Chin Doe Yae' and 'Yin Ta Ko Mae' songs.

Next, Ma Su Lae Yadana, a 7th grade student and winner of impromptu speech contest, gave a presentation about the admirable traits and history of Bogyoke Aung San with title 'Father of Independence Bogyoke Aung San.'

Donors for the Bogyoke Aung San birthday event then presented awards to the winners of essay competition.

Students from No.20 Basic Education High School entertained with 'Bon Taw' song, and female students from Swan Pyae Private School entertained with 'Lahu Myanmar' dance. Afterwards, donors presented awards to the winners of painting competition.

Next, young ladies from Wunna Dipa Ward then entertained with 'Bo Shu Thabin' musical performance, and male students from Khaung Laung Than Private Primary School entertained with 'Kaya Bala' performance, with donors presenting awards to the winners.

Students from Aye Myittar San Parahitta Taung Ni Lay Kyaung Taik entertained with 'Kayan ethnic dances', and female students from No.13 Basic Education High School also entertained with 'Doe Shan Htar Ni' musical performance. Township administrators and donors then presented awards to the winners of sepak takraw competition.

Afterwards, students from No.20 Basic Education High School entertained with 'A song for unity' musical performance, and officials presented certificates of honour to the participants in the entertainment programme and those who supported constructing the Bogyoke Aung San statue and park.

In the opening ceremony of the Bogyoke Aung San statue and park, attendees were fed with charity food, rice chicken soup and rice milk soup.

The Information and Public Relations Department of Pobbathiri Township also displayed books, paintings and statues related to Bogyoke Aung San at the event.

Bogyoke Aung San's 104th birth anniversary was held nationwide yesterday, with citizens mostly reciting the 'Aung San Zarni' poem and singing 'Asia Thu Ye Khaung Bogyoke Aung San' song.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area also held celebrations to commemorate the birthday of Bogyoke Aung San in its respective townships yesterday. —MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

City circular buses to run from Aung Mingalar highway terminal

THE city circular bus service will run with Scania buses starting from the Aung Mingalar highway bus terminal for the convenience of passengers wishing to take the circular route around the city, according to the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

The new circular buses will ply along the following route — Aung Mingalar highway - Thudama road - Kaba Aye pagoda road - Parami road - Than Thu Mar road - Dental College - Thuwanna junction - Upper Pazundaung road, Botataung Pagoda road - Strand road - Thakhin Mya Park - Kyimyindine Kannar road - Bayintnaung road - lower Mingalardon road – No.3 junction - Aung Mingalar highway. The new city buses will be operated by the City Transit Company

"The route of the circular buses will be similar to that of the Yangon City circular trains. The buses will run around the city. It is a new service for passengers who rely on the bus service. The new city circular buses, numbering 39, will start from the Aung Mingalar highway bus terminal. The YRTA will announce detailed information on their operation, such as the starting date," said Dr. Maung Aung, the secretary of the YRTA.

The bus fare will be K1,000 for one complete round, and K500 for shorter distances. The new city bus service will start services with 39 buses.

In addition, the authorities are planning to install a card payment system on YBS buses. The card payment system will be used not only on public transport buses, but also in other sectors.

"We have already been granted permission by the Myanmar Investment Commission to implement the card payment system. Currently, we are importing the required equipment for the system.

The card payment system will be installed on three YBS bus lines, which are running in six townships. The installation of the system on the buses will take about six months," said Dr. Maung Aung.

New buses parked in downtown Yangon to provide ferry service. **PHOTO : PWINT THITSA**

Power Eleven Company, YBS 21, will run the city buses, which will have a special floor for wheelchair users, according to the YRTA.—*Pwint Thitsa*

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Turn down the volume: WHO takes aim at harmful smartphone use

GENEVA (Switzerland) — More than one billion young people risk damaging their hearing through excessive use of smartphones and other audio devices, the UN warned on Tuesday, proposing new safety standards for safe volume levels.

In a bid to safeguard hearing, the World Health Organization and International Telecommunications Union issued a non-binding international standard for the manufacture and use of audio devices.

Young people are particularly prone to risky listening habits.

Around half of those between the ages of 12 and 35, or 1.1 billion people, are at risk due to "prolonged and excessive exposure to loud sounds, including music they listen to through personal audio devices," the UN health agency said.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus pointed out that the world already has "the technological know-how to prevent hearing loss".

"It should not be the case that so many young people continue to damage their hearing while listening to music," he said in the statement. Young people, he said, "must understand that once they lose their hearing, it won't come back."

Currently, about five percent of the global population, or some 466 million people, including 34 million children, suffer from disabling hearing loss.

WHO said it remained unclear how many of them had damaged their hearing through dangerous use of audio devices.

It insisted though that the new standard developed with ITU would go a long way to "safeguard these young consumers as they go about doing something they enjoy."

WHO considers a volume above 85 decibels for eight hours or 100 decibels for 15 minutes as unsafe.

The Safe listening devices and systems standard calls for a "sound allowance" software to be included in all audio devices, to track the volume level and duration of a user's exposure to sound, and to evaluate the risk posed to their hearing.

This system could alert a user if they have dangerous listening habits. WHO is also calling for parental as well as automatic volume controls on audio devices to prevent dangerous use.

While some smartphones and other audio devices already offer some of these features, the UN would like to see a uniform standard used to help protect against disabling hearing loss.

"Think of it like driving on a highway, but without a speedometer in your car or a speed limit," Shelly Chadha of the WHO told reporters in Geneva.

"What we've proposed is that your smartphones come fitted with a speedometer, with a measurement system which tells you how much sound you're getting and tells you if you are going over the limit".— AFP ■

Indians surf the internet on their phones at a free wi-fi zone inside a suburban railway station in Mumbai on 22 August, 2016. **PHOTO: AFP**

This computer generated image obtained on 31 August, 2018 shows the Opportunity rover of NASA part of the Mars planet exploration programme. **PHOTO: AFP**

NASA to make final attempt to contact Mars Opportunity Rover

WASHINGTON (United States) — US space agency NASA will make one final attempt to contact its Opportunity Rover on Mars late Tuesday, eight months after it last made contact.

The agency also said it would hold a briefing Wednesday, during which it will likely officially declare the end of the mission.

Opportunity landed on Mars in 2004 and covered 28 miles (45 kilometres) on the planet, securing its place in history after lasting well beyond its expected 90-day mission.

But a giant dust storm last year blocked sunlight from Mars, stopping Opportunity's solar-powered batteries from being able to recharge.

Despite NASA engineers' best efforts to get a response via radio channels, its last communication was on 10 June, 2018.

In August, NASA caused an outcry after setting a 45-day deadline before it would declare "Oppy" dead.

In October, it extended the deadline to January to reevaluate the situation. — AFP ■

Robot probes radioactive fuel at Japan's Fukushima plant

TOKYO (Japan) — A robot will attempt to examine radioactive fuel at Japan's Fukushima nuclear plant on Wednesday in a complex operation seen as key to clean-up efforts after the 2011 meltdown.

The operation is intended to better assess the status of the melted fuel, including whether it is stable enough to be picked up for removal, or may crumble upon contact.

"The operation began at 7:00am local time and will last around five hours. So far no problems have been reported," a spokeswoman for the plant's operator TEPCO told AFP.

The operation is being carried out at the plant's reactor 2, one of three that melted down after a massive earthquake and tsunami in March 2011.

Robots have already peered inside the reactor to allow experts to assess the melted fuel visually, but Wednesday's test will be the first attempt to work out how fragile the highly radioactive material is. Removing the melted fuel is considered the most difficult part of the massive clean-up operation in the wake of the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl.

It is not expected to begin until 2021, and TEPCO has other issues to resolve including how to dispose of large quantities of contaminated water stored in containers at the plant site.

The March 2011 tsunami that caused the meltdown was triggered by a massive undersea quake and killed around 18,000 people.— AFP ■

UN eyes rule for automatic emergency braking systems in new cars

GENEVA (Switzerland) — Dozens of countries have come out in favour of fresh international regulation requiring all new cars and lighter motor vehicles to be equipped with automatic emergency braking systems, the UN said on Tuesday

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe said around 40 countries had so far agreed to a draft UN regulation for Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) in cars.

"This will significantly improve road safety, especially in cities, where in the European Union alone, over 9,500 fatalities were recorded in 2016, accounting for 38 per cent of all road deaths," UNECE said in a statement.

Using sensors, such systems monitor the proximity of a vehicle or pedestrian in front of the AEBS-equipped car.

In situations where the sensors indicate a collision is imminent, and the driver does not react to the system's warning alert, emergency braking is automatically applied to avoid a crash.

Such systems have been in use for a number of years in trucks and buses.

The new UN regulation would impose strict and internationally harmonised requirements for the use of AEBS at low speeds (up to 60 kilometres per hour), even in unpredictable traffic situations in urban areas.

The regulation would apply to all new cars, but also to vans and minibuses carrying fewer than nine passengers.

"With this regulation in force, most of existing systems will have to be updated to meet stricter requirements," UNECE said.

"AEBS are already available for some cars in some countries, but there were no standard technical requirements guaranteeing the effective performance of such systems so far," it added.

The draft regulation has been approved by a working group under UNECE's World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations, and will be submitted to the World Forum for formal adoption next June, it said.

Once adopted, the regulation should enter into force in early 2020.— AFP ■

Myanmar U-22 beat Ayeyawady United 1-0 in friendly match

IN a friendly match yesterday, the Myanmar U-22 national football team narrowly beat MNL stars Ayeyawady United F.C. by a single goal.

Both teams played well, and did their best, showcasing their dribbling skills from the start.

The score at the end of the first half was 0-0, with both teams needing better finishing.

Both teams made substitutions and changed tactics in the second half, resulting in more action on the field and an increase in scoring chances.

Overall, the Myanmar youth team dominated the second half, with strong counterattacks and a good defense.

With Myanmar switching to power play and making accurate passes, Ayeyawady was forced to change to a defensive style of play in the later minutes.

The Myanmar youth team got on the scoreboard with a beautiful goal by star player Win Naing Tun, who made the only goal in the match, which was also the winning goal, with a penalty shot at 72 minutes.

The remaining minutes of the second half expired after cautious play by both teams, and the match ended with a 1-0 win for the Myanmar team.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

A player from the Myanmar U-22 team (yellow) kicks the ball in yesterday's friendly match against Ayeyawady F.C. **PHOTO : MFF**

The Bogyoke Aung San Shield on display at the drawing ceremony of the tourney. **PHOTO : MFF**

Twenty teams to compete for Bogyoke Aung San Shield 2019

A total of 20 teams, including twelve teams from the Myanmar National League and eight teams from National League II, will be competing for the Bogyoke Aung San Shield 2019, according to the drawing ceremony for the tourney.

The ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Myanmar Football Federation in Yangon yesterday, and was attended by officials from the MFF and the MNL, players, and other officials.

The tourney will be held at three stadiums in Yangon: Aung San Stadium, Thuwunna Stadium, and Pandonmar Stadium.

The first stage of the tourney will start from 13 March, and the final match of the tourney will be held on 21 September, according to the drawing ceremony.

The first stage of the tourney will feature teams from League II, including Kachin United F.C., Myawady F.C., Royal Thanlyin F.C., University F.C., ISPE F.C., Chin United, Mawrawady F.C., Dagon F.C., Chin Land F.C., and Silver Stars F.C.

The second stage of the tourney will feature teams from the MNL, and will include highly-anticipated matches, such as the Ayeyawady United vs Yadanarbon F.C. match.

The first stage winner will take on teams from the second stage.

The defending champions of the tourney are Yangon United, while Shan United took the shield in 2017.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Nishikori rallies into 2nd round at Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM (Netherlands)—Japan's Kei Nishikori rallied from a one-set deficit to beat Pierre-Hugues Herbert on Tuesday and advance to the second round of the ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament.

Nishikori defeated the Frenchman 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 in his debut at Rotterdam Ahoy. The world No 7 is coming off a thigh injury that saw him withdraw from his Australian Open quarterfinal match three weeks ago against Serbian Novak Djokovic, who went on to claim a record seventh title in Melbourne.

"I'm not used to this surface, so I still need to make adjustments," Nishikori said of the indoor court. "I'm not able to play as I usually can, but I think I'll gradually get back into it."

"I'm not 100 percent yet, but it's the first match so it can't be helped." Herbert took a one-set lead after saving five break points in a 13-minute game at 3-3 and capitalizing on a string of errors by his opponent as Nishikori struggled on the unfamiliar court.

Kei Nishikori rallies from a one-set deficit to beat Pierre-Hugues Herbert on 12 February, 2019 to advance to the second round of the ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament in Rotterdam. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

But Nishikori bounced back in the second set, winning five straight games from 1-1 and prevailing in a decider to close out the 2 hour, 11 minute match.

"It wasn't easy, as he was playing good tennis and serving well," Nishikori said, according to the ATP. "I had a little bit of trouble with my return game and couldn't convert the important points. I just tried to play steady, as I wasn't playing bad, and I tried to stay aggressive."The 29-year-old will meet Ernests Gulbis for a place in the quarterfinals. Nishikori has won both previous matchups with the Latvian, most recently at last year's Wimbledon.

"(Gulbis) is not easy, especially indoors where he uses his great serve and aggressive play really well," Nishikori said. "I just need to stay focused and get used to the conditions a little bit more."—Kyodo News ■

Pele 'glad' Gordon Banks made legendary save

PARIS (France)—Pele said on Tuesday he was "glad" England goalkeeper Gordon Banks saved his header at the 1970 World Cup because it was the start of a lasting friendship between the two men.

Paying tribute to Banks who died on Monday at the age of 81, the Brazilian legend said that even now he cannot believe Banks managed to scoop away the header in Guadalajara's Estadio Jalisco."The save was one of the best I have ever seen—in real life and in all the thousands of games I have watched since," Pele, 78, said in a Facebook post."He came from nowhere and he did something I didn't feel was possible. He pushed my header, somehow, up and over."And I couldn't believe what I saw. Even now when I watch it, I can't believe it. I can't believe how he moved so far, so fast." Although Banks had played a key role when England win the World Cup in 1966, the save from Pele four years later came to define his career and the Brazilian said it created an unbreakable bond between the two men.

"So I am glad he saved my header—because that act was the start of a friendship between us that I will always treasure. Whenever we met, it was always like we had never been apart."I have great sadness in my heart today and I send condolences to the family he was so proud of."Rest in peace, my friend. Yes, you were a goalkeeper with magic. But you were also so much more. You were a fine human being."—AFP ■