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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 22, 6th Waxing of Kason 1381 ME www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com Thursday, 9 May 2019

Vice President U Henry Van Thio receives Dutch Ambassador

Vice President U Henry Van Thio holds talks with Dutch Ambassador Mr. Wouter Jurgens in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

VICE President U Henry Van Thio received Dutch Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Wouter Jurgens at the diplomatic hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They openly discussed the continuation of water resource management projects in collaboration with the Netherlands during the meeting.

Also present were Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Deputy Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Minister U Hla Kyaw, Mandalay Mayor Dr. Ye Lwin and other officials. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Biman plane skids off runway at Yangon Int'l Airport, 19 injured

A Biman Bangladesh aircraft carrying 29 passengers and 6 crew members skidded off the runway while trying to land in heavy rain and poor visibility at the Yangon International Airport yesterday evening, injuring 19 people on board, including the pilot.

"The plane skidded off while making a landing. There were no deaths, but some people were injured in the accident. The plane is badly damaged. We cannot go close to the plane now because oil is leaking from it. Firemen are on standby near the plane," an official with the airport told the Myanmar News Agency. Flight number BG 060, a Bombardier Dash-8/400 aircraft, from Dhaka skidded off the runway at 6:51 p.m. local time, while trying to land in heavy rain. SEE PAGE-6

Second Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar concludes

THE 2nd Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar, organized by Religions for Peace (RfP), entered its second day at the Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Participants first shared the suggestions from yesterday's discussion circles on different sectors.

Daw Aye Aye Myint, Rector, Yangon University of Education, shared five suggestions from the discussion circle on the education sector. Daw Angela Thaung of RfP shared 5 suggestions from the circle for equal rights and responsibilities of different races and minorities.

Daw San San Myint of RfP shared 11 suggestions from the women empowerment and inclusivity circle. Sayar Samuel from RfP detailed the 7 suggestions from the interacting with youth and child protection circle. And, RfP core member U Aye Lwin outlined the 7 challenges from the circle on defining characteristics of Rakhine State, uniqueness, and common challenges. Thereafter, they responded to questions from participants.

Later, Co-Moderator Rev Kosho Niwano of the International RfP in Japan and Moderator Prof. Dr. Din Syamsuddin of the International RfP in Indonesia shared their opinions on the results of the discussion circles. SEE PAGE-3

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 12th regular session holds its fourth-day meeting

THE fourth-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 12th regular session was convened yesterday, in the Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw, where substitution of a committee member was made, asterisk-marked questions were raised and answered, and a motion and a report were tabled.

Substitution of a committee member

During the Hluttaw session, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the approval of the substitution for committee members Col. Myint Cho with Col Win Lwin Oo as a member of the Women and Children's Rights Committee after obtaining the approval of the Hluttaw.

Asterisk-marked questions

In the asterisk-marked question session, Mongpan constituency U Sai Kyaw Moe raised the first question and asked if there was a plan for the civil servants from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population to construct a two-storey RC housing unit containing four compartments and which would be built in the plot of lands owned by the Ministry.

Union Minister U Thein Swe. **PHOTO : MNA**

MP Dr. Salai Riyanbel. **PHOTO : MNA**

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Thu. **PHOTO : MNA**

Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe replied that the Ministry has to implement the sector-wise prioritization due to the budget constraints. In doing so, the ministry took top priority to the construction of rooms for storing records and other offices, and the second priorities went to housing units for the civil servants. The budget allocation, to renovate and construct the building, would be requested and which would be implemented those processes once the funding request had been granted.

Dr. Salai Riyanbel of Falam constituency asked if there was a plan to open a police outpost or a police station in Varlone (Wayluwon Camp), Thesae Village-tract, Falam Township, Chin State. Regarding this query, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu replied that there was no need to open the police outpost for the time being now, due to good transportation and telecommunication conditions in the area. Police patrols led by Police sub-inspector Aung Kyaw Moe are being conducted for the restoration of rule of law and stability in the region.

Following this, Union Minister U Thein Swe and Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu answered the queries raised by Daw Phyu Phyu Thin of Mingala Taungnyunt constituency, U Toe Win of Tamway constituency, U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency and U Se Ki Kaw of Monghkat constituency respectively.

Tabling a motion

Next, U Tin Htwe of Waw constituency tabled a motion urging the Union Government to draw up short and long-term projects based on cultivator-oriented agriculture and fishery production, which aimed at promoting economic development. He said that it was high time for the government to boost the power of domestic productivity aiming to stop trade deficits in the country. Myanmar is a country abundant of land, water and labour resources. He also urged the government that arrangements should be made to penetrate the good-quality saplings and seeds in the market while promoting the fishery sectors in the rural area. With a view to fostering the development of the socio-economic life of the people in rural areas, endeavors should be made to carry out these processes.

Next, U Zaw Win of Kyimyindine constituency submitted the motion to make a discussion. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw's agreement to accept and discuss the motion after obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw and also announced for Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the motion to register their names.

Afterwards, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker informed the Hluttaw of receiving the Myanmar Insolvency Bill approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments and Secretary of the Bill Committee U Kyaw Soe Lin submitted the report. Following this, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced for the Hluttaw representatives who wished to discuss the motion to register their names.

The fifth-day meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw's twelth regular session will be held on 10 May, it was learnt.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA) ■ *(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*

Amyotha Hluttaw

MP calls attention to absence of oil spill laws in Amyotha Hluttaw

MP U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5 tabled a motion urging for enactment of new laws to prevent marine environmental pollutions at the 4th-day meeting of the 12th Regular Session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday.

Lack of oil spill laws

The MP discussed that even though Myanmar is party to Annex (I) with the International Maritime Organization, we do not have any laws addressing demage from oil spills. He urged the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and the Ministry of Transport and Communications to swiftly collaborate on this matter for the benefit of the nation and the people.

MP U Maung Maung Ohn's motion concerned putting in place preventive measures, laws and directives to protect the natural ecosystems and businesses

MP U Maung Maung Ohn. **PHOTO : MNA**

MP U Myo Htep (a) Salai Myo. **PHOTO : MNA**

Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe. **PHOTO : MNA**

in all states and regions of Myanmar that are located along the coastline. But it also highlighted the 300,000-ton oil tankers currently passing through Made Island deep sea port in Rakhine State.

These tankers transport crude oil that will be delivered to China through a pipeline and MP U Maung Maung Ohn pointed out that the enormous sea vessels can have an accident any time that may result in heavy oil pollution.

No laws means no compensation

The MP said in the case of oil spills international protocol dictates that the vessel owner and their insurance company follow the laws of the country where the incident occurred when paying compensation. But since Myanmar does not have any laws related to oil spills, it will be impossible to press charges nor receive and compensation, said MP U Maung Maung Ohn. He added that vessels normally need to have USD1 billion in insurance to be able to compensate for oil spills.

There are two oil and gas pipelines in Rakhine State that deliver approximately 22 million tons of crude oil every year. The two pipelines are operated by SEAGP, a Hong Kong-based company co-founded by Chinese CNPC-SEAP and Myanmar's MOGE. These two pipeline projects receive six to seven oil tankers a month, which is about 70 tankers a year, and accidents related to them can occur at any time, said MP U Maung Maung Ohn.

Future oil-related projects

He added that the natural gas turbine generator project is about to begin in Shwe Taung Yan Mee Lin Chaing area, Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Region, and will see LNG carriers from Swiss-based Clearlake Shipping Co. entering Myanmar's waters. This, he said, will increase the chances for disasterous oil spills and its dire consequences which includes oil spills occurring in Myanmar's waters to spread to neighbouring countries.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker then called for the deliberation of the Hluttaw, gained approval, and asked for MPs interested in discussing the motion to register their names.

SEE PAGE-4

We have much to carry on fulfilling the hopes and needs of the people of the country. We must press on until our citizens have their dignity raised and our country can retain its former glory on the global stage.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)

Let us strive collectively for the emergence of a just and free nation– a nation which will guarantee equal rights and equality, a nation which practices a pure ideology.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

Second Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation ...

FROM PAGE-1

Next, the Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture, Thura U Aung Ko, said it was important to implement the suggestions from the second advisory forum within the designated timeframe.

Afterwards, RfP Patron Cardinal Charles Bo, RfP Chairman U Myint Swe, and the Honorary President of International RfP, Bishop Gunnar Stålsett, delivered the closing speeches and concluded the forum.

The suggestions produced from the discussion circles will be sent to the relevant authorities for implementation.

U Seindita, the abbot of Asia Light monastery in Pyin Oo Lwin, and Sayadaws, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Chairman U Win Mra, departmental officials, officials of RfP, and representatives of RfP groups from the states and regions attended the last day of the advisory forum. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

The 2nd Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar held its second day in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union LIP Minister discusses e-ID with Austria's Deputy Head of Mission

THE Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population, U Thein Swe, received a delegation led by Ms. Judith Schildberger, the Deputy Head of Mission at the Austrian Embassy in Bangkok, at his ministry's meeting room in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During their meeting, the two sides discussed the tasks for collecting the biographic and biometric data of citizens and issuing Unique IDs, and the discussions held between the Union Minister and the Austrian Ambassador in March regarding collaboration on this matter.

They discussed the State Counsellor's meeting with the Prime Minister of Austria in China around April and how they talked about the different stages of the UID Project, funding programs and tasks.

They also discussed conducting close negotiations between the governments of Myanmar and Austria concerning Austria's likelihood to fully share it's UID technologies and the implementation of e-ID in Myanmar. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister U Thein Swe holds the meeting with Austria's Deputy Head of Mission, Ms. Judith Schildberger, concerning the national e-ID system at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

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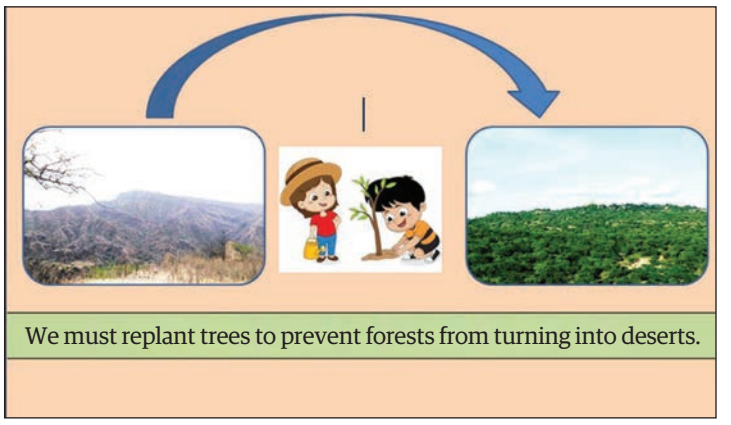

We must replant trees to prevent forests from turning into deserts.

35 detainees released after no link found with AA

OF the 275 people suspected of being connected with the AA group and detained at a school in Kyauktan Village, Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State, most were released on 2,6, and 8 May after interrogators found no link between them and the armed group, according to the Office of the Commander-in Chief of Defence Services.

While 126 people were freed on 2 May, 48 were released on 6 May. They had been detained at the school by the Tatmadaw and the Myanmar Police Force for interrogation.

Thirty-five detainees were released yesterday in the presence of local people and departmental officials.

Of the remaining 83 suspects who were four villagers identified as Thein Aye Maung, Soe Win Kyaw, Maung Maung Hlaing, and Nyi Nyi Htay confessed to being members of the AA.

They have been transferred to Sittway with two other suspects and legal action will be taken against them, according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Forty-three villagers remain in custody and are awaiting further investigation, according to the military release.—MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw receives Ambassador of Laos

Speaker U T Khun Myat receives Laotian Ambassador Mr. Heuangseng Khamdalavong in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

SPEAKER of Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat received the Ambassador of Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mr. Heuangseng Khamdalavong at the Pyithu Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw. At the meeting, they discussed the matters concerning bilateral friendship and cooperation between two countries.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Europe Day celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw

UEC Chairman, Union Ministers, government officials, Hluttaw representatives and Ambassadors pose for a commemorative photo at the Europe Day 2019 reception in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

A reception to observe the Europe Day was held at the M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein, Union Ministers Dr. Pe Myint, U Win Khaing, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, U Thaung Tun and U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo, Hluttaw representatives, ambassadors, officials from the embassies, departmental heads and invited guests attended.

First, the national anthem of Myanmar and the European Union anthem were played at the reception to start the celebration.

Next, the ceremony proceeded with welcoming remarks by Union Minister U Thaung Tun and EU Ambassador Mr. Kristian Schmidt.

Following this, the UEC Chairman, Union ministers, EU ambassador and attendees posed for commemorative photographs together and took part in the dinner reception. —MNA ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

MP calls attention to absence of oil spill laws in Amyotha Hluttaw

FROM PAGE-2

Health & Sports Minister replies to questions

Next, U Myo Htet (a) Salai Myo of Chin State constituency 12 raised a question asking whether the Rural Health sub-centre in Wat Ma village, Paletwa Township, Chin State, will be upgraded to centre level.

Dr. Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports, replied that they have petitioned plans for upgrading Wat Ma rural health centre to various ministry departments and will follow submit the plans at the Union Government meeting if they receive approvals.

Next, U Kyaw Thaung of Sagaing Region constituency 1 raised a question asking if there are plans to upgrade the rural health sub-centre in Twin Gyi village-tract, Myaung Township, Sagaing Region, to centre level.

Dr. Myint Htwe replied there were no plans to upgrade the sub-department as it is only two miles far from Ma KyeeBote station hospital and Ma KyeeBote rural healthcare sub-department and upgrading it would reduce the coverage area of the Ma KyeeBote department.

Next, Dr. Myint Htwe replied to questions raised by U Thein Swe of Ayeyawady Region constituency 10, Daw Thiri Yadanar of Mon State constituency 12, and U Hla Oo of Sagaing Region constituency 4.

Following this, the Speaker announced that the Bill Committee has submitted the '2019 Bill to Amend the Myanmar Investment Law' and since there are no MPs who have registered to discuss the bill, each passage of it will be read to the Hluttaw for approval.

U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, tabled a motion to improve the bill and U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi Region constituency 7 seconded the motion.

The Speaker gathered the deliberation of the Hluttaw and announced the bill as approved. —Mawsi, Lu Maw ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister receives outgoing Chinese Ambassador

Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information, received outgoing Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Hong Liang, at his office yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed the matters concerning the promotion of bilateral friendship between the two countries.

Afterwards, the Chinese embassy donated 456 copies of book named *'The governance of China' by President Xi Jinping*, to the ministry's libraries. The Ambassador explained the reason for donating the books and the Union Minister presented the Certificate of Honour.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint shakes hands with outgoing Chinese Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice Senior General Soe Win receives Swiss Ambassador

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice Senior General Soe Win received Swiss Ambassador.Mr.Tim Enderlin and entourage at Bayinnaung guest hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

According to the Office of the Commander-inChief of Defence Services, during the meeting, they discussed the matters concerning current status of humanitarian assistance given to conflict areas, the support, given by Swiss Government to Myanmar government for democratic transitional process and peace process, and current status of DDR training.—MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Vice Senior General Soe Win holds meeting with Swiss Ambassador Mr. Tim Enderlin in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Hluttaw Intranet (Share Point) System launched

THE Hluttaw Intranet (Share Point) System was launched yesterday at Thabin Hall in the Hluttaw premises.

Present at the event were Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw U Tun Tun Hein, Hluttaw representatives, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win, Secretary of e-Government Steering Committee, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Tha Oo, Project Director of Public Finance Management Project, UNDP Programme Advisor and Chief of Unit Mr Joerg Stahlhut, Secretary of e-Government Implementation Work Committee, Union Ministries' CIOs and ACIOs, in-charges of Implementation Agency offices, Hluttaw staff and Hluttaw support groups.

At the event, U Tun Tun Hein said this is the event of launching Hluttaw Intranet (Share Point) which is a system of e-Parliament that will allow Hluttaw representatives to perform their tasks easier and quicker.

He said cooperation and upgrading technologies plays an important role to accelerate the duty and functions of the Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw Intranet (Share Point) system that can manage important documents including recording Hluttaw information, meeting minutes, decisions and reports will assist Hluttaw representatives in their Hluttaw legislation works, said the Deputy Speaker.

He then urged the Hluttaw representatives to cooperate on the system used by themselves to succeed in the Hluttaw tasks. He also urged everyone to cooperate seriously, aiming at upgrading the Hluttaw to an e-Parliament.

Then, UNDP Programme Advisor, Chief of Unit, Mr Joerg Stahlhut delivered a speech, and the messages of President and Secretary General of Inter-Parliamentary Union were read.

Then, Deputy Director-General of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office U Aung Min Thu (CIO) explained about the Hluttaw intranet system.

Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister U Tha Oo and UNDP Programme Advisor, Mr Joerg Stahlhut launched the Hluttaw intranet (Share Point) system. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein poses for a documentary photo with officials at the launch of the Hluttaw Intranet System in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

An RCSS/SSA member cuts open a confiscated packet containg illegal drugs in front of a police officer in Maing Tine. **PHOTO: MNA**

RCSS/SSA hands over confiscated drug to police in Mongton

Restoration Council Shan State/ Shan State Army in eastern Shan State Mongsat District, handed over 30 kilogram of Ice confiscated, to local Police force on 8 May.

At the Event, handing over of the drug to No. 29 Anti-narcotic Task Force Police Major Win Zaw followed the narrative by RCSS/SSA so as to how the drug was confiscated.

Then, Police Lt. Col Saw Zeyar Lin delivered words of appreciation.

It was reported that the drug mention above was confiscated during the standoff between RCSS/SSA and drug traffickers.

A group of 12 headed by Sai Tun Hla (RCSS/SSA) confronted the drug trafficker resulted in a stand off.

At the end of it, 30 kilogram of ice was confiscated but they didn't manage to capture the traffickers.— MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Workshop on tackling disinformation, hate speech in Myanmar, empowering women candidates for 2020 Elections held in Nay Pyi Taw

A Workshop on tackling disinformation and hate speech in Myanmar: empowering women candidates for 2020 Elections was held, yesterday, at the Grand Amara Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw. Chairman of Union Election Commission (UEC) U Hla Thein delivered an opening remark at the event.

The workshop was jointly conducted by the UEC, International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) and National Democratic Institute (IDI) and which was attended by members of UEC, Hluttaw representatives, women Hluttaw representatives, members of relevant regions/states UEC sub-commissions, election officials, director-general of commission office, office staff, representatives from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, political parties, CSOs and INGOs.

In his opening remarks at the event, UEC Chairman U Hla Thein said that the 2020 Election would be held with applying a five-point standards.

When it came to the time of election campaign, it was needed to avoid spreading hate speech and disinformation among one another. It was learnt that there was no complaints in the previous election although there remained the use of hate speech.

In conformity with all the political parties, Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates had been set up on 15 May, 2015. Moreover, promises were kept to avoid defamation, criticizing, wrongful and groundless accusations, and discrimination of religion, race and similar abuses among the parties. The UEC has been making an attempt to draw up a grand strategy for 2019-2020 and which aimed at empowering the women, ethnic races and invalids while taking into account of dealing with all stakeholders.

There had been a total of 6,038 election candidates from 91 political parties in the 2015 General Election. Out of 793 women election candidates, there were some 151 women candidates who won the election. When it came to assigning the duties to the poll masters and their teams, efforts had been made to empower the role of women. Then attendees took part in the discussion and they discussed effective ways to combat the hate speech and misinformation, gender equality in the elections and women empowerment issues, it was learnt. — MNA *(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)*

Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein addresses the workshop on empowering women candidates for the 2020 elections in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Biman plane skids off runway at Yangon Int'l Airport, 19 injured

FROM PAGE-1

The body and two wings of the plane belonging to the Biman Bangladesh Airlines were damaged in the crash.

After the accident, runway operations were suspended according to Air Traffic Control procedures and incoming flights were diverted to Nay Pyi Taw and Chiang Mai.

The plane was carrying 29 passengers — one from Canada, three from China, one from Denmark, one from France, two from the United Kingdom, one from India, one from Switzerland, 16 from Bangladesh, and three Myanmar nationals.— Zaw Gyi (Panita)

(Translated by GNLM)

The Biman plane lying on the grass near the runway of Yangon International Airport. **PHOTO PE ZAW**

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Union Minister U Ohn Win holds a meeting with Swiss Ambassador Mr. Tim Enderlin in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union NREC Minister receives Swiss Ambassador

Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, U Ohn Win, received Swiss Ambassador, Mr. Tim Enderlin, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, works on implementing the Myanmar National Land Use, Policy, establishing the National Land Use Council together with supporting committees, drafting the national land law, working processes in accordance with national map system, priority areas for strategic plan (2018-2030) on weather changing, increasing man power for assessment on reports for environmental issues and other collaborative works were cordially discussed.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Three arrested for trying to mail over 1.3 kg of drugs

THREE women were arrested after they reportedly tried to ship 70 packets of methamphetamine, weighing 1.32 kg, to another country using the express mail service at the Yangon General Post Office on 7 May.

Customs officials at the post office reportedly found white methamphetamine crystals, worth over K105 million, while inspecting the shipment.

The three women, identified as Su Sandar Tun, Kham Thiri Aung, and Yin Mya, were handed over to the police, who are continuing their investigations in the case. — MNA

Comparison table for tourist entry via international airports and border gates

Sr	International airports and border gates	April 2018		April 2019		Remark
		Tourist	Business	Tourist	business	
1.	Yangon Airport/ Sea Port	24287	16187	42514	16493	
2.	Mandalay Airport	4067	3361	21572	4242	
3.	Nay Pyi Taw Airport	236	198	136	228	
4.	Myeik Airport	32	21	0	0	
5.	Tachilek	495	119	4315	502	
6.	Myawady	1229	375	1424	1245	
7.	Kawthoung	643	99	630	60	
8.	Hteekhee	62	26	49	58	
9.	Tamu	147	6	269	16	
10.	Reedhorda	0	0	239	4	
Total		31198	20392	71148	22848	

Comparison table for tourist entry via international airports, sea ports and border gates

Sr	Month	2017-2018 financial year			2018-2019 financial year		
		Tourist	Business	Total	Tourist	Business	Total
1.	October	46693	21253	67946	52647	21005	73652
2.	November	63529	21828	85357	77498	21482	98980
3.	December	63522	19619	83141	82474	19538	102012
4.	January	61123	20485	81608	93125	18689	111814
5.	February	57450	18581	76031	100145	23949	124094
6.	March	51461	25650	77111	95932	23693	119625
7.	April	31198	20392	51590	71148	22848	93996
Total		374976	147808	522784	572969	151204	724173

Yangon observes World Red Cross and Crescent Day

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein hands over a certificate of honor to a donor to the Red Cross Society. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNDER the supervision of Myanmar Red Cross Society, a celebration of the World Red Cross and Crescent Day was held by the Yangon Region Red Cross Supervisory Committee (YRRCSC), at the University of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Road in Yangon yesterday.

During the event, Patron of the YRRCSC and Chief Minister of Yangon Region said that Red Cross Society is shouldering such undertaking with the noble spirit of saving everyone in trouble and in times of catastrophe. He also told to develop Red cross sector by the spirit of stewardship.

He added that the reason for such celebration is to ignite youth interest in the humanitarian works and to produce the Red Cross societies on township level.

Afterwards, YRRCSC Chairperson Dr. Daw Hla Kyin read a message of congratulation from President of Myanmar Red cross Society Prof. Dr. Daw Mya Thu.

Then, Chief Minister of Yangon presented certificate of honour to donors and Speaker of regional Hluttaw U Tin Mg Tun presented prizes to outstanding township red cross societies.

Afterwards, Chief Minister U Phyo Myin Thein and attendees visited the booth staged at the World Red Cross Day event.

Then, YRRCSC Chairman, Vice Chairman and district managers presented prizes to Deploy team Members to Rakhine state and outstanding members.

YRRCSC Chairperson said that she wanted to congratulate the member on being compassionate people and to express their performance to motivate them. —MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

ASEAN Work Plan on Sports reviewed in Nay Pyi Taw

A Mid-term Review Validation Workshop on the ASEAN Work Plan on Sports 2016-2020 was held yesterday at the Kempinski Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein acted as the chairperson for the workshop and delivered the opening speech.

The workshop was also attended by the Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department, U Myo Hlaing, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports, U Mya Than Htike, and officials and sports representatives from ASEAN countries. During the workshop, Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein said that sports is an essential part of our lives and has a positive impact on diplomatic ties. Sports plays a vital role in uniting people from different cultures, races, and countries, the Deputy Minister said.

Deputy Health and Sports Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein addresses the Mid-term Review Validation Workshop on the ASEAN Work Plan on Sports 2016-2020 in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

The program for development of sports in help raise ASEAN sports to the international level, and the workshop would review the work plan on sports, she added.

Thereafter, representatives from ASEAN countries took documentary photos, and Director-General U Myo Hlaing gave the welcoming speech.

Then, ten representatives from ASEAN countries discussed holding traditional sports tournaments for the ASEAN region, conducting courses for coaches, volunteering in sports, agendas for holding SEA Games, collaboration in sports with non-ASEAN countries like Japan, and appointing sports ambassadors and specialists for the ASEAN and ASEAN's Physical Fitness Indicators (APFI).

The workshop is being held from 7 to 9 May in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*

Foster culture of dialogue to build a peaceful, prosperous society

MYANMAR presents a rich tapestry of different people, languages, and religions, woven on the backdrop of vast natural potential. We are working on bringing out the beauty of our diversity and making it our strength by protecting rights, fostering tolerance, and ensuring security of all.

Today, we are facing many challenges and each challenge calls for strength, patience, and courage.

To overcome the challenges, we need to establish mutual understanding and respect between different religions and diverse people.

Only then can we reach our goal of a peaceful, secure, and flourishing human society.

> The human society is threatened by acts of terrorism from extremist religious groups and is suffering from wars, conflicts, and climate change.

All religions have teachings, instructions, and guidelines that are beneficial for human society and peace. Religions promote justice, human culture, and human dignity. Religious teachings make people mature and kind and give them peace.

Today's religious leaders are following the teachings of their religion and striving towards establishing a harmonious and peaceful human society, and developing and strengthening world peace and security.

It was encouraging to see representatives from the Interfaith Friendship and Unity Group (Myanmar) gathered in Nay Pyi Taw over the last two days to seek ways to overcome difficulties faced in the democratic transition, eliminate conflicts and achieve peace, and establish an open door economic system based on duty and responsibility of the international society.

The human society is threatened by acts of terrorism from extremist religious groups and is suffering from wars, conflicts, and climate change.

The Nay Pyi Taw forum also examined the responsibility and power to provide benefit by the belief, ethics, and social and cultural guidelines of each religion in Myanmar.

We need to foster such intercultural interaction in order to build a harmonious and peaceful society.

We would like to urge everyone to cooperate in nation-building works, in accordance with the teachings of their respective religions and practice mutual understanding to prevent outbreaks of religious conflicts, in order to establish a stable and peaceful social life in Myanmar, where many people from diverse religions live. We must also provide assistance, care, and rehabilitation to those affected by conflicts.

The road to peace is not always smooth, but it is the only way that will lead our people to their dream of a just and prosperous land, which will be their refuge, their pride, their joy.

Each age in the life of a nation brings its own responsibilities, just like a people have to bear the legacies of their collective past.

The road ahead is long, but we will walk on it with confidence, trusting in the power of peace, love, and joy.

■■■

Magnificent Indawgyi Lake aspiring to be inscribed as Geopark

Than Htun (Myanmar Geosciences Society)

SINCE 2017 Myanmar Geosciences Society has been striving to establish National and Global Geoparks in Myanmar. There are about 10 potential areas, which are mainly based on Conservation areas of Forest Department, for upgrading Geopark. Mout Popa National Geopark is now underway. Reviewing the significant information for Monywa Twintaung Aspiring Geopark has been completed and assessment for the remaining potential Geoparks are being carried out.

Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development. A Global Geopark uses its geological heritage, in connection with all other aspects of the area's natural and cultural heritage, to enhance awareness and understanding of key issues facing society, such as using our Earth's resources sustainably, mitigating the effects of climate change and reducing the impact of natural disasters. By raising awareness of the importance of the area's geological heritage in history and society today, Global Geoparks give local people a sense of pride in their region and strengthen their identification with the area. The creation of innovative local enterprises, new jobs and high quality training courses is stimulated as new sources of revenue are generated through geotourism, while the geological resources of the area are protected.

Indawgyi Lake Geopark

Kachin State is the northernmost state of Myanmar. It is bordered by China to the north (Tibet) and east (Yunnan), Shan State to the south; and Sagaing Region and India to the west. It lies between north latitude 23° 27' and 28° 25' longitude 96° 0' and 98° 44'. The area of Kachin State is 89,041 km2 (34,379 sq mi). The capital of the state is Myitkyina. Other significant towns include Bhamo, Mohnyin, Hopin and Putao.

The magnificent Indawgyi Lake in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, is the third largest freshwater lake in Southeast Asia and the biggest natural lake in Myanmar. It is highly predominated with significant natural, biological and geological heritages. Indawgyi Lake is unique and rich in biodiversity, beautiful landscape and sceneries, traditional culture and historic religious sites and various mineral resources. It lies between 25°5′N and 25°20′North latitude and 96°18′ and 96°25′East longitude, and is a fine stretch of water measuring about 16 miles by 7 miles at its widest part. The Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary enjoys about 546 feet above the sea level.

Indawgyi Pagoda at Indawgyi Lake, one of the largest inland lakes in Southeast Asia. **PHOTO: MAUNG CHIT LIN (INDAW)**

History

Traditional Kachin society was based on shifting hill agriculture. According to "*The Political Systems of Highland Burma: A Study of Kachin Social Structure*", written by E. R. Leach, Kachin was not a linguistic category. Political authority was based on chieftains who depended on support from immediate kinsmen. Considerable attention has been given by anthropologists of the Kachin custom of maternal cousin marriage, wherein it is permissible for a man to marry his mother's brother's daughter, but not with the father's sister's daughter. In pre-colonial times, the Kachin were animist. The vast mountainous hinterlands are predominantly Kachin, whereas the more densely populated railway corridor and southern valleys are mostly Shan and Barmar. Before the British rule, roughly 75% of all Kachin jadeite ended up in China, where it was prized much more highly than the local Chinese nephrite. Kachin troops formerly formed a significant part of the Burmese army. With the unilateral abrogation of the Union of Burma constitution by the General Ne Win regime in 1962, Kachin forces withdrew and formed the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) under the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO).

> By raising awareness of the importance of the area's geological heritage in history and society today, Global Geoparks give local people a sense of pride in their region and strengthen their identification with the area.

Accessibility

Kachin State is served by the three airports Bhamo Airport, Myitkyina Airport and Putao Airport. There is a railroad between Myitkyina and Mandalay via Sagaing. The train will take 21–30 hours from Mandalay to Myitkyina. Indawgyi Lake can be reached by train from Myitkyina via Hopin and it will take about 5 hours for 107 miles. Again, from Hopin to Lonton Village at Indawgyi Lake by private taxi or by motorbike and it will take 2 hours for 27 miles. The daily train and bus services are available from Yangon or Mandalay to Indawgyi Lake via Hopin the nearest town. Lonton has been upgraded as a new township of Mohnyin District recently.

Inhabitant

The majority of the state's inhabitants are ethnic Kachin. The Kachin group has six tribes or subdivisions: Jinghpaw, Lisu, Rawang, Lachid, Zaiwa and Lhaovo. The word "Jinghpo Wunpong," which means "Strong and United Human Beings", also represents the six Kachin tribes. The region is also home to a number of Shan and a small number of Tibetans. There are 11 village tracts and 33 villages around Indawgyi Lake. The major ethnic groups living in the area are Shan and Kachin, who are mainly are farmers.

Population, religion and language

According to the 2014 Myanmar Census the population of Kachin State is about 1,689, 441. Christianity is one of the main religion for Kachin people in Kachin State. Buddhism is the major religion among Burmese and Shan in Kachin State. The Jingpho language was the traditional language of the area and the Barmar people were a minority in Kachin State before the independence of Burma from the British, but after 1948, groups of Burmese came to Kachin State to settle down so that offices could be run with the Burmese language. Some Kachin tribes speak and write their own language: the Zaiwa, the Rawang, and the Lisu, who speak both the Lisu language and the Lipo language.

Physiography

Kachin State has Myanmar's highest mountain, Hkakabo Razi (5,889 metres (19,321 ft)), forming the southern tip of the Himalayas, and the largest inland lake, Indawgyi Lake. Kachin State is famous for its high quality jadeite deposits which extended to Mawlu and Maw Han to the south and Hkamti district to the west. There are many types of lakes and they are classified according to their mode of origin. The principal types are tectonic, glacial, volcanic, river-formed and solution lakes.Tectonic lakes are formed by differential movements of the earth's crust. They generally have elongated form, steep sides and great depths. The Dead Sea is a famous tectonic lake and Indawgyi, Myanmar's largest lake is another good example (Dr. Nyi Nyi, 1964). The Indawgyi Lake occupies a depression hemmed by low ranges of thickly hills on the south, west and east, and has an outlet on the north by the Indaw river, a tributary of NamKawng or Mogaung River. Other streams that flow into it are the Nam Sanda, the Nampade, the Nampaungshin, the Namyang, the Nam Mawn, the Nam-ma, the Long Jum, the Nammawkkam and the Moso. According to the tradition the lake was formed by an earthquake and submerged a Shan town. It is most probably of tectonic origin (Chhibber,1934).

Economy

The economy of Kachin State is predominantly agricultural. The main products include rice, teak, sugar cane, opium. Mineral products include gold and jade. Hpakan is a well known place for its jade mines. Over 600 tons of jade stones were exploited from Lone-Khin area in Hpakan Township in Kachine State. Most of the jade stones extracted in Myanmar, 25,795 tons in 2009–10 and 32,921 tons in 2008–09, are from Kachin State. The largest jade stone in the world, 3000 tons, 21 metres long, 4.8 metres wide and 10.5 metres high was found in Hpakan in 2000. There occurred frequently mine accidents and pollution in jade mine area.

Geology of Indawgyi Lake and surrounding area

Due to various reason no detailed geology around Indawgyi Lake has been done as yet but some potential areas for economic mineral deposits were investigated by Department of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration, foreign joint venture companies and various local Universities. Indawgyi Lake lies about 70km south-southeast of the famous Hpakant jadeite deposits. Gabbros and occurrences of Platinum Group Elements in placers were known from southwest of the lake prior to the first geological surveys in the area in 1959 (A.H.G. Mitchell, 2018). Beginning in 19191, photogeological mapping was carried out by DGSE in the Nansakyin-Ngagyan area covering about 320sq.km. Within this area the DGSE exploration was later concentrated within an 80sq,km block in which gabbro is separated from variably serpentinized peridorite to the west by a 2-km-wide northeast-trending belt of schists, with the wide alluvial valley of the Namsang River lying to the west of the serpentinite. Within the 80sq.km block a 4sq.km area in gabbro and schist northwest of Ngagyan Peak was subjected to a more detailed exploration for PGEs. Metamorphic rocks in this area are described as chlorite schists, epidote-actinolite schists, and mica schist with minor gneiss, intruded by gabbro dykes. Diabase dykes intrude both the schist and gabbro. In the late 1990s Soe Thura Tun carried out geological mapping over a 200sq.km area centered on Lagyan (Ngagyan) Peak 15km west of Indawgyi Lake and within the central and eastern part of the 320sq.km Nansakyin-Ngagyan area. During 1996-1998 Leeward Tiger Company from Canada which is Joint Venture exploration programme with DGSE had done PGEs prospecting and exploration in the m,above DGSE area.

Metamorphic rocks are exposed at north of Maing Pok village and western part of the area and composed of schist, gneiss and phyllite. These rocks seem to be the oldest and Mesozoic in age. Igneous rocks of the area is related to those of Taung Thone Lone area and mainly course and medium grained igneous rocks. The microdiorites are observed west of upper Namyin stream west of Mong Pok Village. Due to its hardness it was formed as a mountain range. Dark grey dirorite are occurred around Nam Yin Hka stream and consists of coarse grained olivine and pyroxene. Gabbros could be observed between Maing Pok and Nam Tin Hka stream and west of Lonton and Nammilaung Villages. Gabbros are coarse grained and rich in ferromagnesium minerals. Perridotites are scattered in the area west of Maing Pok Village. The small outcrops of granite occur southwest of Nammilaung Village. Vesicular basalts are observed in the gravel west of Maing Naung Village. Wabochaung sandstone formation exposed in the surrounding areas of Maing Naung and Nam Mon Villages. Most of sandstones are massive type deposits and a few are with bedded character. The age of Wabochaung sandstones are regarded as Tertiary in age.

(To be continued)

Festivalgoers seen at Shwe Mitsu Pagoda located on an island in the lake. **PHOTO: MAUNG CHIT LIN (INDAW)**

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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.

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Training, research program on development of fish, shrimp farming opened

FOLLOWING a MoU between the Institute of Business Economics Research and Development (IBERD) Foundation of Thailand and the Rakhine State Government for sustainable development projects in Rakhine State at the Rakhine State Investment Fair, a training and research program on development of fish and shrimp farming was inaugurated yesterday at the Sittway Hotel.

At the opening ceremony for the program, U Kyaw Aye Thein, the Rakhine State Minister for Finance, Taxation, Planning, and Commerce said the state government, in collaboration with Thailand's IBERD, will conduct training programs to improve the fish and shrimp farming industry, undertake research programs to develop a Rakhine farming model, and provide practical demonstrations in potential areas, along with aquacultural governance.

The opening ceremony of training and research program on development of fish and shrimp farming on Rakhine Model 2019 held in Sittway, Rakhine yesterday. **PHOTO: TIN TUN (IPRD)**

At present, farmers need to shift from the traditional saltwater shrimp farming method to an advanced one, he said, and encouraged shrimp entrepreneurs to share their technical know-how, experiences, and production challenges.

"Businesspersons attending the course need to apply the lessons learned to develop fish and shrimp farming. The Rakhine State Government will contribute to the development of fish and shrimp farming as much as it can," he said.

Afterwards, Mrs. Natee Chuansanit from IBERD explained the objectives behind the training program. Officials from the Rakhine State Fisheries Department and 70 shrimp breeders attended the program. Livestock experts from Thailand's IBERD will offer a three-day intensive course, including practical sessions, under the program.—Tin Tun (IPRD) ■ *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

One-stop service planned to ease land use application process

By Aye Yamone

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation will submit a proposal for a one-stop service for dealing with all matters related to land use so that small livestock farmers can get legal ownership of land and have better access to finance.

At present, the process of converting farmland and putting it to other uses is running into unnecessary delays, according to the Ministry. The delays are causing difficulties to small-scale livestock farmers applying for land use permits. To make the application process simpler, the Ministry will submit a proposal on matters concerning land use, such as applications for land use and converting farmland into land that can be used for purposes other than livestock breeding

"In efforts towards making livestock farming more organized, delays in processing of land use applications is posing a major problem to farmers. The Ministry is making the necessary arrangements to resolve the issue," said Dr. Khin Zaw, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation. "The livestock sector plays an important role in economic development. The sector also helps ensure food sufficiency. Therefore, the application process should be streamlined and freed from all bottlenecks," he said.

Fish farmers who are engaged in the business on a small scale must be given priority when issuing LaNa-39 forms, which allow land to be used for purposes other than livestock breeding, according to entrepreneurs engaged in fish breeding.

"Some people complain of smell from fish farming. Some even make complaints out of sheer jealousy because they haven't been granted the land legally. Some complain because they can't extend the premises of their homes. So, our livestock farmers are facing great difficulty, and there is a dire need to solve these problems," said Dr. Kyaw Htin, chairman, Mandalay Region Livestock Federation.

"Most livestock farmers are conducting their business without holding land use rights. Therefore, the related ministry should simplify the land use application process to help farmers," he said.

"Some livestock farmers are breeding fish on their ancestral land and have applied for LaNa-39 forms. But, they haven't received the forms yet. So, they cannot get loans and are finding it difficult to develop their business," he said.

Currently, there are nearly 500,000 acres of fish and prawn breeding farms across the country, of which, more than 300,000 acres of farms are operating illegally. So, the authorities must scrutinize the application process for LaNa-39 forms, he added. ■ *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

Over 100 outbreaks of fire reported in Sagaing Region in 2018-2019 FY

A total of 108 cases of outbreak of fire were reported in Sagaing Region as of end of March in 2018-2019 fiscal year, causing an estimated loss amounting to Ks 73,224,400 in regard to property damage, according to the official statistics of the Sagaing Region Fire Services Department.

"Most of the outbreaks of fire are attributed to the overheated electric inverters which are overused because of the extremely hot weather these days. Therefore, most of the people are using the electrical appliances on a very large scale. People should use them carefully whether they are using the electric stoves or the gas-used stoves and/or ovens," said U Nyi Nyi Zaw, the Assistant Director of Monywa District Fire Services Department.

In 2018-2019 FY, the majority of the cases of outbreaks of fire were attributed to the negligent acts of the users. Over 100 cases of outbreak of fire were caused by negligence, short electric circuit, kitchen fires, arsons and forest fires. Among 108 cases of fire, 35 occurred in Monywa, 13 in Sagaing, 15 in Shwebo, 11 in Katha, nine in Yinmabin, seven in Kalay, three in Tamu, three in Mawlaik, five in Khamti and eight in Kanbalu townships respectively.—Win Oo (Zeyartine) ■ *(Translated by Hay Mar)*

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

Trade deficit shrinks to $700 mln as imports decline

A fall in imports in the past seven months of the fiscal year has helped narrow Myanmar's trade deficit to US$700 million, a significant drop from a deficit of $2.4 billion registered in the corresponding period of the 2017-2018 FY, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce.

Between 1 October, 2018 and 26 April, 2019, Myanmar's external trade increased to $19.9 billion from $19.2 billion recorded in the same period of the previous FY.

For the seven-month period this fiscal, exports were estimated at $9.6 billion and imports valued at $10.3 billion. Compared to the previous fiscal, exports have increased by $1.2 billion, while imports have fallen by $500 million.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, animal products, minerals, forest products, and finished industrial goods, while it imports capital goods, intermediate goods, CMP raw materials, and consumer goods.

The country's export sector relies more on the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. While export earnings from the CMP (cut, make and pack) garment businesses are rising, the country's reliance on natural resources such as natural gas and jade is lessening.

The government is trying to reduce the trade deficit by screening luxury import items and boosting exports.

Myanmar's trade deficit was pegged at $1.3 billion in the last mini-budget period, $3.9 billion in the 2017-2018FY, $5.3 billion in the 2016-2017 FY, and $5.4 billion in the 2015-2016 FY, according to statistics released by the Central Statistical Organization.—Mon Mon ■ *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

A container yart in Yangon . **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

MEB offering two-step loans to develop MSMEs

THE Myanma Economic Bank has been providing two-step loans, funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency, since September, 2018 to help develop Myanmar's small and medium enterprises.

The bank is offering mortgage-backed loans of up to K500 million at an annual interest of 8.5 per cent for a term of over 3-5 years. Businesses which are unable to put up sufficient collateral can access loans of up to K20 million under the Credit Guarantee Insurance (GI) scheme. The interest rate for CGI loans ranges from 9 to 13 per cent, depending on the credit rating of the businesses.

Also, receiving CGI backed loan of Myanma Insurance is paid 2 per cent with collateral to 3 per cent without collateral to Myanma Insurance. Eighty per cent of the loan is set aside for fixed capital, while the remaining 20 per cent is used as working capital. Fixed capital includes assets and capital investments such as property, plant, and equipment, not intended for land tenure.

Entrepreneurs can apply for the JICA MSME two-step loan at the nearest MEB branch.

All SMEs engaged in manufacturing, labor-based projects, retail and wholesale, service and other businesses are eligible for the JICA SME two-step loans. However, farmers who have access to loans provided by the Myanma Agricultural Development Bank, real estate agents, finance and insurance businessmen, precious metal dealers, those operating liquor shops and entertainment and amusement businesses, and manufacturers of arms and ammunition cannot apply for the loans, according to a press statement issued by the MEB last year.

In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, 11 businessmen took out JICA two-step loans of K4.8 million through the SMIDB. In the 2016-2017 FY, JICA offered K36.7 billion in loans to 175 entrepreneurs, and K16 billion in the 2017-2018 FY. JICA's two-step loans are offered at an interest rate of 0.01 per cent to the government, which provides the loans at an interest of 4 per cent to private banks, which, in turn, offer the loans at an interest of 8.5 per cent to SMEs. Some businessmen have complained of financial institutions following a tight verification process. There are over 67,000 registered SMEs in Myanmar, yet there are many unregistered businesses, according to the SME Development Department. The SMEs constitute 90 per cent of Myanmar's businesses. Most of them are facing barriers and challenges in terms of capital, technology, and market access.—GNLM ■ *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

A worker control the machine at a rubber factory in Kawthoung. **PHOTO: AYE THAN**

Myanmar pushes for G-to-G sale of mung beans to India

By Nyein Nyein

NEGOTIATIONS are on between Myanmar and India over the import quota set by India for mung beans, said U Min Ko Oo, secretary, Myanmar Beans, Pulses, and Sesame Seeds Association. India is yet to respond to Myanmar's request for raising the quota for mung beans, he added.

"For the time being, India has granted import of 150,000 tons of mung beans from Myanmar under the quota system. The Ministry of Commerce is now discussing the sale of beans under a government-to-government system with Indian officials. Beans need to get a good price for the benefit of the country and its farmers. Usually, importers want to purchase goods at a cheaper price. The G-to-G discussions aim to create harmonious trade between the two countries," he added.

At the 4th ASEAN-India Expo and Summit held in February in New Delhi, the Ministry of Commerce and bean traders had asked the Indian authorities to raise the import quota for mung beans to about 400,000 tons this year.

However, India announced an import quota of 150,000 tons for Myanmar mung beans and 200,000 tons for Myanmar pigeon peas, depending on its requirement.

Currently, a ton of FAQ mung beans are priced at K845,000 in the domestic market, while a ton of SQ mung beans is fetching about K1 million.

According to the Myanmar Beans, Pulses, and Sesame Seeds Association, the production of mung beans is expected to decrease this year due to a decline in mung bean acreage. The association estimates the production of mung beans will reach 300,000 tons this year.

India is the largest importer of Myanmar beans. In addition to the Indian market, Myanmar exports a small volume of beans to Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan, and some European countries.

"The Commerce Ministry is still negotiating with India for sale of beans under a G-to-G agreement. It is also seeking new export markets for beans," according to Deputy Commerce Minister U Aung Htoo.

India's new import policy, which was announced in August, 2017, has seriously affected Myanmar bean growers and exporters.

Due to a decline in prices of beans, Myanmar earned only $713 million from the export of 1 million tons of mung beans, green grams, and pigeon peas in the 2017-2018 Financial Year, according to statistics released by the Commerce Ministry. ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Deputy Director-General U Tin Win, Indian Ambassador Mr. Saurabh Kumar and officials cut ribbon to open the Manupura River Suspension Bridge (Dedtar) in Tiddim. **PHOTO: TIN TUN**

Manipura River Suspension Bridge (Dedtar) inaugurated

UNDER the India-Myanmar Friendship Project, the Manupura River Suspension Bridge (Dedtar), constructed by Ministry of Border Affairs, was inaugurated at the bride in Tiddim, Chin State yesterday.

The 300 ft long and 14 ft wide steel frame suspension bridge was completed after receiving K510 million from the second round of funds provided by the Republic of India as part of India-Myanmar Friendship Project.

Present at the ceremony were Indian Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Saurabh Kumar, Deputy Director-General U Tin Win of Border Area and National Races Department, Chin State Development Committee's Director-General, departmental officials and local residents. The Indian Ambassador to Myanmar and the Deputy Director-General of Border Area and National Races Department first explained the reasons of construction of the new suspension bridge. Afterwards, the Ambassador, Deputy Director-General and officials cut ceremonial ribbons to open the bridge, and inspected the bridge by crossing over it.

With the second round of funds (K3,976.361 million) provided by the Republic of India, the Ministry of Border Affairs has completed 13 road and bridge projects and 3 education projects.

The Ministry of Border Affairs is also currently implementing 9 road and bridge projects and 5 education projects with the third round of funds (K3,678.6298 million) provided by the Republic of India under India-Myanmar Friendship Project.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

China building third aircraft carrier: think tank

WASHINGTON (United States) — Recent satellite photographs indicate China's construction of its third aircraftcarrier is well underway, a Washington think tank reported Tuesday.

ChinaPower, a unit of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, published photos of a large vessel under construction at the Jiangnan Shipyard in Shanghai.

The bow and hull are already under assembly, the pictures indicated, and are likely to be the beginnings of the 80-85,000 tonne type 002 aircraftcarrier the Chinese navy has been known to be planning.

"Visible through the clouds and mist is what looks to be a bow and main hull section of a large vessel," ChinaPower said.

"While details regarding the Type 002 are limited, what is observable at Jiangnan is consistent with what is expected for the People's Liberation Army Navy's third aircraftcarrier." China's first carrier, the three-decade-old, 66,000 tonne Liaoning, was Soviet-built and acquired from Ukraine in 1998.

The second, a home-built carrier designated Type 001A and based on the Liaoning's design began sea trials, one year ago.

ChinaPower said that, based on the photos, the Jiangnan shipyard appears to be building a new tower crane, a floodable ship basin and a launching channel to accommodate the huge new carrier. In a report published online, ChinaPower said the carrier is expected to be completed in 2022. In January, a senior Chinese naval expert said the country needs "at least" three carriers to defend its coastline and global interests.—AFP ■

China's first domestically manufactured aircraft carrier, known as "Type 001A," returns to port in Dalian after its first sea trial in 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA N° of the financing agreement is N° H814MM. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contract for the G 128 Still Cameras. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following item:

Reference No.	Lot No.	Description	Quantity
G 128	1	Still Camera	15 sets

Expressions of Interest on Quotation must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number above. The invitation to quote will be distribute on the needs of DRD. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ). Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address by corresponding **date on Tuesday 4 June 2019, 10:00 am Myanmar time**, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

The goods will be contracted in lot-by-lot basis. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the "Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: Project Director Mrs. Nyo Nyo Win, NCDD Project Secretariat, Department of Rural Development, Office N° 36, Nay Pyi Taw. Telephone (95-67)418604.For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067418637/ Email: unioncddprocurement@gmail.com.

Please indicate your e-mail address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send as well as introduce your company name and contact number to communicate with you. For more information on the NCDD Project please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

CALL FOR UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG (PADANG STATE UNIVERSITY) SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS - INDONESIA ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020

The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Yangon and Universitas Negeri Padang (UNP) offer scholarship to Myanmar nationals. UNP is a university that owns one of the best Faculties of Education in Indonesia. The university, located in Padang, West Sumatera Province, was converted from IKIP Padang (Institut Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Padang/Padang Teaching and Education Institute) and was established on 23 October 1954.

The change to UNP was determined by the Presidential Decree No. 93 on August 24, 1999. The transformation enables UNP to open as well non education study programmes under Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Literature and Arts, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Sports Science and Faculty of Economics (FE).

For the Postgraduate Program (S2), UNP currently has six Study Programs, namely Educational Administration, Social Sciences Education, Language Education, Educational Technology, Environmental Sciences, and Counselling Guidance. UNP also carried out a Doctoral Program (S3) for Education.

UNP and the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Education and Training Cooperation in Yangon, on 7 December 2018. One of the implementations of the establishment of the MoU is that UNP provides Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree scholarships for Myanmar Students. Those eligible will study in UNP, **preferably in the Faculty of Education**, as it is the most acknowledged. The scholarship aims to encourage closer cooperation between Indonesia and Myanmar.

Eligibility for the Scholarship

A. Applicants should:

1. Be nationals of Myanmar;
2. Be under 20 years old for the Bachelor's Degree Programme and 35 years old for the Master's Degree Programme;
3. Provide a Curriculum Vitae;
4. Provide a copy of high school certificate of graduation;
5. Provide a copy of university certificate of graduation and have a GPA at least 3 out of 4 to apply for the Master Programme;
6. Have at least a TOEFL Score of 550 or IELTS score of 5.5;
7. If the required documents are in Myanmar Language, provide an authenticated English translation of each document by the authorized institution.

B. The Scholarship Package

1. Return economy airfare between Myanmar and Padang, Indonesia;
2. Tuition fees and basic medical insurance;
3. Indonesian Language Course;
4. Monthly stipend to cover living expenses equivalent to local living cost;
5. Accommodation; and
6. Support for research project/thesis expenses.

C. How to apply

Provide all the required documents concerning the requirements as indicated by point A and submit them to the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia not later than 20 May 2019. Once fulfilled, the Embassy in cooperation with UNP will contact the applicants to share information on how to proceed. For more information, please contact Ms. Sylvia Masri, First Secretary for Information and Socio-cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Yangon.

Tel: (951) 254465, 254469, 229750, ext. 105
Fax: (951) 254468
E-mail: pensosbud@kbriyangon.org

Iceland turns carbon dioxide to rock for cleaner air

ON THE HENGILL VOLCANO (Iceland)— In the heart of Iceland's volcano country, 21st-century alchemists are transforming carbon dioxide into rock for eternity, cleaning the air of harmful emissions that cause global warming.

The technology mimics, in accelerated format, a natural process that can take thousands of years, injecting CO_2 into porous basalt rock where it mineralises, capturing it forever.

"With this method we have actually changed the time scale dramatically," says geologist Sandra Osk-Snaebjornsdottir. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas emitted in large quantities by Iceland's transport sector, industries and volcanoes.

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is promoting various carbon capture and storage (CCS) methods in a bid to limit the rise in average temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius.Snaebjornsdottir is working on Iceland's CarbFix project with researchers and engineers from utility company Reykjavik Energy, the University of Iceland, France's National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and Columbia University in the United States.

Petrified in two years

In Iceland, a country of geysers, glaciers and volcanoes, at least half of the energy produced comes from geothermal sources.That's a bonanza for CarbFix researchers, who've turned the Hellisheidi geothermal power plant — one of the world's biggest — into their own laboratory.

The plant, located on the Hengill volcano in southwestern Iceland, sits on a layer of basalt rock formed from cooled lava, and has access to virtually unlimited amounts of water.

The plant pumps up the water underneath the volcano to run six turbines providing electricity and heat to the capital, Reykjavik, about 30 kilometres (18 miles) away.—AFP ■

New Zealand unveils plan to go carbon neutral by 2050

The bill does not explicitly say how the economy will become carbon neutral by 2050, sparking criticism from environmental campaigners. **PHOTO:AFP**

WELLINGTON (New Zealand) — New Zealand introduced legislation Wednesday to make the South Pacific nation carbon neutral by 2050, although greenhouse gas emissions from the economically vital agricultural sector will not have to meet the commitment.

Prime Minister JacindaArdern said the bill would help New Zealand contribute to a goal of limiting average global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) over pre-Industrial Revolution levels.

"The government is today delivering landmark action on climate change — the biggest challenge facing the international community and New Zealand," she said.

The centre-left leader said avoiding the issue would be "gross negligence" and burden future generations.But the legislation does not explicitly outline how the economy will become carbon neutral by 2050, sparking criticism from environmental campaigners.

Instead, it establishes an independent Climate Change Commission, which is charged with helping New Zealand reach the goal by setting five-yearly "emissions budgets".

The agriculture sector, one of the country's top export earners, has been granted major concessions in the bill, which is set to pass parliament by the end of the year.Biological methane from livestock, the source of about one-third of New Zealand's greenhouse gases, has been exempted from the ambitious goal set for carbon dioxide.

The legislation mandates a 10 percent reduction in biological methane by 2024.

"Agriculture is incredibly important to New Zealand, but it also needs to be part of the solution," Climate Change Minister James Shaw said.

"That is why we have listened to the science and also heard the industry and created a specific target for biogenic methane."But the Farmers Federation said even that target meant the government had "given up on pastoral farming".

"Let's be clear, the only way to achieve reductions of that level, is to cut production — there are no magic technologies out there waiting for us to implement," vice-president Andrew Hoggard said.

"At this point in time we have no idea how to achieve reductions of this level, without culling significant stock numbers."

While the government described its legislation as "binding", Greenpeace New Zealand said it did not include any way to enforce the targets, rendering it "toothless". —AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V DONG AN

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V DONG AN VOY. NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 09-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 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 BEN LINE AGENCIES (SINGAPORE) PTE, LTD

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (126 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (126 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 09-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SILKAGO LOGISTICS PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

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M.V OLYMPIA VOY. NO. (917S)

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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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CORAL QUEEN

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CORAL QUEEN VOY. NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 09-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of WILMAR 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 BEN LINE AGENCIES (SINGAPORE) PTE, LTD

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

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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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

White jute becomes new export item

By May Yu-Myo Aung (MANA)

A Sterculia versicolor plantation thriving in farm in Minbu. **PHOTOS: MYA THU LWIN (MAGWAY)**

GUM of Sterculia versicolor has been used across the world for some 100 years. In early 20th Century, Sterculia versicolor gum was used on a wider scale due to ingredient of it in tragacanth gum. Sterculia versicolor gum contains usable chemical properties more than tragacanth gum. The World Food Organization recognized Sterculia versicolor gum as a supplementary food under E-416 in 1911.

Sterculia versicolor plants originally thrive in India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Now, Senegal, Pakistan, Sudan, Australia, Panama, the Philippines, Indonesia and Viet Nam also grow Sterculia versicolor plants. Global countries produce some 5,500 tons of Sterculia versicolor gum on a yearly basis, meeting a one-third of the world's total demand. Among the grower countries, India is top in the yield and export of the gum.

Foreign demand of Sterculia versicolor gum

Japan will purchase 25 tons of Sterculia versicolor gum from Myanmar during the period from June 2019 and March 2020. Enishi Co., Ltd. Of Japan and Myanmar Shwe Phyu Company signed the agreement in Myotin Village of Myaing Township on 9 March 2019.

The bilateral agreement indicated that Enishi Co.,Ltd. gave an offer to Myanmar Shwe Phyu Company for purchase of Myanmar's Sterculia versicolor gum. The raw to be exported must be Sterculia versicolor gum only. The raw must not be mixed with any gums. The power as finished goods must be powder of 100 per cent Sterculia versicolor gum. The gum must be produced from organic farms without chemical residue as the gum will be used in foodstuffs. Gum can be extracted from 3-4 years old plants of Sterculia versicolor in 25-27 inches in diameter. The plants between eight and ten years old have the most pre-acre yield. The plants thrive in hilly regions of Myanmar together with other trees. Myanmar exported 0.525 ton of Sterculia versicolor gum with US$3,500 per ton to China through border trade route in 2017-2018 fiscal year, said Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo.

Cultivation of Sterculia versicolor plants

If the people in rural region where various strata of people reside

earn many incomes, it can be indicated that the country's economy is booming. Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing regions have been enjoying fruitful results of producing marketable crops such as paddy, beans and pulses, Thanakha and edible oil crops in their respective areas for many decades. Starting from recent years, local people in all parts of the country grow Sterculia versicolor plants as new perennial crop.

Sterculia versicolor plant can thrive in plains of dry regions as well as in the lands at an altitude of more than 4,500 feet. The plants can successfully be grown between 60 degree Fahrenheit (16 degree centigrade) and 90 degree Fahrenheit (32 degree centigrade). It likes rainfalls ranging from 44 inches to 72 inches. Soil condition between PH6 and PH7.5 is the best for the plant. In fact, hot and wet weather is the most suitable for the plant.

It was seen that lesser rainfall areas in central Myanmar such as Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions are especially appropriate for cultivation of Sterculia versicolor plants. Although gum was collected from the natural Sterculia versicolor plants in the past, these plants are grown systematically to extract the gum on a commercial scale. As the gum gets good price, Sterculia versicolor plant is benefitting the growers in a long run. That is why efforts are being made to set up many associations and groups in order to develop production of Sterculia versicolor gum.

PHOTOS: MDN

Usefulness of Sterculia versicolor gum

Sterculia versicolor gum is used as drilling fluid in removing limestone and minerals from products at factories which produce oil and natural gas. Paper mills also use the gum in order to produce quality paper. Likewise, the gum is being used as an ingredient in production processes of leather factories, making clothes and dyeing processes. Similarly, powder of the gum is used in textile industries and weaving industries.

Hair dyes, hair jelly, body lotions, nail polish and cosmetics contain some parts of Sterculia versicolor gum.

Using the gum in fruit juice can produce better tastes. Hence, traditional snacks such as ice-cream, Shwe-yin-aye (mixture of coconut milk, bread, sagu and jelly) and Falooda are made with the use of Sterculia versicolor gum. Moreover, the gum is used as a supplement ingredient in foodstuffs made ice products to have better taste and fragrance. In addition, the gum is one of ingredient in absorbing water from milk, packaging products, spicy items, sauces and pickled products, biscuit, breads and cakes. Thanks to Sterculia versicolor gum, these foodstuff and products have higher quality in fragrance and flavour.

The gum extracted from Sterculia versicolor plants can absorb larger volume of water. The gum combined with water can change its form as various types of soft jelly. The product is sticky. The gum possesses the property of resilience against dilute acids and microorganisms. The gum of Sterculia versicolor is able to absorb water which is 60-100 times larger than its volume. The gum contains calcium, zinc, nitrogen, potassium, magnesium, iron and sugar elements. The researches show that magnesium from the gum involved in formation of bone tissues of the human body is 20 times larger than that of milk.

The gum of Sterculia versicolor is much able to relieve impacts of hotness. In summer, drinking the Sterculia versicolor gum juice can reduce hotness from the body. The gum can prevent outbreak of heat stroke at the body and relieve nosebleed which is a common complaint at children in the hot season.

The gum of Sterculia versicolor is the best drug for relieving urine uncontrollable suffering as well as contributes towards relieving of muscles along the urethra. The gum is used in production of aperients, enema, dental and oral drugs, and skin lotions for injuries. Having properties of stickiness, the gum can be used in dental treatment and in making bandages and plasters. One more significant usage of the gum is a drug for stomach and intestines.The gum of Sterculia versicolor contains properties of anti-oxidant which can reduce ageing. For example, the gum can protect the skin of face not to untimely have skin lines and help the body slim. Moreover, the gum can relieve constipation.

Oil from the seeds of Sterculia versicolor gum can be used in making soap, and barks of the plant can be used in production of jute rope. It was observed that ten percent of the gum produced across the world is used in foodstuffs and the remaining volume in the medicines. White and soft gray gums are useful for production of foodstuffs while clean and transparent gum is included in medicines,

That is why I presented the article, urging the farmers to grow perennial crop Sterculia versicolor plants in order to earn increased income.

Translated by Than Tun Aung

Useful Information

JAPANESE CUISINE

AJISHIN

No.192, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Myanmar Plaza, 4th Floor, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar. *Ph; 09-970890390*, Time- 10:00 to 23:00 (Open Daily)

ANAIMO

No. 300, Mahabandula Park Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. *Ph; 01-378022.*Time- 11:30-14;00/ 17;30-22;00
(Saturday only evening and Sunday off)

BIKKURA SUSHI & SASHIMI JAPANESE RESTAURANT

No. 16, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.*Ph:09-799566917, 09-36714873.* 10:30-22;30 (Open Daily)

BUSHIDO

No. 75/ AB Boyar Nyunt Street, Dagon Township, Yangon.*Ph:09-260031197/ 09- 420231330.* 10:00-22:00 (Sunday Off)

CHO JAPANESE DINNING & BAR

Level (1), Garden Wing, Beside Lobby Lounge.(Inside Sedona Hotel), Yangon *Ph:09-258322223/ 09-261322223.* Lunch 11:30-14:30/ Tea Time 14:30-18:00/
Dinner 18:00-23:00(Open Daily)

DINNING FUKUROU

No. 37, Kabar Pagoda Road, Inside of Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon. *Ph:09-260031197 09-420231330.*11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

EDOZUSHI

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon.*Ph:056-23150-53/ 056- 23313-318(Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020.*11:00-21:00(Open Daily)

(3) YAKINIKU FUKAGAWA

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon.*Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056- 23313-318(Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020,*11:00-21:00(Open Daily)

FUJINOBO

(Cherry Hill Hotel) No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon.*Ph: 09-450067052*, 06:00-09:30/ 11:30-14:00/ 17:00-22:30 (Open Daily)

FURUSATO

No. 137, West Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon.*Ph: 01-556265/ 09-73081914.* 11:00-14:00/ 17:00-22:00(Open Daily)

GEKKO

535, Merchant Street, Kyauktada Township, 4th Quarter, Yangon.*Ph: 01-386986*, 09:00-23:00(Open Daily)

HOT POT KING and Hot pot and BBQ Buffet Restaurant

No - 26/27, Thitsar Road and Corner of Wai Za Yan Dar Road, South Okkalapa, Yangon.*Tel - 09 777777 008, 09 09 777777 009, 09 777777 883.*

Hot Pot City 8 Miles

No(33), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road (7.34 km) 095 Yangon,*Ph:09 797 799111*,11:00-22:00(Open Daily)

101 Hot Pot & Sushi

No.141, West Shwegondaing Road,Bahan T/s. near Yuzana Hotel. (1.78 km), 11201 Yangon.

Little Sheep Hot Pot Myanmar

14/14B Kanbawza Street Golden Valley (1) Bahan Township (1.71 km),Yangon. *Ph: 09443399701, 09443399702*, 11:00-23:00

HOTEL

BELMOND GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

No. 35, Taw Win Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-229860 01-229861.*

CHATRIUM

No. 40, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-544500/ 01-544244.*

CHERRY HILLS HOTEL

No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwe-gon Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon. *Ph:01-559722.*

HOTLE 51

No. 154/ 156, 51st. Upper Pazundaung Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-200823/ 09-429918554.*

HOTEL KAN KAW

No.93(A), Hnin Si Gone Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon.
Ph: 01-228566/ 01-2301700/ 01-1221731.

HOTLE SIDNEY

No. 8L/Mindhama Road, Between Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road and Parami Road, Mayangone Township.
Ph: 01-655770/ 01-9669600-02.

INYA LAKE HOTEL

No.37, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon.*Ph: 01-9662866/ 01-9662857-9.*

LOTTEE HOTLES AND SERVICED APARTMENTS YANGON

No.82, Sin Phyu Shin Avenue, Pyay Road, 6 mile, Hlaing Township. *Ph: 01-9351000.*

MERCURE HOTEL

No.17, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01- 650933.*

NOVOTEL YANGON MAX

No.459, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-2305858.*

PAN PACIFIC YANGON

No. Corner of Bogyoke Aung San Road and Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Yangon, *Ph:01-9253810.*

PARK ROYAL

No.33, Alan Pya Phaya Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, *Ph: 01-250388.*

PULLMAN YANGON CENTREPOINT

No.65, Corner of Sule Pagoda Road and Merchant Street.*Ph: 01-382687.*

ROSE GARDEN HOTEL

No.171, Upper Pasodan Road, Yangon. *Ph: 01-371992/09263440500.*

SAVOY HOTEL

No.129, Corner of Dhammazedi Road and Inya Road, Yangon.
Ph: 01-526289/ 01-526298/ 01-526305.

SEDONA HOTEL

No. 1, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-8605377.*

SULE SHANGRI-LA

No. 223, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-242828.*

SUMMIT PARTVIEW HOTEL

No. 350, Ahlone Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-211888/ 01-211966.*

SUPER HOTEL

No. 51/ D, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, 10th Quarter, Mayangone Township, Yangon. *Ph:09-797109000/ 01-658210/ 01-658220.*

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Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355,09974424848

AFF Futsal Club Championship: Myanmar to face Malaysian, Cambodian clubs

THE Myanmar Imperial University (MIU) futsal team, formerly known as MIC, which is representing Myanmar at the ASEAN Futsal Club Championship 2019, will take on futsal clubs from Cambodia and Malaysia in the tourney.

The championship will be held at the Nakhon Ratchasima Stadium in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand from 17 to 23 June.

Team MIU has won two domestic tournaments — the Myanmar Football Federation's Open Cup 2018 and the Myanmar Futsal League 2018.

For the AFC Futsal Club Championship, the MIU team has been placed in Group B with Cambodian club Down Town Sport and Malaysia's Melaka United.

The host team, Thailand's PTT Chonburi Bluewave, will be playing against Viet Nam club Sanvinest Sanatech Khanh Hoa and Indonesia's Black Steel Manokwari.

The champions of the Myanmar Futsal League 2018, MIU F.C. **PHOTO : MFF FUTSAL**

In the previous edition of the championship in 2018, Thailand's Bangkok BTS F.C. was crowned the champion, while Myanmar's MIU F.C. secured the third place by beating Indonesia's SKN F.C. 11-10 in penalty shootout. —Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Fixtures changed for AFF U-15 Girls' Championship 2019

THE match fixtures for the ASEAN Football Federation's U-15 Girls' Championship 2019, to be held in Chonburi, Thailand, have been moved up. The matches will now start 30 minutes earlier, according to the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

The start times have been changed by the tournament organisers, the ASEAN Football Federation.

The tourney is scheduled to start on 9 May (today). Team Myanmar has been placed in Group A with Viet Nam, the Philippines, and Timor Leste. Host team Thailand is in Group B with Malaysia, Singapore, Laos, and Cambodia.

Myanmar will now play Timor Leste at 3 p.m. (Myanmar Standard Time) on 10 May.

In a later match scheduled the same day, Viet Nam will face the Philippines at 6 p.m. MST.

On 12 May, Timor Leste will take on Viet Nam at 3 p.m., and Myanmar will go up against the Philippines at 6 p.m. Team Myanmar matches will be streamed live on https://mycujoo.tv/video/fa-thailand, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

New mixed relay 'just what athletics needs': GB star

KAWASAKI (Japan) — The new mixed 4x400m relay is just what athletics needs to inject more fun and excitement into competition, according to British star Perri Shakes-Drayton, although it has also thrown up some unforeseen difficulties.

The new race, with teams of two men and two women, is poised to make its Olympic debut at Tokyo 2020 as part of a drive by organisers to make the sport more inclusive.And Shakes-Drayton, who won silver for Britain in the 4x400m World Championships on home soil in London in 2017, said the idea initially took some getting used to. "When I saw it was listed on the programme, I thought 'mixed? A mixed relay?' It took me by surprise," the 30-year-old told AFP in an interview on Wednesday.

Perri Shakes-Drayton believes mixed relays could shake up the sport. **PHOTO: AFP**

"But it will be interesting and fun. I think that's what the sport needs. Something different and exciting," she enthused, as the British team trained for this weekend's World Relays in Yokohama near Tokyo.

She said one of the challenges had come in passing the baton between tall male athletes and their shorter female counterparts and hinted that a man would be more likely to run the anchor leg for this reason.

When the first trials took place at the Asian Games in Jakarta, teams which ran in the order man-woman-woman-man appeared to do the best.

However, China's Yang Lei described the event at the time as "chaos" after a gridlock emerged at the final baton handover. British 400m runner Rabah Yousif, a double Bronze-medal winner at World Championships in 2015 and 2017, told AFP the onus would still be down to the individual to run a strong leg. "You have to perform on your leg because you can't be doing all four legs. When you do your best as an individual, it will help the team... It's still a 400m. It's just with other guys running or two girls and two guys," he said.—AFP ■

Smith's classy 89 not enough as New Zealand win World Cup warm-up

BRISBANE (Australia) — Will Young stroked a masterful 130 to steer an under-strength New Zealand to a seven-wicket win over Australia in a World Cup practice match Wednesday, outshining a classy unbeaten 89 from Steve Smith.

The visitors chased down their 278 target with 10 balls to spare, inflicting the first one-day defeat on Australia in 10 games, although this was not counted as a full international.

Young, who is uncapped and not part of New Zealand's World Cup squad, was eventually run out after smacking 11 fours and two sixes in his 132-ball knock.

George Worker (56) and Tom Latham (69 not out) were also among the runs as New Zealand, missing Kane Williamson, Martin Guptill and Trent Boult, made 283 for three in reply to Australia's 277 for six.

Australian pace spearhead Mitchell Starc made his long-awaited return from injury and was the pick of a lacklustre bowling attack, taking 2-14 off five overs with trademark yorkers before being withdrawn from the action. It was his first match back since tearing a muscle three months ago.

Earlier, former skipper Smith was the star attraction with his 89, including four big sixes, in only his second game in Australian colours since his one-year ban for ball-tampering expired.

He came to the crease when Shaun Marsh was out for 28 and was in fine touch in a major boost for Australia ahead of their World Cup defence in England.

Usman Khawaja and Glenn Maxwell were also in form, scoring 56 and 52 respectively.

But David Warner, who made 39 on his return from the "Sandpapergate" scandal in the first of the three unofficial matches in Brisbane on Monday, did not fare so well.

He opened the innings with Aaron Finch, rather than Khawaja, but was soon back on the sidelines after spooning a catch to cover without scoring, lasting just six balls.

Australia won the first match by one wicket, with the final game at Allan Border Field on Friday.—AFP ■