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President, First Lady, conclude visit to Viet Nam after attending 16th UN Vesak Day celebrations



President U Win Myint and First Lady are seen off by Vietnamese Minister Mr. Nguyen Manh Hung and Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs. Luan Thuy Duong, Myanmar Ambassador to Viet Nam U Kyaw Soe Win and Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Zeya.. **PHOTO: MNA**

A MYANMAR delegation led by President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw after concluding the working visit to Viet Nam.

Before returning to Myanmar, President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho visited the Ha Dong Silk Village yesterday morning and viewed the weaving of silk textiles and sales of household goods. After the visit, the delegation returned to Myanmar by special flight.

They were seen off at the Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi by Vietnamese Minister for Information and Technology Mr. Nguyen Manh Hung, Ambassador of Viet Nam to Myanmar Mrs. Luan Thuy Duong, Ambassador of

Myanmar to Viet Nam U Kyaw Soe Win, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Zeya and officials.

The delegation arrived in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon and they were welcomed at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Vice President U Myint Swe, Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr. Myo Aung and wife, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Myint Maw, Charge d' affaires a.i. of the Vietnamese Embassy in Yangon Le Gia Thinh and officials. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

State Counsellor receives former Norwegian PM, former Mongolian President



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomes Mr. Kjell Magne Bondevik, former Prime Minister of Norway (Right), and Mr. Elbegdorj Tsakhia, former President of Mongolia. (Centre), in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr. Kjell Magne Bondevik, former Prime Minister of Norway and Executive Chair of the Oslo Center for Peace, Democracy and Human Rights and Mr. Elbegdorj Tsakhia, former President of Mongolia at the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 14 May 2019 at 10:00 a.m. During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters pertaining to Myanmar's democratic transition, peace and national reconciliation process, promotion and protection of human rights and measures taken by the Myanmar Government for the peace, stability and development of Rakhine State. —MNA ■



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services honours pilot, crew of MNA plane for landing safely despite technical failure

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves Thai Baht 1,458.248 mln loan from NEDA

THE seventh-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 12th regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. One of the agendas of the meeting was union level organizations responding to discussions by Hluttaw representatives on Thai Baht 1,458.248 million loan from Neighbouring Countries Development Cooperation Agency (NEDA) of Thailand after which the Hluttaw approves the loan.

Hluttaw approves NEDA loan

In the first agenda of the day, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win responded to discussion by Hluttaw representatives on Thai Baht 1,458.248 million loan from Thailand and provided explanations.

After obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw approval to the NEDA loan.

Hluttaw put on record bill amending Union Civil Service Board Law

In the next agenda of the day, Hluttaw put on record the bill amending Union Civil Service Board Law that was considered as approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Joint Committee to Implement Steps to Amend 2008 Constitution to study bill to amend the Constitution for the second time

Following this secretary of Joint Committee to Study the bill to amend the Constitution for the second time Dr. Myat Nyana Soe read the Joint Committee's ex-



Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing.



Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win.



Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe.



Dr. Myat Nyana Soe.



Dr. Khun Win Thaung.



Naw Hla Hla Soe .

planation and report on the Hluttaw representatives' discussion about the findings and report of the Joint Committee on the bill to amend the Constitution for the second time.

After obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's approval for the Joint Committee to Implement Steps to Amend 2008 Constitution to study the bill to amend the Constitution for the second time.

Joint Bill Committee read report on bill amending Bar Council Act

Next, Joint Bill Committee Deputy Chairman U Zaw Min

read the committee's findings and comments on a bill to amend Bar Council Act that the two Hluttaws were in disagreement. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the bill to register their names.

Hluttaw approves joining IPBES

Hluttaw then voted to approve the matter of joining Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) sent by the President after Dr. Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11, Naw Hla Hla Soe of Yangon Region constituency 10,

U Kyaw Aung Lwin of Sedoktara constituency, U Win Thein Zaw of Salingyi constituency, Dr. Win Myint of Bago Region constituency 11, U Myint Thein of Wetlet constituency, U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5, Daw Khin Than Nu of Mindon constituency, U Sa Khin Zaw Lin of Ayeyawady Region constituency 2, U Khin Myo Win of Taninthayi Region constituency 12, Daw Pyone Kaythi Naing of Kalaw constituency, U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi Region constituency 7 and U Zaw Hein of Wakema constituency discussed about it and Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe

provided explanation about it.

Hluttaw discusses six-month National Planning report and Joint Public Account Committee report 4/2019

Afterwards, U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency, U Tin Tun Naing of Seikkyi/Khanaungto constituency, Dr. Win Myint of Bago Region constituency 11, Dr. Hla Moe of Aungmyethazan constituency, U Saw Thalay Saw of Shwegyin constituency and Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency discussed 2018 April to September six-month National Planning report sent by the Union Government and the Joint Public Accounts Committee report 4/2019 on the committee's findings and comments on the report sent by the Union Government.

Hluttaw discusses six-month Budget report and Joint Public Account Committee report 6/2019

As a final agenda of the day, Daw Khin San Hlaing of Pale constituency, Dr. Hla Moe of Aungmyethazan constituency, Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, U Kyaw Myo Min of Monyo constituency, U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency and U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency discussed 2018 April to September six-month Budget report sent by the Union Government and the Joint Public Accounts Committee report 6/2019 on the committee's findings and comments on the report sent by the Union Government.

An announcement was then made that the eighth-day meeting of the 12th regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be held on 16 May.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

PTTEP donates \$100,000 to Alliance for Smiles for treatment of children with cleft lips and palates

ALLIANCE For Smile said that a child is born with cleft lip and palate every three minutes worldwide. This American organization has been providing free treatment and surgery to children and adults with such conditions around the world.

On their 30th anniversary of operation in Myanmar, PTTEP donated \$100,000 to Alliance For Smile. It was reported that the money will be used to provide surgery to 100 Myanmar children with that condition.

Ms. Tina Faschin said that

the reason for this occurrence is that at the early stage of pregnancy, the baby is unable to close its mouth from opening mouth position, and that this act of charity will do much good to families and communities of children with such condition".

She added that even though the cause of the condition is still unknown, it is already known that genes, mother's medication and lack of nutrition, harmful substance from surroundings are responsible for the anomaly in the development of fetus.

Mr. Piya Sukhumpanumet, General manager of PTTEP Myanmar said that children with such condition face challenges over eating, living, articulation and appearance, and that it triggers psychological weakness such as lack of self respect and confidence.

She went on to say that the surgery can heal such condition, and that they are delighted to help children gain physical benefits they deserve and confident smile.

Then, the official signed the memorandum of understanding.



General manager of PTTEP Myanmar Mr. Piya Sukhumpanumet delivers the opening speech at the MoU Signing Ceremony between PTTEP and Alliance for Smiles. **PHOTO: MNA**

General manager of PTTEP asset Myanmar, Mr. Piya Sukhumpanumet, President and director of Alliance For Smile Karl

Wustrack and Ms. Tina Fischins, invited guests and Media attended the event.—MNA (Translated by Alphonsus)

“ 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 30 March 2018)

“ Collective strength is vital to build peace and stability which we need. We need to have mutual understanding and mutual respect as the basic foundation to bring to an end the armed conflicts which have existed for many years among the ethnic nationalities. We can make this foundation strong with our collective strength.

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

State Counsellor receives Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received the delegation led by the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) Ms. Ursula Mueller at 11:15 a.m. on 14 May 2019, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the matters relating to the Hu-

manitarian Assistance programmes undertaken by the United Nations in Myanmar and provision of assistance by the United Nations in the implementation of the Government's initiative National Strategic Plan for the closure of IDP camps, as well as peace and development in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye and the officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and UNOCHA Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ms. Ursula Mueller in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

4th NCA-S EAO Summit meeting underway in Thailand from 14 to 19 May

The 4th Summit meeting of the Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) which have signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (4th NCA-S EAO Summit) commenced in Chiang Mai,

Thailand, yesterday morning. The meeting will be held for five days from 14 to 19 May.

In his opening speech at the meeting, Peace Process Steering Team (PPST) acting

leader U Yawd Serk said attendees to the summit meeting were to openly and cordially discuss to achieve the federal union desired by all through political discussions.

He added that all were to march in cooperation hand in hand towards the goal that benefits the people and the country and the discussion were to be in a way that was acceptable to all. Holding on tightly to one's own policies success would not result in success. If all wanted democracy and a federal system, discussion must be toward a federal system. If all of us set aside own policies and discuss what ought to be discussed naturally, we would not face failure and achieve success.

Fighting between brother organizations that had not signed the NCA and the Tatmadaw was the biggest problem for the union. Peace was the main thing in resolving problems. If the peace process was damaged numerous problems would occur and the government, Tatmadaw, EAOs and related organizations must strive towards the success of peace process.

Ways to overcome obsta-

cles and bottlenecks to the peace process, reviewing the organizations of PPST and to conduct reforms courageously were the main matters to be discussed, added the PPST acting leader.

Implementation report of sector wise peace processes of NCA-S EAOs will be submitted and discussed and organizations of groups will be reviewed and discussed in the meeting.

The meeting was attended by 8 EAOs that had signed the NCA, and NMSP (New Mon State Party) and LDU (Lahu Democratic Union) that were implementing partners of NCA. Brother EAOs of KIO (Kachin Independence Organization) and KNPP (Karen National Progressive Party) also attended the meeting as observers.

The 3rd NCA-S EAO Summit meeting was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from 8 to 11 September 2018. — Ye Gaung Nyunt

(Translated by Zaw Min)



The 4th NCA-S EAO Summit held at Chiang Mai in Thailand yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

President, First Lady, conclude visit to Viet Nam ...



President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho observe producing of silk textiles as they visit the Ha Dong Silk Village, Hanoi in Viet Nam yesterday before they return Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**



President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho are welcomed back in Nay Pyi Taw by Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, and Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win and officials. **PHOTO: MNA**

Talk on Role of Women Leaders in Increasing Public Resistance to Adversity held in Nay Pyi Taw

VICE President U Henry Van Thio's wife Dr. Shwe Hlwan delivered an opening speech at a talk on "Role of Women Leaders in Increasing Resistance to Adversity" held at the Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In her opening speech, Dr. Shwe Hlwan said the day's talk on Role of Women Leaders in Increasing Public Resistance to Adversity was led by MRCS.

MRCS was the only Red Cross organization in the country and was formed under MRCS Law as the country's reserve force in the humanitarian assistance sector. Thus it is providing support and assistance without discriminating with regard to race, religion, political belief and gender with the aim of developing mutual friendship and understanding among human beings and peace in the country and abroad.

In doing this, in addition to supporting the recovery of women's physical and mental damages in facing natural disasters, it places emphasis towards raising the role of women and achieving gender equality.

It had gained much experience by becoming a member of the Gender and Diversity Network of IFRC (International Federation of Red Cross and

Red Crescent Societies).

Based on Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 5: Gender Equality and guidelines on women's empowerment, a Gender and Diversity Policy was announced in 2017 for the balanced development of women in all sectors of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement as outlined in National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (2013-2022) and acknowledging and accepting the rights of women and women having those full rights; raising the capacity of women in Myanmar through the support of the government based on gender equality.

MRCS follow this Policy and provides support specifically for women following IFRC's minimum norms of DAPS – respecting the Dignity, equal Access to support and assistance without discrimination, equal Participation in decision making and Safety. Furthermore it provides support to expecting women and children, participation of women in health talks and in local health and natural disaster committees.

With the aim of increasing the health, security and mitigation efforts on occurrence of natural disasters, MRCS had implemented programs in co-

operation with partner organizations for the participation of the people.

The day's talk was held to increase the cooperation and participation of women in social and compassionate programs. Through sharing women's understanding and experience on resisting adversity, the role of women leaders will be raised in increasing public resistance to adversity, said Dr. Shwe Hlwan.

Next, MRCS President Prof.

Dr. Daw Mya Thu presented a commemorative gift to Dr. Shwe Hlwan, after which a commemorative group photo was taken.

Later, discussions were held by participants on MRCS activities and women's roles in various sectors.

The following persons attended the above event:

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, wives of Union Ministers, Deputy

Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein, officials from Myanmar Women's Affair Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Nurses and Midwife Association, Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), state and region Red Cross administrative committees and civil society organizations.— MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Vice President U Henry Van Thio's wife Dr. Shwe Hlwan delivers the opening speech at a talk on "Role of Women Leaders in Increasing Resistance to Adversity" in Nay Pyi Taw on 14 May 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

Press Release on the Official Working Visit of President U Win Myint and Spouse Daw Cho Cho to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

ATTHE invitation of His Excellency Nguyen Phu Trong, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Spouse, President U Win Myint and Spouse Daw Cho Cho visited Viet Nam from 10 to 14 May 2019 to attend the 16th United Nations Day of Vesak and to pay an official working visit.

In the evening of 10 May 2019, Myanmar delegation led by President and Spouse visited Myanmar Embassy in Hanoi and met with Ambassador U Kyaw Soe Win, staff and family members of the Embassy and the Military Attache Office and attended the dinner hosted by Myanmar Ambassador and Spouse.

On 11 May, President and party laid a wreath at the Monument of National Heroes and Martyrs as well as at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. The President also visited Ho Chi Minh's Stilt House.

President U Win Myint then held bilateral talks with the Prime Minister of Viet Nam H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc at the Government House. During the meeting, the two leaders reviewed the close friendship and cooperation cultivated by successive leaders and peoples from both countries. They also discussed the positive achievements in bilateral cooperation in recent years, particularly after the elevation of bilateral ties to Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership level in August 2017, which has opened up a

new chapter in Myanmar-Viet Nam bilateral relations.

Both sides discussed to cooperate more closely to strengthen the effectiveness of comprehensive cooperation in all areas, including trade and investment, agriculture, agro-forestry and fishery, connectivity, energy and telecommunications, tourism, Information and Communication Technology; to promote cooperation in regional and international arena; to celebrate activities commemorating the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 2020; to arrange the goodwill visit of Vietnamese Prime Minister to Myanmar; to continue working closely and extending support to each other at the regional and international fora, especially under the frameworks of ASEAN, the United Nations, ASEM and Mekong sub-regional cooperation mechanisms, to coordinate more closely during Viet Nam's Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2020 and to support Viet Nam's candidacy for a non-permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council for the period of 2020-2021.

The two Leaders reaffirmed their commitments to enhance cooperation and find new means to reach the target of two-way trade to USD 1 billion or higher by 2020 since the trade volume between Myanmar and Viet Nam in 2017-2018 fiscal year reached USD 764



President U Win Myint delivers the speech at 16th United Nations Day of Vesak Celebration at Tam Chuc International Convention Center in Ha Nam Province. **PHOTO: MNA**

million. Viet Nam now stands as the 9th largest trading partner and 7th largest foreign investor in Myanmar.

The Vietnamese side stressed the importance attached to its relations with Myanmar and reaffirmed its continued support for Myanmar's effort towards peace and national reconciliation. Likewise, Myanmar side congratulated Viet Nam on the achievements of reforms, especially for the progress on socio-economic lives of its people and sustainable development. The Myanmar side expressed its appreciation to Viet Nam for its consistent support to Myanmar's peace

and national reconciliation process as well as for sharing its experiences in economic development to Myanmar.

The President and Spouse attended the luncheon hosted by the Prime Minister and Spouse at the Government Guest House and the two leaders delivered speeches and exchanged toasts.

In the afternoon, the President received Viet Nam-Myanmar Parliamentarian's Friendship Group at the hotel and exchanged views to promote the existing friendly relations between parliaments, governments and peoples of the two countries, including exchange of visits between the two Parliamentarian's Friendship Groups established in Myanmar and Viet Nam.

The President also met with Madame Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan, President of the National Assembly of Viet Nam. During the meeting, both sides reviewed the existing traditional ties of friendship established by General Aung San and President Ho Chi Minh, and exchanged views on matters pertaining to the positive achievements in bilateral cooperation in recent years and ways to enhance close cooperation between the two parliaments in the ASEAN and other inter-parliamentary organizations.

In the evening, the President and Spouse attended the dinner hosted by Madame Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan, President of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, in honour of the Heads of delegations attending the 16th United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations 2019.

In the morning of 12 May 2019, the President and party attended the opening ceremony of the 16th United Nations Day of Vesak (UNDV) Celebrations held at the Tam Chuc International Convention Center. President U Win Myint delivered an opening speech at the ceremony.

In his speech, the President gave a brief account of the background of the annual convening of the United Nations Vesak Day which was recognized by the United Nations General Assembly's Resolution No. 54/ 115 of 1999, as it is the most Sacred Day commemorating the Birth, Enlightenment and Parinirvana of the Gauthama Buddha. He also apprised the meeting of the historical records indicating the roots of Buddhism in Myanmar since 2 A.D. as well as the Myanmar Government's efforts for propagation of Buddha Sasana. He also stressed the vital role played by the religions in maintaining the world's peace and stability.



President U Win Myint meets with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc at Viet Nam Government Office in Viet Nam. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release No. 18/2019
10th Waxing of Kason, 1381 ME
(13 May 2019)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 11 May 2019 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

No	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal actions taken
1	Information received of Zaw Win, who lives in Chaung Phyar Shwe Hmaw, Shwedwin Village-tract, Homalin Tsp, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 5-5-2019, police searched the house of Zaw Win, aged 45, son of U Maung Kan, and seized him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with Na Ma Sa (Maikai), MaYa (Pa) 40/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Ba Win, who lives in Paukkon Village, Phaungpyin Tsp, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 11-5-2019, police searched the motorbike ridden by Ba Win, aged 43, son of U Than Tun, together with Kyaw Win, aged 43, son of U Maung Pe, and seized them with heroin. A case has been opened both of them with Ma Ma Sa (Phaungpyin), MaYa(Pa) 67/2019 under Section 19(a)a/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Naung Pe and Inlat, who live in Jone Jone Kya Village, Kyunsu Tsp, Taninthayi Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 11-5-2019, police searched the house of Naung Pe (a) Than Sein, aged 56, son of U Aung Yi, with speicosa. A case has been opened him with NaMaSa(K-anmaw) MaYa(Pa) 11/2019 under Section 16(C) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Inlat, aged 39, son of U Pho Mya, selling with speicosa. A case has been opened him with Na Ma Sa (Kanmaw) MaYa (Pa) 13/2019 under Section 16(C) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Ma Thaw Thaw, who lives in Shan-su Village, Twantay Tsp, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 6-5-2019, police searched the house of Ma Thaw Thaw (a) Thaw Khay Aung, aged 33, daughter of U Kyaw Myint, Ma Hnin Wai Lwin, aged 25, daughter of U Aye Soe, and Kyaw Ko, aged 25, son of U Tint Lwin and seized them with stimulant tablets . A case has been opened them with Ma Ma Sa (Twantay) MaYa (Pa) 2/2019, under Section 19 (a)/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Tin Aung Win, who lives in Aung-mingalar Ring Road, Ward 2, Hlinethaya Tsp, Yangon Region.	On 10-5-2019, police searched Tin Aung Win, aged 21, son of U Than Zaw Oo, and seized him with stimulant tablets bearing WY letters. A case has been opened them with Ma Ma Sa (Hlinethaya) MaYa (Pa) 123/2019 under Section 16 (c) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Moe Aung, who lives in Htamin-paung Village, Yaksawk Tsp, Shan State (South).	On 7-5-2019, police searched the house of Moe Aung, aged 38, son of U San Thein and seized him with stimulant tablets bearing WY letters. A case has been opened him with Na Ma Sa (Kyaukgu) MaYa(Pa) 6/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of Nay Myo Win and wife, who lives in Gwaygone Village, Nawng-hkio Tsp, Shan State (North), distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 10-5-2019, police searched the house of Nay Myo Win, aged 33, son of U Myint Ngwe, and wife Ma Ei Nge (a) Aye Aye San (a) Aye Nge, aged 33, daughter of U Pe Thein, together with Tin Min Oo, aged 19, son of U Thar Pu and Kaung Myat Soe, aged 20, son of U Tin Oo, and seized four of them with stimulant tablets bearing 88/1 letters. A case has been opened them with Ma Ma Sa (Nawngkhio) Ma Ya(Pa) 40/2019 under Section 16(c)/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

8	Information received of Aung Myo Min Tun, who lives in Zayathiri Street, Ward 7, Lashio Tsp, Shan State (North), distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 10-6-2019, police searched Aung Myo Min Tun (a) Abdulaham, aged 26, son of U Kyaw Kyaw Naing, and seized him with stimulant tablets bearing 88/1 letters. A case has been opened them with Ma Ma Sa (Lashio) Ma Ya(Pa) 57/2019 under Section 19(a)/20 (a) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of Naing Lin, who lives in Yadana Aung Thabye 3 rd Street, Ward 8, Bogale Town, Ayeyawady Region.	On 8-5-2019, police searched the motorbike road by Naing Lin (a) Naing Lin Aung, aged 32, son of U Soe Win, and seized him with heroin. A case has been opened him with Ma Ma Sa (Bogalay) MaYa(Pa) 5/2019 under Section 16(c)/20 (a) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far a total of 621 cases have been opened files as of 11-5-2019. A total of 978 people, including 818 men and 160 women had been arrested with seizures of 6126.45 g of heroin, 73.67 g of ICE, 38704.74 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 19399.27 g of speciosa powder, 7833.19 g of speciosa, 1.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 235925 stimulant tablets, 6424.22 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 513.26 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 23.45 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 16 firearms, different kinds of 257 cartridges and 1 grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.
4. In addition to the investigations and arrests conducted on drug related complaints mentioned above, the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force have also carried out separate investigations on drug complaints, search and arrests at border gates, and searches of vehicles acting upon given information.
- During the previous week, multiple arrests were made in the border regions and joint-surveillance gates.
- Upon acting on a tip-off, police searched two motorbikes and arrested five men with a seizure of 64 stimulant tablets and two motorbikes on Yazahtarni Road, Pyinmana Tsp, Nay Pyi Taw. Upon investigation, police seized 586 stimulant tablets at the accused's house situated at Yanaung ward 2. A man was arrested with 16 opium blocks and 210 g of low-quality opium in Sitarpu ward, Myitkyina Town, Kachin State. A man was arrested with 30 g of heroin and one motorbike in Mawhan village, Mohnyin Tsp. A man was arrested with 2000 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Hmaw Shan village, Phakant Tsp, Kachin State. Two men were arrested with 5655 stimulant tablets on Mamon-Phapyin road. A woman was arrested with 1563 stimulant tablets and 40 g of heroin in Yanniywarthit village, Bhamo Town. A man was arrested with 1110 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Hanhtet village street, Mansi Tsp. Two women were arrested with 5850 stimulant tablets and 90 g of heroin in Sikaw village. Two men were arrested with 2000 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Ngwarlawo village, Loikaw Tsp, Kayah State. Two men and one woman were arrested with 2991 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle near Zalatphyu village, Hpa-an Tsp, Kayin State. A man was arrested with 401 stimulant tablets and one motorbike on Hpa-an-Eainnu raod, Kayin State. Two men were arrested with 2000 stimulant tablets and two motorbikes in Ninekyar village. A man was arrested with 6156 stimulant tablets in ward 6, Hpa-an Tsp, Kayin State. Two men were arrested with 400 stimulant tablets and one motorbike near the toll gate of the Thanlwin River Bridge, Kayin State. Three men were arrested with 2100 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Khayar village. A man was arrested with 1340 stimulant tablets in ward 2, Phayathonesu Town. A man was arrested with 6640 g of speciosa in Kyauktan village, Thaton Tsp, Mon State. Three men were seized with 180 stimulant tablets in Myomataung ward, Maungtaw, Rakhine State. A man was seized with 52 stimulant tablets and 908.2 g of marijuana in Thechaung village, Sittway Tsp, Rakhine State. Three men were seized with 513 stimulant tablets in Pyitawtha ward. Two men were arrested with 3 g of marijuana and one tri-shaw on Bumay-Thechaung road.

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

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Four men were arrested with 73.2 g of marijuana in ward 4, An Town, Rakhine State. A man was seized with 10000 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle on Taunggyi-Hopong road, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State. A man was arrested with 2365 stimulant tablets on Shwe Nyaung-Yaksawk road. A man was arrested with 4800 stimulant tablets and 1360 g of opium in Nanhugyi village, Nyaungshwe Tsp, Shan State. Seven men were arrested with 645 stimulant tablets and 69.4025 g of stimulant tablets in Ayungthabyae ward, Hsihseng Town. Two men were arrested with 1550 stimulant tablets and one motorbike, and a woman was seized with 6000 stimulant tablets and one motorbike on Kalaw-Thazi road. A man and a woman were arrested with 800000 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle in Pinlong Town. A man and a woman were arrested with 792 stimulant tablets 94 g of heroin in ward 12, Lashio Town. A man was arrested with 780 stimulant tablets and one motorbike at the milepost (1/3), Hsenwi-Kunlon road. A man was arrested with 1500 g of opium and one motorbike in Tanyan-Maikaung road. A man was arrested with 1000 g of opium in Aungmyitthar ward, Namhkam Town, Shan State. A man and a woman were seized with 200 stimulant tablets and 4000 g of opium in Aungmingalar ward. A man was arrested with 1200 stimulant tablets, 12.5 g of heroin and one motorbike on Kutkai-Kaungkha road. Two men were arrested with 227 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Kyaukme. Upon acting on a tip-off, a woman was seized with 2121 stimulant tablets in ward 1. A woman was seized with 2070 stimulant tablets and 95.5 g of heroin in Mongmit Town. A man was arrested with 20000 stimulant tablets, 880 g of heroin and one motorbike in Auknyaungni village. A man was arrested with 783 g of heroin tablets in Moelone village, Mabein Tsp. A man was seized with 2450 stimulant tablets and 32 g of heroin in Maaugone village. An ownerless 234000 stimulant tablets and 17060 g of heroin were seized in Uyinpu village. An ownerless 55 liters of Acetone was found in Laukkai Tsp. An ownerless 30000 g of ICE was seized in Minetong Tsp. A man was seized with 0.3 g of opium, 53 g of opium blocks and one motorbike at LaweHta Khan Inspection gate in Tachilek. A man was seized with 512 stimulant tablets and 1.8 g of heroin in Indaw Tsp. Two men were arrested with 185 stimulant tablets, 66 g of heroin and one motorbike in Homalin Tsp. A man was arrested with 40 stimulant tablets and 60.2 g of heroin in Thehin village. A man was arrested with 515 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle on Dawei-Myeik road, DaweiTsp, Taninthayi Region. Three men were arrested with 1359 stimulant tablets, 50 g of speciosa and one Probox vehicle in Taungpyo ward, Myeik Town, Taninthayi Region. A man was arrested with 4555 stimulant tablets, 100 g of speciosa and one Honda Fit vehicle in Thatkatho ward. A man was arrested with 51 stimulant tablets and one motorbike on Bago-Yangon road, ward 9, Bago Region. A man was arrested with 1560 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Yaypoegone village, ToungooTsp, Bago Region. Three men were arrested with 11100 liters

of Sulphuric Acid, a Nissan12-wheel vehicle, a Toyota Celica vehicle and one motorbike in PatheingyiTsp, Mandalay Region. A man was arrested with 180 stimulant tablets, 50 g heroin and 30 g of opium blocks at 16-mile inspection gate. An ownerless 800 liters of Sulphuric Acid were seized in Pyinsa village, PyinOoLwin Tsp. A man was arrested with 9600 stimulant tablets in Kyethnapa village, Mogok Tsp. A man was arrested with 16000 stimulant tablets and one motorbike near Taunglei village, Thabeikkyin Tsp. Two men were arrested with 18960 stimulant tablets, 20 g of heroin and two motorbikes in Latpan village, Kyaukse Town. Three men were arrested with 2615 stimulant tablets in Kanswear village, Yamethin Tsp. A man was arrested with 5091 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Yamethin Tsp. Two men were arrested with 6340 g of opium on Taunggyi-Meiktila road. A man was arrested with 3.3 g of ICE and 9 Diazepam Tablets in MingaladonTsp, Yangon Region. Two men and one woman were arrested with 16000 stimulant tablets at Aungminglar Bus Terminal, Yangon Region. A man was seized with 1215 stimulant tablets, 2.72 g of marijuana and one bicycle in ward 41, Dagon Myothit (North), Yangon Region. Upon acting on a tip-off, a paper-container sending to foreign country was seized with 1320 g of ICE at the General Post office in Yangon Region. Two men were seized with 581 stimulant tablets and one motorbike at Kaebaung Bridge in Ayeyawady Region. A woman was seized with 794 stimulant tablets in Lanmadaw ward, Pantanaw Town. Three men were seized with 5 stimulant tablets, and one man together with two women was arrested with a seizure of 5 stimulant tablets in Pantanaw. A man and two women were seized with 747 stimulant tablets, 1.5 g of ICE and one motorbike in Pantanaw Town. A man was seized with 67 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Kyaiklat Town.

There has been on seizure of ammunition. Police searched a man and seized him with 50 stimulant tablets, 0.01 g of heroin, 25 g of opium and two grenades. There has been one seizure involving foreigners. Three Chinese men were arrested with 3400 g of heroin.

There have been 308 cases being opened between 5-5-2019 and 11-5-2019. A total of 445 people, including 397 men and 48 women, were seized with 1221558 stimulant tablets, 23121 g of heroin, 31325 g of ICE, 15215.00716 g of opium, 350 g of opium blocks, 9 Diazepam Tablets, 11900 liters of Sulphuric Acid, 55 liters of Acetone and two grenades.

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

Contacts

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

Sagaing, Shwebo tourist zones attract over 7,000 visitors in Jan-Apr

OVER 7,000 local and foreign travelers visited the Sagaing and Shwebo tourist zones between January and April this year, according to statistics from the Hotels and Tourism Department.

Most of the travelers visited well-known tourist sites in Shwebo Zone such as Nandawyar, Mahananda lake, U Aung Zayar native land, Hanlin Ancient Pyu City, New Nyein Glazed Industry, Indaung village, and the Ayeyawady dolphin conservation area, and the Mingun Pahtodawgyi, Kaungghmudaw Pagoda, and Mya Pagoda in Shwebo Zone.

A total of 1,413 local

and foreign travelers visited Shwebo tourist zones — 311 locals and 12 tourists in January, 272 locals and four foreign tourists in February, 411 locals and 10 tourists in March, and 383 locals and 10 tourists in April. Meanwhile, 5,635 local and foreign travelers visited Sagaing tourist zones — 1,361 locals and 221 tourists in January, 819 locals and 164 tourists in February, 1,309 locals and 117 tourists in March, and 1,567 locals and 77 tourists in April, according to figures provided by the Hotels and Tourism Department.— Win Oo (Zayardine)

Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control holds meeting 1/2019 in Nay Pyi Taw

CENTRAL Committee for Drug Abuse Control held its meeting 1/2019 yesterday morning at the assembly hall of Union Minister's office, Ministry of Home Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was attended by Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Chairman, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, committee secretary Chief of Myanmar Police Force Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo, committee joint-secretary and head of anti-narcotic task force Police Brig-Gen Win Nang, committee members, chairmen and secretaries of workgroups, chairmen and secretaries of state/



Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe addresses the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control meeting yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

region committee for drug abuse control, high ranking officials from Myanmar Police Force, representatives of UNODC, DEA, ONCB, AFP and representatives of invited NGOs.

After the Central Committee for Drug Abuse

Control Chairman delivered an opening speech, committee secretary and joint secretary submitted their assessments of drug abuse control work were made and meeting attendees discussed requirements and suggestions on

drug abuse control works and future works and draft of National Drug Abuse Control Strategic Plan.

The meeting came to a close after committee Chairman delivered a closing speech. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

What kind of investments should we make?

INVESTMENT plays a vital role in developing a country. Generally speaking, local and international investments are considered basic drivers that help boost a country's economy.

Investments create job opportunities and stabilize a country's monetary flow.

Thus, investments must be encouraged through several measures such as offering a balanced law, easing regulations, cutting red tape, reducing taxes, and making the investment process easier.

As local and international investments have a bearing on national interests, it is important to scrutinize them and the sectors they flow into.

All types of investments must be assessed, whether they flow into industry, agriculture, production and consumption of natural resources, services, trade, construction, or wholesale sectors.

All we ask is that investors approach investments responsibly and incorporate environmental, social, and governance factors (ESGs) in their enterprises.

The ultimate factor is responsible investment. Both local and international projects must be assessed on the basis of their impact on the environment, the checks they will put in place so that Myanmar's culture and values are not harmed, and the attention they will pay to public healthcare and security.

The government has been constantly adjusting policies, rules, and regulations to bring them in line with international best practices and to make the investment climate more favorable, predictable, simpler, and friendlier.

The government of Myanmar is wholly committed to continued improvement in the country's investment climate. All we ask is that investors approach investments responsibly and incorporate environmental, social, and governance factors (ESGs) in their enterprises.

It is also important that the rights of stakeholders, including employees, are prioritized through the creation of fair and favorable working conditions as part of the responsible investment approach.

■■■

Beware of shadowy businesses which deceive people to fall into trap of "Get-Rich-Quick" schemes

Some companies are operating illegally through investments and loan programs with giving 10-25% interest for shares. Having a incentive by the high return rates, the public who are not financially literate fall victims to such scams. The Myanmar News Agency met with officials from Bureau of Special Investigation, the Ministry of Home Affairs to talk about how to avoid the traps the cheaters.

By Nanda Win
PHOTO: TARYA

U Aung Myo (Director), Bureau of Special Investigation

Q: Can you tell us about the investigations on financial crimes?

A: We've been investigating illegal financial companies that have popped up since 2017. There were two branches under SCL Myanmar Co. Ltd in Pyay Township, Bago Region that was selling high return shares illegally in the region. The Bago Region administration reported the activities of the company to us. Subsequent to further investigation, we were able to prosecute a Myanmar and Thai national in the case. Similarly, we were also able to shut down several illegal financial activities online and offline that were scamming the hard earned money of our citizens.

Q: How can people protect themselves from such crimes?

A: I would advise people to



U Aung Myo (Director), Bureau of Special Investigation.



U Aung Min Oo (Deputy Director).



U Soe Myint Lay (Deputy Director).

not be easily swayed by high returns on investments and spot for illegal loans. You have a high risk of losing the investments especially if the company goes under investigation or is shut down. If you encounter or are aware of any illegal operations, report to respective authorities.

U Aung Min Oo (Deputy Director)

Q: How do you prosecute criminals on financial crimes?

A: In the case of SCL Myanmar Co. Ltd, we found that the Thai national put the Myanmar national in the front and worked behind the scenes to launder the money. It was structured as of pyramid scheme. They managed to have the initial "investors" who were put into teams with the incentive to recruit more "investors". These were further organized into pods that continue to recruit with different bonus schemes for the number of new members for that particular person/pod can manage to

add into the pyramid. There are also systems that the more you "invest", the higher the return was going to be. By the time the company was investigated with the responsible persons prosecuted, the company had over 40,000 members with more than kyats 30,000 million. There are warrants for their arrest being put out at this moment with the money yet to be recovered. Another company was the Malaysian JJPTR Investment Co., Ltd. They practice investments and small loans from those investments. Under the company name Royal JJ Co., Ltd in Myanmar, JJPTR was operated by Daw Tuan Pi Kyaing. Royal JJ Co., Ltd was registered in Myanmar but the parent company wasn't registered here. How it worked was that people can invest from US\$25 to US\$1000 or more. They have to register and open an account on www.jjpтр.com and then transfer the money via Daw Tuan Pi Kyaing. The interest is around 20% and people can look into their accounts online. This business wasn't registered with the Myanmar Central Bank. We were able to prosecute Daw Tuan Pi Kyaing and confiscate company vehicles and Kyats 7900 million of investments.

Q: Where can citizens report such cases?

A: You can send letters to our department as well as lodge complaint online.

U Soe Myint Lay (Deputy Director)

Q: How do you prosecute

illegal financial services?

A: There is the Financial Institutions Law for the financial sector passed in 2016. According to section 159 of the law, no other institution is allowed to form a creditor entity without the approval of the Central Bank of Myanmar with a minimum of 2 years to maximum 5 years of imprisonment and up to 500 million Kyats in fines if the law is broken. There are also other notifications and trade laws that restrict certain activities by various ministries.

Q: How do you recover the money that was lost?

A: We try our best during the time of prosecution to make sure that people who lost money are able to recover this amount.

This is either done through the judge who acts as a third party to redistribute the money through the proper due process. They can also sue the culprits with due process according to civil law.

Translated Myat Thu

Eliminate cervical cancer? We can do it



Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO.

ALTHOUGH cervical cancer is for the most part preventable and treatable, its burden is disproportionately high. As part of the global drive to tackle the problem, comprehensive screening, vaccination and treatment – including of pre-cancerous lesions – is crucial

Cervical cancer is a deadly

threat to women's health. Across the world, the disease kills one woman every two minutes, with women between the ages of 30 and 49 most at risk of developing it. But while cervical cancer can affect all women everywhere, its impact is far from uniform: Nearly 90% of the women cervical cancer kills are in low- and middle-income countries, including those of the WHO South-East Asia Region. As the numbers show, cervical cancer is at the core of intersecting inequalities, both global and local.

Despite the world-beating progress

Tackling the problem is critically important. Though the Region accounts for just over a quarter of the world's population, it represents 28% of the 570 000

new cases reported every year. More egregiously, in 2018 the Region accounted for 30.7% of the 311 000 deaths attributed to the disease annually, equating to more than 95 000 deaths. Despite the world-beating progress Member States have made in women's health (most notably on maternal health), women continue to be left behind when it comes to preventing, detecting and treating cervical cancer, including pre-cancerous lesions.

WHO and its Member States are working to change that. As per the Region's Flagship Priorities, which each Member State helped develop, all countries are committed to investing in 'best-buys' aimed at preventing noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), including cervical cancer, as well as achieving uni-

versal health coverage (UHC), which will enhance services that will help prevent HPV infection through vaccination, aid early detection and provide pre-cancer treatment. Importantly, Member States are also committed to implementing the Region's own Strategic Framework for the comprehensive control of the problem, as well as the many training packages WHO has produced to support health workers at all levels.

The potential for the Region to accelerate progress and harness key innovations is nevertheless ripe. In May 2018, for example, WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus made an unprecedented call to eliminate the disease as a public health problem, highlighting the need for high-level buy-in,

including from global partners. In February this year WHO's Executive Board noted the urgent need for decisive action, bringing the issue to the World Health Assembly in May. Come that time, Member States, including from the South-East Asia Region, will have the opportunity to lend their voice to what is a growing chorus to eliminate the disease and achieve a massive win for women's health. Each and every vote will count.

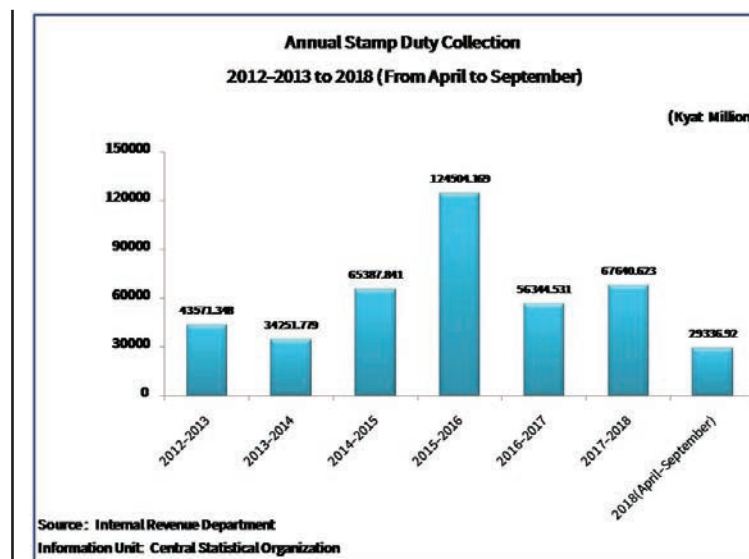
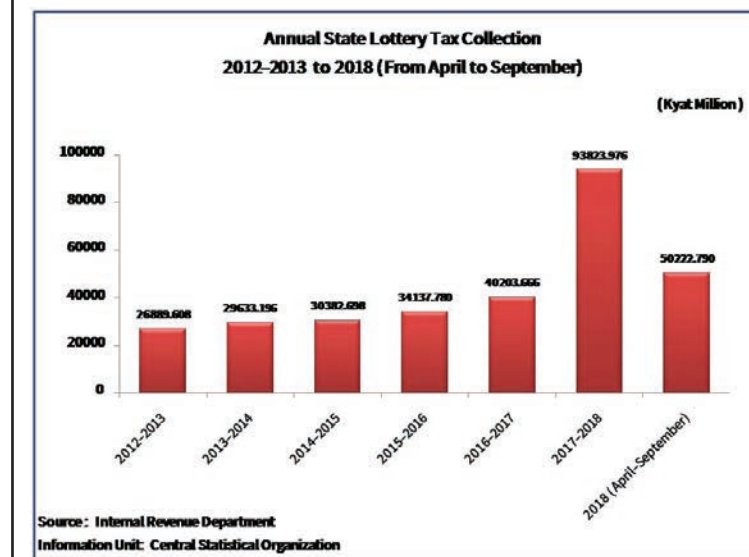
Promotes healthy behavior

As WHO has made clear, access to the human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine is crucial to driving rapid and lasting change. Why? Because although most types of HPV infections do not cause cervical cancer, almost all cases of cervical cancer are

caused by HPV. By providing two doses of the HPV vaccine to girls between the ages of nine and fourteen they can be better protected against HPV-caused cervical cancer, thereby dramatically reducing the disease's burden. They can also be provided information that promotes healthy behavior that can help prevent cervical cancer. To date, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and, most recently, Maldives have introduced the vaccine nationally, while India's Sikkim State has made the vaccine part of its routine schedule. Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and several Indian states have conducted pilot projects.

These initiatives are to be commended. Where absent, they should be pursued.

SEE PAGE-14



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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.

Two flyovers being built on Yangon circular railway

AS part of the circular railway upgrade, Myanmar Railways is constructing two flyovers on the Yangon circular railway for the convenience of passengers.

"There are 26 flyovers on the Yangon circular railway. Among them, nine flyovers need to be upgraded because of their low height. The remaining flyovers are high enough for the trains to pass under them. Currently, MR is upgrading the Ahlon and Insein (Mingyi) flyovers," said U Maung Cho, the engineer from the Mahlwagon factory of MR.

"The Ahlon flyover is 31 feet and 6 inches wide and 12 feet and 6 inches high. So, the drainage canal cannot be built between the bridge and the railway to protect against floods in the rainy season. Sometimes,



A view of construction work in progress on the flyover along Yangon Circular Railway. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE**

trains have to stop at the Ahlon railway station during rains. Therefore, MR will upgrade the flyover to increase its height to 17.5 feet and width to 57 feet. We will be able to dig the drainage canal after upgrading the flyover.

The width of the four-lane flyover will be extended to 44 feet. MR will spend K200 million from this year's on upgrading the bridge, which is expected to be complete in February, 2020," he said.

MR has constructed only

one arm of the forked flyover in Insein. It did not construct the other arm of the flyover in the direction of Mingyi road because of budget constraints. Now, MR will construct the remaining arm of the flyover. The flyover will be 441 feet long, with the approaching road measuring 112 feet and 9 inches. MR will spend K2,000 million on the construction of the flyovers.

MR plans to complete the construction of the Ahlon flyover by January, 2020 and the Insein flyover by the end of 2020. Among the nine bridges under construction, two bridges are being constructed this month, and the remaining will be constructed next year, depending on the budget.—Myint Maung Soe

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar to host 'Beauty of Mekong' art exhibition, contest

THE 'Beauty of Mekong' art exhibition and competition will kick off on 22 May at the National Museum in Yangon to commemorate the 10th Mekong-Japan Exchange Year 2019. Creative ideas and innovative concepts will be showcased in the exhibition.

"Myanmar will host the Mekong-Japan Exchange Year 2019. It is being arranged by the National University of Arts and Culture, under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, and under the supervision of the State Counsellor," said U Myat Tun Aung, Professor Head of the Art Department at the university.

A total of 72 artists, including professional artists from My-

anmar, well-known international artists, and teachers and students from State Schools of Fine Arts and universities of Arts and Culture will participate in the competition.

Artists from Tokyo University will represent Japan and exhibit pictures and canvasses. The exhibition will feature the finest art and photographs from Mekong region countries, including Thailand, Cambodia, and Viet Nam.

The 'Beauty of Mekong' art competition is open to everyone under the age of 40. Those wishing to participate in the contest need to send watercolor paintings, oil paintings, and acrylic artwork to the Yangon and Mandalay Universities of Culture by



A watercolour painting will be showcased in the 'Beauty of Mekong' art exhibition on 22 May. **PHOTO: KHIN ZARLI**

15 May. The winners will be announced on 22 May, the first day of the exhibition. The exhibition will be held from 22 to 28 May and

will be open from 9.30 a.m to 4.30 p.m every day.—Khin Zarli

(Translated by La Wonn)

Strong winds destroy 800 houses in Sagaing Region

STRONG winds destroyed about 800 houses in two townships of Sagaing Region on the evening of 13 May, according to the Director of the Disaster Management Department.

"We have received data about the scale of damage from Pale and Kani townships. We heard that strong winds were reported in Mingin Township, but the damage has not been calculated yet. We are now collecting data from other townships affected by strong winds," he added.

On 13 May, 780 households in Kani Township and about 20 houses in Pale Township were



About 800 houses in Sagaing destroyed by strong wind, coupled with torrential rain. **PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN (MONYWA)**

reportedly destroyed by strong gusts of wind.

"About 800 houses were damaged in Kani Township. The most affected villages were those

which had been struck by strong winds earlier. The Sagaing Region Chief Minister and officials from concerned departments are currently surveying the areas and

providing necessary relief," said U Theik Soe Tun, Kani Township administrator.

In areas that witnessed strong winds, some villages were battered by hailstones and there were reports of a cargo ship sinking in the Chindwin River, said U Tun Tun Win, region Hluttaw representative of Kani Township constituency. "The winds were strong and hailstones fell in some villages of Sagaing Region. Therefore, many homes were destroyed. A cargo ship sank in the Chindwin River near Medin village on 13 May evening," he said.—Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Kachin Investment Committee approves three manufacturing enterprises

THE Kachin State Investment Committee recently endorsed three manufacturing businesses that are expected to create over 200 jobs for local people, according to news released online by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

The three enterprises will be engaged in manufacturing animal

feed, biomass carbon, and plywood and veneer from *Broussonetia Papyrifera* Plant, according to a meeting convened by the investment committee on 10 May at the Kachin State Government Office.

The new Myanmar Investment Law authorizes region and state investment committees to grant endorsements to investment proposals with

a capital of not more than US\$5 million (K6,000 million), in order to simplify the verification process of investment projects.

Kachin State primarily attracts domestic investments. The investments flow into the mining sector; manufacturing of various sizes of cobbles and fire bricks; manufacturing of cork flaps; cold storage services for

crops; cultivation and export of Brazil bananas; construction of wholesale centers for fruits; and, manufacturing and sale of rubber, according to the DICA.

To increase investments, the Myanmar Investment Commission is granting tax incentives to investors, depending on the development status of the states and

regions. The least developed regions, designated as Zone 1, grant income tax exemptions of seven years, while moderately developed regions (Zone 2) have a five-year tax holiday, and adequately developed regions (Zone 3) are exempt for three years. Fourteen townships in Kachin State are included in Zone 1 and investors in the state

can enjoy a seven-year tax break. At present, the Yangon Region absorbs 60 per cent of foreign investments flowing into the country.

Mandalay attracts 30 per cent of investments. Other regions and states get only a small share of investments, according to DICA statistics. — GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar rice exports plunge 800,000 tons to reach 1.3 mln tons over seven months of FY

By Nyein Nyein

MYANMAR has exported over 1.3 million tons of rice and broken rice in the first seven months of the current fiscal year, a decline of 800,000 tons compared with the corresponding period of the 2017-2018FY, according to the Commerce Ministry.

From 1 October, 2018 to 26 April, 2019, Myanmar shipped over 1.3 million tons of rice and broken rice worth US\$412.377 million, according to data from the

Commerce Ministry.

The country exported 2.1 million tons of rice and broken rice in October-April in the previous fiscal. With the volume of exports falling by 800,000 tons, income has also fallen by \$300 million.

As per data from the Commerce Ministry, over 505,770 tons of rice and broken rice, worth \$153.6 million, were exported through the border gates in the current financial year, while maritime exports were registered at over 831,000

tons and valued at \$258.7 million.

China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by the Philippines and Côte d'Ivoire. Cameroon is the fourth largest buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by Guinea.

Myanmar sends broken rice mostly to Belgium, followed by Indonesia, China, the UK, and Poland.

Rice trade to China through the Sino-Myanmar border trade channels has halted as China has been

cracking down on illegal goods from October, 2018. This has led to a steep drop in rice exports to China, leaving about 50,000 tons of rice stockpiled at Muse gate. "As China's market constitutes 46 per cent of overall exports of Myanmar, the market is affected by China's demand," said U Aung Than Oo, the Chair of Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association. Myanmar shipped over 3.6 million tons of rice to other countries in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which is the highest rice export volume so far on record.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)



A container ship docking at a terminal in Botahtaung, Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (17/2019)

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

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-212(18-19)	Electrical Spares for ZJ 50D Sr Rigs (17) Items	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-213(18-19)	Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L Sr Rigs (51) Items	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy Website Portal (www.moe.gov.mm) as from 14 May 2019.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm on 13 June 2019**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **13-6-2019, 14:00 pm**

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

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Dated: 15th May 2019

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- The ED is responsible for leading the development and implementation of the organization's short and long-term work plan.
- The ED manages all administrative and operational matters of the ASEAN Foundation (including policies, budget and staffing).
- The ED will play a significant role in securing the financial resources required to sustain and grow the ASEAN Foundation's initiatives and programmes, as well as build positive working relations with external stakeholders. The ED reports to the Board of Trustees of the ASEAN Foundation.

Qualifications

- Be a national of an ASEAN Member State
- Possess a university degree or professional qualifications from a reputable institution, preferably in a relevant discipline such as Business Administration, Public Administration, Public Policy, International Relations or Human Resources. Candidates with an advanced degree are preferred.
- Have at least 10 years of professional work experience, with 5 years at a management level.
- Have a good understanding of ASEAN issues.
- Be fluent in English
- Be in good health

Remuneration and Benefits

The successful candidate will receive an attractive package consisting of monthly basic salary of USD 6,000.00, with other benefits, such as coverage of housing, medical, and education expenses of eligible dependent children.

The position is based in Jakarta and the appointment will be for a period of three years starting on 17 January 2020.

How to apply

Send your application to recruitment@aseanfoundation.org, highlighting your suitability and potential contribution to the position together with a written statement of your vision for the ASEAN Foundation, in not more than 300 words. Please included a detailed CV, a recent passport-sized photograph and certified true copies of educational certificates obtained.

Application documents should reach the ASEAN Foundation by **Monday, 20 May 2019**. The Selection Committee's decision is final and only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

The Employment Application Form can be downloaded from the ASEAN website at the [link-http://www.asean.org/opportunities/asec-employment-form](http://www.asean.org/opportunities/asec-employment-form) and Detail information will be available at the link <http://www.aseanfoundation.org/job/the-asean-foundation-invites-asean-nationals-to-apply-for-the-following-position-executive-director>.

ASEAN Foundation

Defence Services Chief honours pilot, crew for safe landing of MNA flight

THE Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services yesterday honoured the pilot and crew of a Myanmar National Airlines flight for safely landing the passenger jet without its front wheels on Sunday.

A ceremony to confer certificates of honour on Capt. Myat Moe Aung and the airplane crew was held at the Head Office of the Myanmar National Airlines in Yangon yesterday.

At the ceremony, the Commander of Yangon Command, Maj-Gen Thet Pon, presented certificates of honour to them, on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

"I am a pilot born of the Tatmadaw. I made the best of use of the skills and experience I gained from the Tatmadaw to land the plane. I am extremely delighted to receive the honour from the Com-

mander-in-Chief of Defence Services. I promise to continue to do my utmost for the country," said Capt. Myat Moe Aung at the ceremony.

On the morning of 12 May, Myanmar Airlines flight UB-103, an Embraer 190 model (XY-AGO), carrying 82 passengers and a crew of seven from Yangon to Mandalay, made an emergency landing at the Mandalay International Airport after its front land-



Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Thet Pon (Fourth from left), Capt. Myat Moe Aung (Fifth from left) and the airplane crew pose for the documentary photo at the Head Office of the Myanmar National Airlines in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: KO HTET**

ing gear failed to deploy.

The pilot followed the emergency procedures to deploy the front wheels before deciding to touch

down with just the rear wheels.

The decision, control, and leadership he exhibited in a tough situation

ensured the safety of the passengers and crew.—
Ko Htet ■ (Translated by GNLM)

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM Request for Bids

Date 15th May, 2019

Credit No. BMZ-No.: 201567882

Contract: Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Solar PV System for Households and Public Facilities.
RFB Reference No. ICB-KfW01 (rebid):

1. The Department of Rural Development (DRD), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation has received financing from the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) toward the cost of the Rural Electrification Programme (REP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the Contract for Rural Electrification Programme - Component I SHS (REP I). For this contract, the Purchaser shall process the payments using the Simplified Disbursement Method, as defined in the KfW Guidelines, except for those payments, which the contract provides to be made through letter of credit.
2. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Solar PV systems for Households and Public Facilities in Southern Shan State. The bid is divided into two parts, Tranche 1 with approximately 18,000 systems identified and an optional Tranche 2 with minimum 3,500. The quantity of systems will be assessed through an ongoing survey. The option shall not be contracted later than 1 year from date of contract signing of Tranche 1.
3. Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's Standard Procurement Documents (SPD), Request for Bids - Goods (2 envelope process) [October 2017], amended as per KfW's Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and associated Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries [August 2016], and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
4. For quick referenced, some of the key qualification requirements include:
 - The average annual turnover of the last three years should not be less than 3,000,000 USD
 - The Bidder has successfully completed at least three (3) contracts in during the last 5 (five) years, and at least two contracts had a value equivalent to or greater than 1.5 million USD.
 - More information is included in the bidding documents
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from DRD and inspect the bidding document following an appointment at the address given below:

National Electrification Project, Department of Rural Development,
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Office No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Tel/Facsimile: +95 67 3418635
Electronic mail address: ksaung@gmail.com, dr.soesoeohn@gmail.com,
nepmmo.drd@gmail.com, nepcommunicationteam@gmail.com

A Pre-Bid Meeting shall take place at the following date, time and place: Monday 3. June 2019, 10.00 a.m. at DRD, Office No. 36 (Test Lab-1, ground Floor), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
6. The bidding document in English may be requested by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.

GOPA-International Energy Consultants GmbH (intec)
Karsten Ley
Justus-von-Liebig-Str. 161352 Bad Homburg, Germany
E-mail: info@gopa-intec.de
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before Friday 5 July 2019, 13:00. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. The outer Bid envelopes marked "ORIGINAL BID", and the inner envelopes marked "TECHNICAL BID" will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below on Friday 5 July 2019, 14:00. All enveloped marked "Second Envelope: FINANCIAL PART" shall remain unopened and will be held in safe custody of the Purchaser until the second public opening.
8. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of 20,000 EUR
9. The address referred to above is:

National Electrification Project, Department of Rural Development,
Attn. Mr. Maung Win, Deputy Director General
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation,
Office No. 36, (Test Lab-1, ground Floor), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Yoma Bank Limited, a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and having its registered office at Level 8, Office Tower 2, HAGL Myanmar Center Tower 192 Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, hereby declares that the Company is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following Trademarks:



Reg. No. IV/16054/2019 (11 February 2019)



Reg. No. IV/16055/2019 (11 February 2019)

The above Trademarks are used in respect of "Downloadable computer software applications all included in class 9" in **Class 9**; "Clothing; footwear; headwear all included in class 25" in **Class 25**; and "Insurance; financial evaluation [insurance, banking, real estate]; monetary affairs; real estate affairs; financing services; commercial and consumer lending and financing; financial exchange and bill payment processing services, credit card, bank card, debit card and electronic payment services; banking; online banking; savings bank services; mortgage banking; surety services; guarantees, all included in class 36" in **Class 36**.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the above Trademarks or other infringements whatsoever thereto will be dealt with according to law.

Daw Yee Mon Aung, (Advocate)

For **Yoma Bank Limited**

c/o **Baker & McKenzie Limited**

Level 18, Unit 18-03, Sule Square,
221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township,
Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated: 15th May 2019

CBM Governor receives French official

U KYAW KYAW MAUNG, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar received Minister Counsellor of Economic Department for ASEAN countries Embassy of France in Singapore Mr. Frederic Kaplan and entourage at the office of

the CBM in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed current progress of Myanmar's economy and banking, more cooperation in Myanmar's banking sector and matters related with disciplinary

and supervisory over banking sector. — MNA

CBM Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung meets with Minister Counsellor of Economic Department for ASEAN countries Mr. Frederic Kaplan in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (019 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (019 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KEN ORCHID

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KEN ORCHID-VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T. where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ANGEL VOY.NO. (0168-498 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY. NO. (0168-498 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT 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 EVERGREEN SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

For Appointment of Port Operator/Contractor for Management, Operation & Maintenance of Port & IWT Terminal at Sittwe and IWT Terminal at Paletwa under Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project

Tender No: IWAI / KPMU / 45/2019
(Notice Inviting E-Tender)

1. Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), on behalf of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), invites ONLINE Tenders/Bids from reputed Indian Company or JV with Indian and Myanmar Company as JV partner with on Indian company as the mandatory lead partner, having capabilities of management, operation & maintenance of ports/ harbor including marine activities and terminal with associated infrastructures and equipment in two bid systems (Cover I. Technical Bid and Cover II. Financial Bid) under Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project for:

“Management, Operation & Maintenance of Port & IWT Terminal at Sittwe and IWT Terminal at Paletwa under Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project.”

2. Interested parties may download the tender document online from the site <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> and IWAI website www.iwai.nic.in and are required to pay Rs.5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) as the cost of RFP document deposited into IWAI's Account.

3. Pre-bid meeting will be held on 16th May 2019 at 14:30 hrs in Inland Waterways Authority of India (A-13, Sector -1, Noida, Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh)

The last date for submission of bids will be on 10th June 2019 at 15:00 hrs.(ONLINE submission)

Opening of bids will be on 11st June 2019 at 15:30 hrs.

4. If any question on the RFP, please contact to:

The Chief Engineer (Tech)

Inland Waterways Authority of India

A-13, Sector-1, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh -201301,

Ph:+ 91-120-2522971

Fax:+ 91-120-2543973

Email id: kpmu.iwai@nic.in, kpmuiwai@gmail.com, ce.iwai@nic.in

Chief Engineer (Tech)

Inland Waterways Authority of India-IWAI

Press Release on the Official Working Visit of President U Win Myint and Spouse Daw Cho Cho to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

FROM PAGE-5

The President also emphasised that at a time when the world is full of violence and miseries, it has become even more relevant and necessary to hold annual celebration of Vesak Day devoted to the Buddha's teaching of loving kindness and living in peace and harmony. He also informed the meeting that with a view to promoting peace and national reconciliation, Myanmar has organized Advisory Forums on National Reconciliation and Peace twice in cooperation with Religions for Peace Group (RfP); the first forum was held in November 2018 and the second recently in May 2019. The President also expressed his belief that annual celebration of Buddha

Day would contribute to the collective efforts in rekindling spirit of culture of peace and in promoting mutual understanding among the peoples of different cultures, religions and civilizations.

The 16th United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations was held from May 12 to 14, 2019 hosted by National Viet Nam Buddha Sangha (NVBS), in collaboration with International Council for Day of Vesak (ICDV) supported by the Government of Viet Nam. The ceremony was also attended by H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of Viet Nam, Right Hon. Mr. K.P.Sharma Oli, Prime Minister of Nepal, and H.E. Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India, H.E. Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahba-

na, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the UNESCAP and H.E. Mr. Tran Thanh Man, Chairman of Viet Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee who also delivered their respective opening speeches. More than 1600 international delegates from 113 countries and over 20,000 Vietnamese Buddhists joined the event.

The President and spouse attended the luncheon hosted by the Organizing Committee of the 16th United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations 2019. Then, the President and party visited Tam Chuc Pagoda and donated the 20-inch Bronze Buddha Statue to the Trustee. The President and Party also visited Bai Dinh Ancient Pagoda and Bao Thap Stupa in Ninh Binh and

paid homage to Buddha Statues.

In the late evening, Myanmar delegation led by the President and Spouse attended the traditional culture show namely the Quintessence of Tokin.

On 13 May 2019, the President and Party left for Tuan Chau International Port and visited Ha Long Bay. In the evening, the President received the Chairman of Viet Nam-Myanmar Friendship Association and Vietnamese Business enterprises separately at the Hotel. They discussed the activities undertaken by the Viet Nam-Myanmar Friendship Association to deepen bilateral ties as well as the ongoing business activities and the potential investment plans of the Vietnamese business community

in Myanmar.

In the morning of 14 May 2019, President and party visited Ha Dong Silk Village. The President and Party arrived back Nay Pyi Taw by special flight in the afternoon of 14 May 2019.

During the visit to Viet Nam, the President and spouse were accompanied by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung, Permanent Secretary for the President Office U Khin Latt and Senior Officials.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Nay Pyi Taw

14 May 2019

■



Japanese film crew shoots production of transformer at a factory in South Dagon Industry Zone in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Japanese crew makes documentary about transformer production in South Dagon Industry Zone

A JAPANESE documentary crew filmed transformer production at a factory in South Dagon Industrial Zone yesterday.

Along with shooting the stages of transformer production and interviewing, the film crew will tour around Htaw Thwan village in Kalawal Village-tract, Thanlyin to observe application of electrical appliances from May 10th to 15th. Fur-

thermore, they said that they have documented international use of Hitachi brand, and that the videos will be uploaded on Youtube in July after Editing.

The transformer production is the joint venture business of the Hitachi Company Limited and Hitachi Soe Electric & Machinery Company Limited. Under the nationwide electrification plan 2030, the JV company has won the tender

for installing 5389 transformers to distribute electricity form 11 KV power grid. So far, it has contributed over 4,400 transformers to the government.

As Ministry of Information and related departments have relaxed rules concerning the documentary shootings on international advertisement, documentaries and movies are proliferating in Myanmar.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Eliminate cervical cancer? We can do it

FROM PAGE-9

But as crucial as national commitment is, other factors are at play, from vaccine procurement and supply issues to pricing and sustainability, especially as economies grow and countries transition away from external assistance. While innovative Regional mechanisms such as the South-East Asia Regulatory Network can have a powerful impact (especially on price transparency and collective bargaining), concerted action is needed to overcome vaccine supply constraints to better reflect Member State ambition. That is, in part, why supporting a global push is so important.

Still, vaccination alone is no silver bullet – it must be accompanied by increased access to health services and a sufficient and affordable supply of screening and treatment technologies, including for pre-cancerous lesions. Screening is recommended for every woman from age 30 and regularly after that. Though all countries in the Region have incorporated these measures

in national cervical cancer screening plans, implementation – especially at the primary level – should be significantly increased as part of the broader drive towards UHC, alongside efforts to better integrate services. This requires Member States to enact the proactive measures needed, as well as promote global buy-in via the World Health Assembly and an action-oriented high-level meeting on UHC at the UN General Assembly later this year.

WHO will remain steadfast in its support to Member States to leverage the full range of interventions to prevent, detect and treat cervical cancer throughout the life-course. In doing so, it will also remain steadfast in helping them leverage global momentum and the innovations needed to make rapid advances to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem. Together we must raise our voice and highlight the unconscionable burden women across the Region have borne for far too long. Together we must accelerate progress to eliminate cervical cancer once and for all. ■

US, Russia test tense ties as Pompeo visits Putin

SOCHI (Russia) — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday meets US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in the highest-level talks between the rival powers in nearly a year as they see if they can make headway on a raft of disagreements from Venezuela to Iran to arms control.

Pompeo will visit Putin in the Black Sea resort of Sochi less than two weeks after President Donald Trump voiced optimism about improving relations with Moscow during a more than one-hour telephone conversation with the Russian leader.

The renewed diplomacy followed the long-awaited report in the United States by investigator Robert Mueller which found that Russia interfered in



This combination of file pictures created on 10 May 2019 shows Russian President Vladimir Putin (L) in Paris on 11 November 2018 and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at the State Department in Washington, DC, on 8 April 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

the 2016 election but that the Trump campaign did not collude with Moscow, partially lifting a cloud that

had hung over the mogul-turned-president for two years.

Pompeo is the high-

est-ranking US official to see Putin since July when Trump met him in Helsinki and stunned the US politi-

cal class by appearing to accept the Russian leader's statement at face value that he did not meddle in the US election.

Trump on Monday announced that he expected a "very fruitful meeting" with Putin and Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping at the G20 summit in Japan, only for Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov to deny Washington had requested such a meeting and say there were "no agreements so far."

Trump's enthusiasm for courting Putin has little support in Washington, even within his own administration, which has kept up a campaign of pressure including sanctions on Russia over alleged election meddling and Moscow's support for armed separatists in Ukraine.

Pompeo, despite his close relationship with Trump, left little doubt on where he stood in remarks Saturday in California.

Addressing the conservative Claremont Institute, Pompeo said that US policymakers in recent decades had "drifted from realism" and chastised them for believing that "enfolding the likes of China and Russia into a so-called rules-based international order would hasten their domestic evolution towards democracy."

"But we can see now 30 years on, after the end of the Cold War, that the Putin regime slays dissidents in cold blood and invades its neighbours," Pompeo said, three days before he sees the Russian president.—AFP ■

Mystery shrouds 'sabotage' of oil tankers in tense Gulf

DUBAI (United Arab Emirates)—Investigators sought Tuesday to shed light on a series of mysterious attacks on ships off the coast of the UAE, as President Donald Trump warned Iran against doing anything to harm US interests.

Washington and its Gulf allies stopped short of blaming Tehran for what the UAE and Saudi Arabia called the "sabotage" of four ships, including two Saudi oil tankers, on Sunday.

But Trump vowed that Tehran would "suffer greatly" were it to "do anything" to threaten US interests.

"If they do anything, it would be a very bad mistake," Trump warned at the White House. "If they do anything they will suffer greatly."

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani hit back, saying the Islamic republic was "too great to be intimidated by anyone".

"God willing we will pass this difficult period with glory and our heads held high, and defeat the enemy," Rouhani said at a late night meeting with clerics.

The attacks came after

the United States deployed B-52 bombers and an assault ship to bolster an aircraft carrier in the region.

The dispatch of the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier group, the amphibious assault vessel, a Patriot missile battery and the bombers has triggered fears of a possible military confrontation.

"In an environment of rising regional tensions, limited Iranian operations against the UAE and Saudi Arabia might be designed to dissuade Abu Dhabi and Riyadh and signal that war with Iran will not be limited to Iranian soil," said Alex Vatanka, senior fellow at the Middle East Institute.

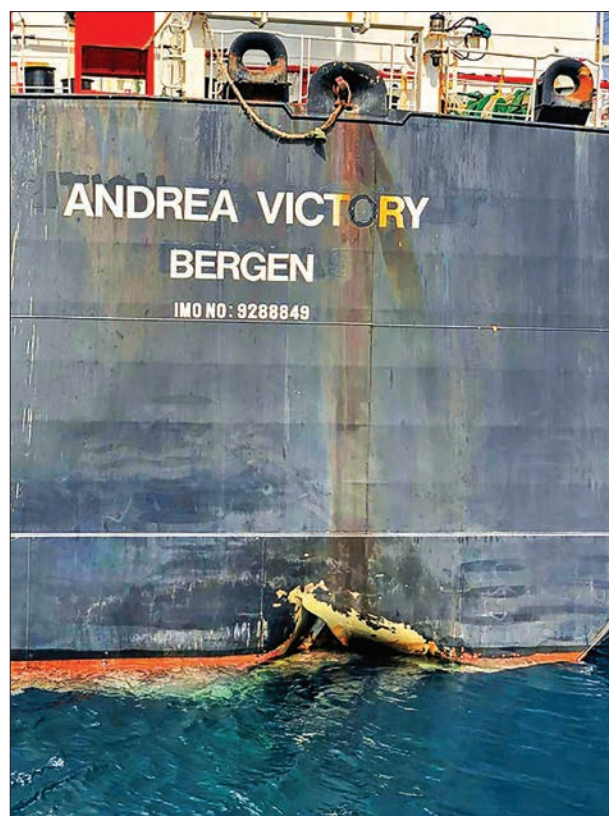
'Deliberate sabotage'

A UAE government official said the Saudi oil tankers Al-Marzoqah and Amjad were attacked off the emirate of Fujairah along with the Norwegian tanker Andrea Victory and an Emirati ship, the A. Michel.

No casualties were reported and none of the vessels sank.

Saudi Arabia, Iran's regional arch-rival, condemned "acts of sabotage" and a "criminal act".

The UAE minister of



The managers of the Norwegian tanker Andrea Victory said it had a hole in the hull after being struck by an unknown object. **PHOTO: AFP**

state for foreign affairs, Anwar Gargash, said the Emirates will probe the "deliberate sabotage".

"The investigation will be conducted in a professional manner, the facts will be made clear, and we have our own readings and conclusions," he tweeted.

Saudi Arabia said its two tankers suffered "significant damage" but there

was no oil spill.

The attacks raised many questions, including the nature of the sabotage.

The Andrea Victory's managers, Thome Group, said the ship had a hole in its hull "after being struck by an unknown object on the waterline".

Asked whether the United States believed Iran played a role in the attacks,

Brian Hook, the US special envoy for Iran, declined to comment, saying only that US authorities would be assisting the investigation at the request of the UAE.

Acting Pentagon chief Patrick Shanahan proposed a revamped military plan at a meeting with senior national security aides, The New York Times reported.

The plan would see up to 120,000 US troops deployed to the Middle East were Iran to attack American forces or speed up nuclear weapons development, the newspaper said.

The United Nations called on all sides to "exercise restraint for the sake of regional peace."

'Possibly a warning'

Oil prices initially spiked in response to news of the attacks, but were largely flat in trading on Tuesday.

Fujairah port is the only Emirati terminal located on the Arabian Sea coast, bypassing the Strait of Hormuz through which most Gulf oil exports pass.

Iran has repeatedly threatened to close the strait in case of a military confrontation with the United States.—AFP ■

460,000 customers' data possibly leaked from Uniqlo, GU websites

TOKYO—Fast Retailing Co. said Tuesday personal information from 461,091 customer accounts for the shopping websites of its Uniqlo and GU brands may have been leaked through unauthorized access.

The operator of the two fast-fashion brands said the two online store websites were hacked between April 23 and May 10 and customers' names, addresses, phone numbers and credit card data may have been leaked.—Kyodo News ■

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AFF U-15 Championship: Myanmar's hopes of reaching semi-finals crushed

By Kyaw Zin Tun

MYANMAR'S hopes of reaching semi-finals were crushed as Viet Nam beat Myanmar 2-1 in the last qualifying match of the AFF U-15 Girls' Championship 2019 at the IPE Stadium (1) in Chonburi, Thailand yesterday.

In the match, the Myanmar girls' team lined up with goalkeeper May Oo Khin and players Moe Pyae Pyae Maung, Phyu Phwe, Khin Htay Khying, Aye Htet Htet Paing, Zin Moe Pyae, Htoo Theingyi Naing, Su Myat Noe, Than Than Soe (Captain), Phyo Phyo Wai, and Kyal Sin.

Myanmar led the game from the opening whistle. In the seventeenth minute, Zin Moe Pyae scored the opener for Myanmar. At the end of the first half, Myanmar was ahead 1-0. However, the match swung in favour of Viet Nam in the second half, with the team beating Myanmar by one



A young Myanmar footballer (white) vies for the ball with her Viet Nam opponent (red) during the last qualifying match of the AFF U-15 Girls' Championship 2019 yesterday in Chonburi, Thailand. **PHOTO: MFF**

goal. With the loss, Myanmar is out of the reckoning for the semi-final. Viet Nam and Philippines from Group A have qualified

for the semi-final. The remaining qualifying matches for Group B are scheduled to be held on 15 and 17 May.

The semi-finals of the championship will be held on 19 May, while the final is scheduled to take place on 21 May. ■

MFF invites media to Grassroots Football Festival 2019

THE Myanmar Football Federation has released a statement inviting the media to attend the opening and awards ceremonies of the MFF Grassroots Football Festival 2019, which will be held this month.

The opening ceremony of the festival will be held at 8 a.m. on 15 May on the MFF Artificial Turf, and the awards ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. on 16 May. — GNLM ■

Watson 'gave blood' for Chennai during IPL final

NEW DELHI (India) — Bloodstains on the leg of Shane Watson's trousers during the IPL final as he scored a blistering 80 for Chennai Super Kings were revealed Tuesday to be from a cut that needed six stitches when he finished.

The 37-year-old Australian batsman was on the losing side in the end, but teammate Harbhajan Singh hailed Watson's courage in continuing to play despite suffering a gashed knee while diving for a catch. "Respect brother what a LEGEND @srwatson33 given sweat, blood and everything for the team.. INSPIRING," Singh wrote on Instagram.

The Indian off-spinner posted a picture of Watson with blood-stained yellow trousers while batting in the Twenty20 final against the Mumbai Indians, and said the opener needed six stitches after the valiant innings.

"Can you guys see the blood on his knee.. He got 6 stitches after the game," Harbhajan wrote.

"Got injured while diving but continue to bat without telling anyone," the bowler added.

Watson smashed 80 off 59 deliveries only to see his team lose by one run. Watson was run out going for an unlikely second in the final over; and Mumbai paceman Lasith Malinga denied Chennai the two runs needed off the last ball to win the game and a record fourth title. Watson's return to the IPL next season remains uncertain. He has already bid farewell to Australia's Big Bash T20 tournament, and Chennai captain M.S. Dhoni indicated he would make changes to the batting line-up for next year. —AFP ■

Herrera confident Solskjaer can restore United's lustre

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Ole Gunnar Solskjaer possesses the qualities necessary to restore Manchester United as a genuine title contender, according to departing midfielder Anders Herrera.

The 29-year-old Spanish international — who has been linked to a move to French champions Paris Saint-Germain — believes the common decency of Solskjaer will be rewarded with better performances on the pitch.

Solskjaer's star faded almost as soon as he was given the job full-time after a terrific spell

as caretaker manager following the sacking of Jose Mourinho in December.

The former United striker guided them to 14 wins in 17 games but the end of the season has been nothing short of a disaster as they lost eight of their last 12 — ending up 32 points off city rivals and champions Manchester City — and missed out on Champions League football next term.

"He is one of the best people I have ever met in football," said Herrera, quitting United after the club declined to offer him a new contract when he demand-

ed increased wages of £300,000 (\$388,000) a week.

"Everyone loves him in the dressing room. Everyone wants to fight for him. "When you have the players behind you and wanting to fight for you, part of the job is done. "I believe in karma and if you are a good person, if you are honest and sincere with the players and the fans, sooner or later it will work.

"I think Ole is the right person because he has qualities and knowledge but also he is a great man and a great person."

'The right person is at the wheel'

Herrera, who is likely to be followed out the door by a slew of players in the close season, added Solskjaer and his coaching staff needed the fans to be patient as the turn around will take time.

Solskjaer showed there was a harder edge to him when he cancelled an end-of-season review with the players because he was so angry at the limp display in the 2-0 home defeat by relegated Cardiff in their final match of the season.

"I really believe in Ole. I really believe in Michael (Carrick), Kieran (McKenna), Mick Phelan,

in Demps (Mark Dempsey), but I think there is a tough job ahead," said Herrera. "They (the coaches) need time because this is not going to be from the first day. The club will need time, confidence and support. "I am sure they will give it but the only thing I ask for them is time because this is not easy.

"(But) the right person is at the wheel. He's the right person."

Aside from Herrera veteran defender Antonio Valencia is also leaving on a free transfer, whilst several others including Juan Mata, inconsistent French World Cup winner Paul Pogba and even Belgian striker Romelu Lukaku are thought to be on the way out.

According to Tuesday's Daily Mirror Solskjaer is keen to bring in fresh blood in the shape of Senegalese international central defender Kalidou Koulibaly from Serie A side Napoli and Ivory Coast striker Nicolas Pepe from Ligue 1 outfit Lille.

Koulibaly, the Mirror claims, would cost even more than the £75 million Liverpool paid Southampton for Dutch central defender Virgil van Dijk whilst Pepe would not be cheap either, the paper citing a figure of £45 million. —AFP ■



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is the right person to revive Manchester United claims departing midfielder Anders Herrera. **PHOTO: AFP**