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C-in-C of Defence Services honours maritime and aviation youths



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with maritime and aviation youths at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with maritime and aviation youths at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, the Senior General called upon the youths to work hard to become good citizens and make all efforts to repay the gratitude of the State, as they continue to develop themselves.

"As you were born and grew up in this country, you have to

prove that you are good citizens of the country. In so doing, you have to work with a constructive attitude, instead of a destructive attitude," said the Senior General. Youths will have to shoulder the duties of the State and the people while walking on the long journey of life as they move forward, he said.

Youths should make the best use of their young ages, as they are mentally and physically strong. At the ceremony, the Senior General presented gifts

to the young trainees, who returned gifts to him as a token of their respect. On behalf of the trainees, Ma Myat Nandar Htwe and Ma Hnin Thazin spoke words of thanks.

Before the event, the maritime and aviation youths viewed weapons produced by the Tatmadaw, different designs of costumes worn by Tatmadawmen (Army, Navy and Air), communication devices produced by the Tatmadaw, scale models of warships produced by the Tatmadaw

(Navy), naval equipment, scale models of helicopters, costumes and equipment used by pilots displayed in Zeyathiri Beikman, and flight simulators. Then the officials replied to questions. In the evening, the trainees visited the Defence Services Museum in Nay Pyi Taw and studied the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) exhibits and were led through the exhibits by officials, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

—MNA ■

Union Minister promises housing for Rakhine IDPs before monsoon

A HIGH level meeting on allocating the internally displaced persons (IDPs) of Rakhine State in safe housing before the arrival of monsoons was held yesterday in Sittway, the state's capital.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye said, "The rule of law and socio-economic progress are the Government's highest priority programs for Rakhine State.

"The relevant ministries, committees and organizations, and the public, are joining hands to enforce the rule of law in Rakhine State," he pointed out, adding, "The socio-economic progress of the state is the most focused program of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State (UEHRD), the related ministries, social organizations, NGOs, INGOs, entrepreneurs and the people."

The Union Minister also explained his ministry's role in fulfilling the needs to ensure equality among the peoples of Myanmar, and reforms whose priority was based on the degree of requirements. "Because of its volume of requirements, Rakhine State is included in the priority list," he added.

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"We are a government body that is responsible for looking after the vulnerable and victims, and we are here to assist the people who were driven away from their homes by the recent armed conflicts," he noted.

"It is the fourth time we come here for this purpose. During the past three visits, the ministry provided rice, clothing and household items for the victims of the conflicts. Moreover, over K 900 million were channeled through the UEHRD for the victims.

"The Government is striving for the development of the whole Rakhine State and ensuring the rule of law. Additionally, it is seeking out the means for making the state a conflict-free area. Currently, the government is participating in its mission to

provide a safe shelter for the victims of the conflicts."

The Union Minister called for collective efforts of all relevant departments, organizations and persons.

In his discussions, U Nyi Pu, the Chief Minister of Rakhine State, elaborated on providing for the needs of the IDPs, the program to provide shelter for them before the onset of monsoons, and the responsibility and involvement of the departments.

After a presentation, made by director of Rakhine State Government on the temporary shelter for the IDPs, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, cabinet members of Rakhine State, and officials took part in the discussions. The Union Minister and the Chief Minister joined in the discussions.

Accompanied by the Chief Minister and officials, the Un-



Dr. Win Myat Aye visits the IDP camp in Rakhine State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

ion Minister paid respects to the Sayadaw of Amyotha monastery

in Sittway. They also visited the IPDs of Yathedaung and Buti-

daung townships. —MNA ■
(Translated by TMT)

Deputy Information Minister inspects MoI staff housing in Nay Pyi Taw



Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun looking around the housing for staff yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Aung Hla Tun, the Deputy Minister for Information, inspected the healthy and happy living conditions of Ministry of Information staff at their housing yesterday. The Deputy Minister looked around Thazin 1,

Thazin 3, Thazing 6 and Thapayay 3 of Gant Gaw Housing, the directors' residences, 1,000 acres, Bu Kwe Housing (men's), Kha Yay Housing and Thapayay Taung (men's and women's).

He inspected building

renovations, cleaning, water, electricity, toilet and drainage systems and the security of the housings. He then listened to the staff's reports and gave instructions as necessary. —MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo) ■

Explosion in coal mine injures six in Kalaywa

Six miners including one Chinese national injured in an explosion at a coal mine in Kalaywa Township yesterday.

The blast occurred due to accumulation ethane gas in the mine when dynamite was

used to blow up the rocks in the mine at 5 pm yesterday. Of the injured, Mr. Cao Southtuan, the Chinese national, and U Maung Kyaw were in critical condition and taken to hospital. The remaining injured are iden-

tified as U Soe Aung, 38, Myo Thant Tun, 23, Myo Khant, 35, and Pyai Phyto Aung, 18. The mine is jointly operated by the Myanmar Economic Holdings and Htoo Han Thit Coal Company.—IPRD ■

Constitutional Tribunal delegation returns from forum in Russia

The delegation of the Constitutional Tribunal of Myanmar, led by member U Khin Maung Cho, who were in St. Petersburg, Russia, returned to Yangon on the evening of 17 May.

The delegation was attending the 9th St. Petersburg International Legal Forum from 14 to 17 May upon the

invitation of the Chairman of the Constitutional Court of the Russia Federation and Russia's Justice Minister.

They were welcomed by officials from the Constitutional Tribunal of the Myanmar and the Russian Embassy in Myanmar at Yangon International Airport. —MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



The delegation of the Constitutional Tribunal of Myanmar, led by member U Khin Maung Cho poses for a documentary photo after attending the 9th St. Petersburg International Legal Forum from 14 to 17 May. **PHOTO: MNA**

Seek out ministries' assistance to display significant developments through photography: Union Minister

HUNDREDS of photographers are participating in a photo contest organized by the Ministry of Information, and assisted by the Myanmar Photographer Association. "The participation of relevant ministries should be sought out to reflect the significant developments of Myanmar through photography," suggested Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, during his meeting with the judges for the photo contest in Yangon yesterday.

Judges of the colour photo contest, held under the motto "Cheerful Ethnic Traditional Festival", reported to the Union Minister on the aim of the contest, the judging process and criteria, the increase in prize money and the awards ceremony. The Union Minister then observed a sample of 100 photos from among the entries. As regards the appraisal of the photos, Deputy Director General of Information and Public Relations Department Daw Thida Tin said, "Cheerful Ethnic Traditional Festival" is the first photo contest of its kind in the country. Actually, it is a documen-



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint observes the preview of the colour photo contest in Yangon yesterday.

PHOTO: MNA

tary about Myanmar ethnics and observing their traditional festivals. The panel of judges has ten members – three from the Ministry of Information and seven from the Myanmar Photographer Association (MPA). The judges have selected photos based on their power to express the happiness and seriousness of the ethnic peoples in holding their traditional festivals, or the amity

between the ethnic peoples or the whole picture of the festivals, for the awards. Eight awards, including the first, the second and the third prizes and the consolation prizes will be presented."

Regarding the contest, Bagyi Soe Moe, a film director and a member of the panel of judges, said, "I have been a judge at every photo contest held by the IPRD. This contest, in fact, is a collec-

tion of photos expressing the traditional festivals. As a judge, I have to check whether an entry reflects the motto, whether its lighting and print quality are good, and whether the pictures are clear. As there are judges, the photo that receives the highest marks will be the winner. On the whole, Myanmar photographers are becoming better than ever, and some of them have even

won international awards. The Myanmar Photographer Association (MPA) is also conducting courses, and photography has become more and more popular among the youths." The IPRD of the Ministry of Information is joining hands with the MPA for the development of photography in Myanmar, holding annual competitions at various times of the year under various themes. The contest "Cheerful Ethnic Traditional Festival" aims at presenting photos that encourage ethnic amity and unity, through highlighting their traditions, cultures and customs. Ten judges are evaluating the 729 entries sent by 206 photographers. The awards ceremony will be in mid-June. Afterwards, the Union Minister attended talks on "New Ideas and New Writings", arranged by Myanmar Studies Group at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department, and took part in the open discussions, together with departmental officials, literati and artists, youth writers, and poets.—MNA

(Translated by TMT)

UEHRD collaborates with international community, supported by ASEAN

ADVISOR to the Chairman of UEHRD committee, U Toe Aung said to media that Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development (UEHRD) project is gaining international collaboration and ASEAN countries support the work of it.

He said this after the UEHRD committee coordination meeting for Rakhine held at National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) on Shwe Li street, Yangon.

U Toe Aung said: "There has been international collaboration. ASEAN supports the way we are handling the problem and our work. They are going so far as establishing a University in Rakhine State to help us. As far as I know, the Secretary-General of ASEAN will come here. Which is why we are getting full ASEAN support." It was reported that they discussed strengthening the communication between UEHRD office in Yangon and the one in Nay Pyi Taw, and speeding up the project on which United Nation Development Program and Office of the United Nation High commissioner for Refugees



Dr. Aung Tun Thet.
PHOTO: POE HTAUNG

are working in collaboration.

"UEHRD prioritizes humanitarian assistance, resettlement, and sustainable development. Only the people who cross the border to take refuge in another country come to mind when resettlement is mentioned, but this also includes displaced people who left their home and belongings because of the current affairs. The IDPs. We need to have them resettled too. This work mainly has to do with and focus on humanitarian assistance, resettlement, long-lasting end to conflicts, and development," said U Toe Aung.

Daw Pyone Kay Thi Naing, leader of the International Com-



U Toe Aung.
PHOTO: POE HTAUNG

munication team of UEHRD and Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Kalaw Township, said that UEHRD has now formed an Outreach Working Group to let the public know about their work. They will also release and disseminate information to local and international news agencies.

Daw Pyone Kay Thi Naing said: "To inform local and international new agencies of our work, we will release and exchange information as necessary. Particularly informing the public of our work in detail. It is one of our aims to let people know that UEHRD is operating in the right way."

The Union Government, public and private organizations,



Daw Pyone Kay Thi Naing.
PHOTO: POE HTAUNG

local NGOs and CSOs, affiliated countries, UN agencies and INGOs are all working together for the development in Rakhine state. The UEHRD was established on 17th October 2017 with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as its Chairperson.

To steer national-level projects, the UEHRD has formed working groups for construction and basic infrastructure, agriculture and livestock, industrial zone development, information and public relations, creating job opportunities and planning vocational training courses, health security, supporting microfinances, fundraising, developing tourism, and international relations.

UEHRD's Chief Coordinator, Dr. Aung Tun Thet, said: "There are two parts in UEHRD, namely committee which is government led and does national level project. To steer these there are 10 private sector task forces. We deal with business people a lot for the development. We try to get international investment. State Counsellor herself came to support the investment event in Rakhine state, held not long ago. We sign MoUs. Now there are plans to establish factories in Sit-tway. There are varieties of plan for MraukU too. This is development. In resettlement, there has been two welcoming camps and one resettlement camp since UEHRD was established. They are all ready. They just have to come back. There are matters we are taking with Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement". UEHRD Committee Vice Chairman 1 Dr. Win Myat Aye, who is also Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement, committee members and members of outreach working Group attended the event. —Ye Kaung Nyunt (Translated by Alphonsus)



Maritime and aviation youths observe scale models of warships produced by the Tatmadaw (Navy) displayed at the Zeyarthiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE C-IN-C OF DEFENCE SERVICES (NEWS ON PAGE-1)**

JV Company to carry out drinking water supply, sewage water treatment system

A joint venture company will carry out water supply and sewage water treatment projects nationwide.

The joint venture company formed by local Supreme Water Doctor Company Limited and Japanese Kobelco Eco-Solution Company will carry out water supply, sewage water treatment and en-

vironmental conservation in Yangon, in other towns and industrial zones.

Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Tin Maung Tun said at the ceremony to launch the joint venture company in Yangon recently that the government is working together with local and foreign firms to supply

safe drinking water to the people as the demand for safe drinking water is rising in the country.

According to the statistics, about 34.5 per cent of the of the country's 56 million population have got access to safe drinking water. — Nay Lin

(Translated by KZL)

Czech Republic opens Honourary Consulate Office in Mandalay



Mr. Jaroslav Doleček, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Myanmar delivers an opening address. **PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING**

THE Czech Republic opened the Office of the Honourary Consulate in Mandalay yesterday, taking steps for promoting tourism sector and bilateral friendship.

Daw Hla Hla Wai, a local entrepreneur, was appointed as the Honourary Consul of the Czech Republic.

"There is an increasing exchange of travellers between

these two countries. Now, our Honourary Consul Daw Hla Hla Wai in Mandalay will be using her best efforts to promote these two beautiful countries for the benefit and well-being of both peoples," said the Ambassador of the Czech Republic, at the opening ceremony of the office.

"Mandalay is the second largest city in Myanmar and there are a number of business opportunities available to both countries for us to work together for our mutual benefit," he said.

Businesses from the Czech Republic are actively working in Myanmar in the areas of mining, glass, pharmaceuticals, energy, waste management and so on. — Aung Thant Khaing

Winners of "Cheerful Ethnic Traditional Festival" photo contest announced

WINNERS of the photo contest held under the motto "Cheerful Ethnic Traditional Festival" were announced yesterday.

Wanna (Mann Tekkatho) won the first prize; Than Naing Oo (IPRD), the second prize; Kyaw Naing Lin (La Yeik Pya), the third prize; and Kyaw Naing Lin (La Yeik Pya), Sai Thu (Taunggyi), Than Naing Oo (IPRD), Khin Maung Lwin and Ko Myint Than (Ngwe Kyai Min), the consolation prizes.

The Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) will present handsome awards for the winners. The date of the

award-presenting ceremony will be announced later.

IPRD held the photo contest with the aim of presenting photos that encourage ethnic amity and unity through highlighting their traditions, cultures and customs.

A total of 206 photographers sent 729 entries expressing the happiness and seriousness of the ethnic peoples in holding their traditional festivals or the amity between the ethnic peoples or the whole picture of the festivals.

Judges scrutinized the photos yesterday.—MNA

(Translated by TMT)

Knife-waving man shot while resisting arrest, dies in hospital



MANDALAY Police received news that a man, identified as U Min Htwe, was brandishing a knife at the corner of streets 66th and 14th in Daw Na Ward, Aungmyethazan Township, at 4 am on 18 May.

When police arrived at the scene with witnesses, U Min Htwe became aggressive to the police and was given a warning shot. Police fired another shot when he continued his aggressive actions.

He suffered wounds to his abdomen and right ankle and was rushed to Mandalay General Hospital where he died at 4:30 am. His national identity card (without a photo) and a train ticket from Lashio to Mandalay was discovered on his body. Police have filed the case as No. 4/2019 under death at the crime scene and are continuing investigations. — Police Information Department (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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Mango growers face hurdles posed by higher prices for inputs

MANGO growers in Sagaing Region are now facing hurdles posed by an increase in prices for various inputs, such as fertilizer, insecticide and farming equipment.

U Kyaw Myint, a mango farmer from Depayinkwe Village, said, "Difficulties faced by mango growers include an increase in prices of fertilizer, insecticide and farming equipment. In addition, there are some difficulties in the roads used to send mangos to the market."

He also said that in his view the village is in need of a sale centre where only growers who have been awarded Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certificates will sell their quality products. The plan is expected to receive more attention from the merchants for those products and encourage other local growers to grow crops



Mangoes being packed in baskets for supply to the market. PHOTO: WIN OO, MYO WIN TUN

under the GAP system.

In Sagaing Region, seven mango growers won the GAP

certificates in 2017 for the first time. A total of 19 mango growers received GAP certificates in

the following year and 14 mango growers were awarded GAP certificates this year.

In Depayinkwe Village alone, there are roughly 3,000 mango plantations run by about 300 farmers, and farmers estimated that approximately 10,000 mangos are likely to be harvested this season, he added.

Ko Hmway, another mango grower, said farmers receives a good price for mangos this season, especially in the export market.

However, they are also facing higher input prices. Currently, the prices of fertilizer, farm trucks and pumping machines are increasing in the market.

For the time being, a 15-kilo package of mango is priced at about K12,000 in the market. Last year, growers received only K10,000 per package, he said.—Win Oo, Myo Win Tun ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Import outperforms export in Myanmar's trade with Singapore in seven months Oct-Apr

THE value of Myanmar's import surpassed export in bilateral trade with Singapore in the first seven months (Oct, 2018-Apr, 2019) of current fiscal year, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce.

Singapore is the second largest trading partner of Myanmar in the region, after Thailand.

Myanmar's export to Singapore was worth US\$298 million while import was valued \$1.67 billion, totaling \$1.94 billion.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, footwear, textile and clothing, minerals and animal products, to Singapore while its imports are plastic, fuel oil, capital goods, intermediate

goods, consumer products, metals and chemicals.

Myanmar's bilateral trade with Singapore were registered at \$1.9 billion in past mini-budget period, \$3.83 billion in 2017-2018 fiscal year and \$2.96 billion in 2016-2017 FY. Next, Singapore listed 20 enterprise brought into over \$1.57 billion in Oct-Apr pe-

riod, according to data released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

Additionally, Singapore stood first on the list of countries with largest FDI inflow in Thilawa Special Economic Zone, followed by Japan and Thailand.—Ko Khant ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Capital goods import down by 15% in current FY

MYANMAR'S import of capital goods as of 10 May in the current 2018-2019 Fiscal Year topped US\$ billion, down by over \$600 million or 15 per cent, from the corresponding period last FY, the Ministry of Commerce's report this Friday. At this time last year, the imports of capital goods exceeded \$4 billion, with \$638.1

million by the public sector and \$3.4 billion by the private sector.

The current value of capital goods included \$525.8 million by the public sector and \$2.9 billion by the private sector. When compared with the same period last FY, this year's imports of capital goods by the public sector decreased by \$112.2 million where-

as the private sector's import of the same declined by over \$500 million. The country spent its \$11.05 billion on importing four major groups of products between 1 October and 10 May, including \$4.14 billion worth of manufactured goods, \$2.03 billion worth of consumer goods and \$1.4 billion worth of CMP raw

materials. Myanmar continues external trade with international countries, including China, India, ASEAN member countries, European states and Western nations and African countries not only maritime routes but also land border points of entry.—Shwe Khine ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Transport, Communication sector pulls the largest FDI in current fiscal year

THREE enterprises brought foreign direct investments worth US\$1.15 billion in transport and communication sector in past seven months (Oct-Apr) of current fiscal year, according to statistics provided by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Between 1 October 2018 and 30 April 2019, FDI of \$2.4 billion including expansion of capital

were brought into the country. Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) and the respective investment committees of the states and regions allowed 150 enterprises to invest in the country. The manufacturing sector attracted 115 projects worth \$668 million so far this FY. The agriculture sector attracted four foreign investment with a capital of \$14 million. Livestock and Fisheries

sector witnessed seven foreign investment projects worth \$33.9 million. Two projects worth \$93 million invested in power sector. The real estate sector also received investments worth \$54 million from one project. The hotels and tourism sector attained FDI of \$58.9 million with new four foreign projects. Industrial estate sector also attracted one project worth \$48.45 million. Over \$276.3

million of FDIs were pumped into other services.

MIC targets to attain \$5.8 billion of FDIs for next fiscal year 2018-2019, according to the DICA.

FDI registered at \$1.76 billion in the past mini-budget period, \$5.7 billion in FY 2017-2018, \$6.6 billion in FY 2016-2017 and \$9.4 billion in FY 2015-2016 respectively.—GNLM ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar-India trade exceeds \$100 in March

MYANMAR-India trade totalled US\$100 million in the first half of this 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, with \$38.3 million in exports and \$63.6 million in imports, according to the monthly report issued by the Ministry of Commerce this Friday. Between October and March this FY, Myanmar's export to neighbouring India was pegged at almost \$337.6 million, while the bilateral import stood at \$444.9 million, totalling \$782.5 million. Myanmar and India mostly deliver goods via marine trade routes. Border trade between the two countries is conducted through Tamu, Reed and Htantalan cross-border points of entry. According to the ministry's trade data, border exports between the two countries this FY was \$122.3 million, whereas border imports exceeded \$70 million.

India is one of Myanmar's top trading partners. The two countries inked bilateral border trade agreement in 1994. The marketable products between the two countries are ginger, saffron, turmeric, bay leaves and other kinds of fruits and vegetables, plus human hair, fishery and forest-based products, medicines, oil-cakes, electronic products, motorbikes, cotton yarn, non-alloy steel and other construction materials to Myanmar.—Khine Khant ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Implementation status of UEHRD activities discussed

Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) held a work coordination meeting at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) in Yangon yesterday morning.

Vice Chairman (1) of the UEHRD, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Dr. Win Myint Aye discussed the implementation status of UEHRD activities with UEHRD committee members and members of the OWG – Outreach Working Group.

Speaking at this coordination meeting, Dr. Win Myat Aye said public and private organizations, local NGOs and CSOs, friendly partner countries, UN agencies and INGOs were all working together under the leadership of the Union government to provide effective humanitarian assistance, resettlement and rehabilitation assistance.

They were also working on development of the region and long term peace and security and an end to conflicts. In bringing about development, peace and security of the region rule of law played a vital role and it was important for the different organizations to communicate and work with each other as this was a team effort. Communications between the Yangon UEHRD office and the one in Nay Pyi Taw, in particular, was very important.

He then said youth must not be left out in UEHRD activities. A youth policy has already been drawn up by Myanmar youths themselves. Different strategies to tackle conflicts in different regions/states have been drawn up. There were youths who wished to contribute their time and labour in Rakhine State. UEHRD selected these youths through online applications and provided them training before sending them to the field. This



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye pose for a documentary photo with officials at the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

has been a success as they did well on the ground. This was why he wanted to revive the UEHRD youth volunteer program.

On the part of ASEAN, they have initially conducted several assessments on the efforts concerning welcoming back dis-

placed persons and were preparing to conduct better and more comprehensive assessments. UEHRD would be working with ASEAN. Afterwards, Dr. Win Myat Aye met with members of the OWG – Outreach Working Group of the UEHRD. They

discussed countering rumors and false news spread on social media and other means of communicating and informing the public and the world of the genuine developments on the ground.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Nay Pyi Taw observes International Museum Day



Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library delivers the speech during the International Museum Day celebration in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

NAY Pyi Taw hosted the International Museum Day (IMD), with its global theme “Museums as Culture Hubs; the Future of Tradition” yesterday morning.

Organized on 18 May each year or around this date, the objective of the International Museum Day (IMD) is to raise awareness of the fact that, “Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.”

At the IMD held at the National Museum in the capital city, Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library, pointed out that

museums were responsible for preserving and protecting heritage of human race and preventing illicit trafficking of artifacts, especially the age-old objects.

“Additionally, museums in Myanmar need innovative ideas in arranging systematic and attractive displays, while applying the collecting methods that are within the legal framework,” he noted.

All around the world, more and more museums participate in International Museum Day. Last year, more than 37,000 museums participated in the event in about 158 countries and territories.

“Since its establishment in 1946, the International Council of Museums (ICOM) has been

combating the illegal ancient antiques trade, apart from enhancing its Museum Emergency Program (MEP) which is carrying out the work of shielding the artifacts against human and natural hazards,” the director general explained.

“MEP is also cooperating with the International Council of the Blue Shield (ICBS,” he added.

Deputy Director of the department Dr Thein Lwin explained the salient points of IMD. Organized in cooperation with the British Council, the IMD in Nay Pyi Taw includes roundtable talks and paper reading sessions. It continues till 20 May. —Aye Aye Thant ■

(Translated by TMT)

Film equipment donated to Film Development Centre

MOVIE filming equipment and other related items were donated to the Film Development Centre in a ceremony held at the centre in Bahan Township yesterday.

Firstly, U Aung Tin Tun, Chief Director of FORMER MWTB, handed over five laptop computers. Myat Pan Taw Win then handed over studio props and Mya Zaw Film handed over the black and white motion pictures ‘Ja-pu’ and ‘Wine-gyi-pat-pat Du-way-way’. U Ye Naing, Director-General for the Information and Public Relations Department, accepted the donations and handed back hon-

orary certificates in return.

The Film Development Centre was opened on 21 July 2018 and is located at No. 50, Shwe Taung Gyar Road, Bahan Township, Yangon. It holds classes on film development and seminars every week.

Officials are systematically accepting donations of equipment for conducting classes, books and CDs for its library, films and related items for opening a movie museum, and filming equipment and other related items for use in its studios.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



U Ye Naing, Director-General for the Information and Public Relations Department (L), accepts the filming equipment. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Saying no to drugs, yes to peace

NARCOTIC drugs are a blight on the human race. We can clearly see the problems they are causing in Myanmar; as our societies are forced to face their negative consequences. Some of the modern elements threatening our stability and rule of law are heroin, cannabis and alcohol. These drugs cause problems for families, as well as society. Narcotic drugs are usually behind the majority of crimes and cases of vandalism. It is because there are producers of these drugs that there are consumers, so if production is reduced, then consumption will follow suit, as well. Currently, authorities are focusing more on apprehending the end user, but if we can significantly reduce the producers, then drug usage will noticeably drop, as well.

A key ingredient to most narcotic drugs is the opium poppy. As long as poppy plantations exist, drugs will never fade away.

Conflict zones create instability and people turn to poppy plantations as a source of quick income. This is why it is important for us to work together towards regional peace and development.

Poppy plantations are a side effect of internal conflicts. Conflict zones create instability and people turn to poppy plantations as a source of quick income. This is why it is important for us to work together towards regional peace and development.

Narcotic drugs are a serious challenge, not just for the people of Myanmar, but for everyone around the world, as well. There are many hardships to eliminating drug suppliers and introducing alternative crops to poppy plantations. We need to establish genuine peace to resolve this problem and elevate the lives of poppy farmers, so that their perspectives are changed for the better.

For replacing poppy plantations with alternative crops to succeed, relevant authorities need to ensure the development of borders, better production paths in rural development, proper electrification, planting short-term and long-term crops, technological support, fixing farmlands, access to proper water supplies, and creating a space for the alternative produce in the wider market. The most important factor, however, is regional stability, which requires a peace processes to succeed.

The Union Government is the main facilitator for projects replacing poppy plantations with alternative crops, and if private businesses were to cooperate in this, it could further benefit the local people and reduce problems arising from drug abuse. There have been similar projects deployed before, but they were largely unsuccessful due to ongoing conflicts in those regions. The people need to adopt the understanding that this project is designed to instill stability in their region.

Drug plantations and their illegal trade still exist in South-east Asia and our neighboring countries, but the steady tasks of preventing and eradicating drugs has produced considerable results. Myanmar has also vowed to strengthen cooperation with its neighbors in that regard. The Union Government has been working hard to finalize the peace process by regularly holding political dialogue with the Hluttaws, Tatmadaw and ethnic armed organizations. We urge every citizen to cooperate with us to encourage more alternative crop plantations and reduce the dangers of narcotic drug use.



Putao: Encouraging development tasks in outlying region of Myanmar

By Nanda Win

PUTAO in Kachin State is a landscape painted with mountainous backdrop and home to several rare animals with its preserved natural habitats living harmoniously with several ethnic minorities in the region.

Putao spreads across a total of 10610 square km and consists of 5 townships: Putao, Machyanbaw, Naungmoon, Hkawng Lamphu, Sumpra Burn.

As Putao is part of the Himalayas, the area is mountainous with nice flat land rare to find. Standing at an elevation of 1329 feet above sea level, the Putao Valley is 12 miles wide and 20 miles long with the mountainous surroundings, home to the famous confluence of the May Kha and Malikha in Kachin State. Putao is bordered by China in the East, Myikyina District in the South, India to its east and China in the North. Naung Mon Township is also home to the highest peak, Mt Hkakabo Razi in Myanmar at 19296 feet (5,881 m).

Popular tourist attractions

Putao is filled with natural scenery that includes ice capped mountains, 7 storied waterfalls, historic pagodas and rivers. There is Mt. Phon Kan Razi, Mt. Hkakabo Razi and Gamlang Razi that is a stronghold for biodiversity in Myanmar; extraordinarily rich flora and fauna and colorful rare species of animals. Mt. Hkakabo Razi is 164 miles away from Putao with no direct route. Hence, visitors often take the 12-day trek amongst the mountains, cliffs, caves, tunnels in extreme weather to arrive at the famous mountain. The challenge, however,



The snow capped mountain range of Mt. Phon Kan Razi in Kachin State.

er, doesn't deter adventurers from around the world including residents in Myanmar to attempt the hike and sometimes, the peak. Mt. Phonkan Razi, and Gamlang Razi is located 65 miles from Putao. Transportation to the area used

another attraction that is a must visit and is open all four seasons.

Facilitation of transportation

Putao District is located 218 miles from Myitkyina and can be accessible by car (12 hours) or

to expand and upgrade the road as well in 2020. Furthermore, Hkawng Lamphu township, that is 132 miles from Putao used to only be accessible by a 9 day trek. However, since the construction of the Machyanbaw -Ma Gwa Za-

The challenge, however, doesn't deter adventurers from around the world including residents in Myanmar to attempt the hike and sometimes, the peak.

to be almost impossible. However, as new roads start to be built connecting villages, these also serves as a path for travellers who wish to enjoy nature and beauty unspoiled by man. Additionally, Kaung Mu Lone Pagoda, located 14 miles from Putao is also

flight (40 minutes). It took travelers up to 20-25 days for this journey. However, ever since the construction of the Myikyina-Putao highway consisting of concrete roads and bridges, of 218 miles, the journey can now be made in less than a day. There are plans

Hkawng Lamphu road, the village can now be reached from the San Lot Chat peak via a 2 night 3 day trek. There are additional plans to construct more bridges and roads to ease access and improve transportation to and from the villages for trade and communi-

Medicinal plants and herbal products abound in Kachin State.



A wide array of ecosystem components, including landscape, biodiversity and wildlife, seen in Putao.



Marbled Cat



White-crested Laughingthrush



Golden Cat



Rufous-necked Hornbill



Rufous-bellied Woodpecker (Hypopicus hyperythrus)

Asiatic Black Bear

cation development.

Access to energy

The improvement of roads and the flights have drastically increased movement to and from Myitkyina and Putao. In 2018, due to lack of sources for energy, Putao only received 19 hours of electricity everyday while other towns received as little as 3 hours. However, with the completion of the Upper Nam Htuan Hydro power project, 10 wards in Putao as well as 4 in Machyanbaw are now supplied with 24-hour electricity with other towns receiving at least 5 hours of electricity per day. These developments have greatly opened a wave of new opportunities for residents and increased the number of small businesses significantly.

Biodiversity

The area is home to a variety of ecosystems such as the mountain ecosystem, forest ecosystem, grassland ecosystem and inland wetland ecosystem. These systems house a plethora of wildlife and fauna that are sources of food, fresh water and even medicine. These also provide a potential practical field for study for geologists, biologists and botanists. Lastly, the waters, mountains and animals serves as a great attraction for nature



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 19th May, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and a few cloud elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 20th May, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions, Chin and Mon States and isolated in Upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Regions, Kachin, Southern Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Kayin States. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4 - 6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of thundery activities in Southern Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th May, 2019: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th May, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th May, 2019: Partly cloudy.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: **(1)** Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), **(2)** Own name and (if different) your penname, **(3)** Your level of education, **(4)** Name of your School/College/University, **(5)** A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, **(6)** A color photo of the submitter, **(7)** Copy of your NRC card, **(8)** Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar

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Solo cyclist completes over 2,500 mile-trip for almost five months

A cyclist from Myanmar has arrived at Bayintnaung Cape in Kawthoung, the southernmost town of the country via outlying Town of Putao, on Saturday afternoon, May 18.

Cyclist Win Ko Ko Tun first successfully reached the summit of Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain. He started his solo bike trip on December 27, 2018, leaving the northernmost villages in Putao in Kachin State by bicycle. He arrived at Bayintnaung Cape in Kawthoung Township in Taninthayi Region, where he was welcomed by officials from the Amateur Cyclists Team of Kawthoung Township.

He biked more than 2,500 miles between the starting point and final point in nearly five months.

Win Ko Ko said the cycling tour took four months and 26 days, as it covers research on natural resources along the tour.



Cyclist Win Ko Ko Tun celebrates the victory at Bayintnaung Cape as he finished the trip of more than 2,500 miles spanning almost five months by cycling. **PHOTO : KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)**

He was cordially welcomed by ethnic people from the towns he passed.

His cycling campaign aims to develop nature-based sports, create sports grounds, develop

tourism related to nature sports, share knowledge on environmental conservation, turn out healthy and strong generations in the sports sector, and enable the world to know more about

Myanmar, which is endowed with natural beauty and forests.—Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

■ *(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)*

UMFCCI Centennial International Expo to be held from 20 to 22 September at Fortune Plaza

UMFCCI Centennial International Expo will be held on 20-22 September at Fortune Plaza (Myanmar Expo) in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) in 2019.

To launch the expo, UMFCCI met with officials from the foreign embassies to Myanmar and International Chambers of Commerce last Friday at UMFCCI. Officials from the UK, Brazil, China, Germany, Egypt, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet

Nam, India, Cambodia and Indonesia embassies to Myanmar, International Chambers of Commerce, foreign business partners and banking institutions attended the launching event.

The expo is supported by Ministry of industry, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations.

Dr. Maung Maung Lay, vice president of UMFCCI, spoke at the event, noting that this centennial international expo will follow Invest Myanmar Summit 2019, which was successfully held in January.

The Expo will include 200 exhibitors and is expected to attract some 100,000 visitors. The objective behind the expo is to promote the investment potential of Myanmar to international and local exhibitors, and to link Myanmar exporters with foreign buyers.

Myanmar's local products, valued added and semi-finished products from its regions and states will be showcased at the expo.

Exhibitors engaged in textile, packaging, agriculture, industrial logistics, supply chain, international transportation (air/sea/road), warehouse, soft-

ware, online payment, electrical appliance building materials, security materials, interior design, cosmetics, health and beauty, garment and fashion, gems and jewelry, auto parts, such as motor car spare parts, bicycle and motorcycle spare parts, will display their products at the expo.

Additionally, the expo will include a conference on product promotion, one-to-one business matching and seminars. Those interested visitors and exhibitors can find further information through www.umfccicentennialexpo.com.—GNLM ■ *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

Jade, jewellery worth K6 bln sold at emporium in Myitkyina

THE 2nd Jade and Jewellery Emporium held last Saturday in Myitkyina saw over K6 billion in sales, mainly organized by the Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association (Myitkyina) and supported by the Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association, under the guidance of the Kachin State government, according to the

president of the Kachin State Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association.

Gem traders across the country checked and appraised jade and jewellery on 14 and 15 May. Between 16 and 18 May, jade was sold in an open tender system.

During the three-days of bidding, 384 of 492 jade lots

were sold, earning over K6 billion. "On the first day of the auction, 124 jade lots, out of 150, were sold.

Again, 133 and 127 lots were made in sales on the second and third days of bidding", said president of the Kachin State Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association.

During the first empori-

um, 100 jade lots worth over K1 billion were sold. The second emporium offered higher quality gems than the first time, he added.

Gem traders from Mandalay and Sagaing regions bid during the emporium. The third will be held emporium at the end of 2019. —Win Naing ■

Write for us

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

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

S. Arabia calls urgent Gulf, Arab League meetings over tensions

RIYADH (Saudi Arabia)—Saudi Arabia has called for urgent meetings of the regional Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab League to discuss escalating tensions in the region, the kingdom's official news agency said on Saturday.

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said King Salman had invited Gulf leaders and Arab states to two emergency summits in Mecca on May 30 to discuss recent "aggressions and their consequences" in the region. Tensions have soared in the Gulf, with the United States deploying an aircraft carrier and bombers there over alleged threats from Iran. Saudi foreign affairs minister Adel al-Jubeir said his country does not want to go to war with Iran, but was ready to defend its interests. Riyadh "does not want a war, is not looking for it and will do everything to prevent it". The United Arab Emirates "welcomed" Saudi Arabia's invitation.

Four ships, including two Saudi oil tankers, were damaged in mysterious sabotage attacks last Sunday off the UAE's Fujairah,



Saudi King Salman has invited Gulf leaders and Arab states to emergency summits in Mecca amid escalating tensions in the region. **PHOTO: AFP**

located at the crucial entrance to the Gulf. That incident was followed by drone strikes Tuesday by Yemen's Huthi rebels on a major Saudi oil pipeline, which provided an alternative export route if the Strait of Hormuz closed.

Iran has repeatedly threatened to prevent shipping in Hormuz in case of a military confron-

tation with the United States, which has imposed sanctions on Tehran in recent months. Jubeir said the UAE was leading the probe into the damaged oil tankers, but added that "we have some indications and we will make the announcements once the investigations are completed". Despite international

scepticism, the US government has been pointing to increasing threats from Iran, a long-time enemy and also a rival of US allies Israel and Saudi Arabia. SPA on Sunday said the Saudi crown prince spoke on the phone with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo about efforts to enhance security in the region. —AFP ■

Australia's Morrison returned as prime minister in general election

SYDNEY—Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison led his conservative Liberal-National coalition to a surprising come-from-behind victory in the country's general election on Saturday.

"I have always believed in miracles," Morrison declared in his victory speech to Liberal Party faithful gathered at a Sydney hotel shortly after midnight, referring to exit polling that pointed to a slim win for the main opposition Labor Party.

Flanked by his wife and daughters, Morrison thanked the "quiet Australians" who supported him.

"Tonight is not about me or it's not about even the Liberal Party," he said to chants of "Sco-Mo" from the elated crowd. "Tonight is about every single Australian who depends on their government to put them first!"

He also said that Labor Party leader Bill Shorten had shortly before called him to concede defeat.

Morrison, 51, campaigned



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison with children wearing a Team Scomo hat after he cast his vote at Lilli Pilli Public School, in the seat of Cook in Cronulla, on 18 May 2019 in Sydney, Australia. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

tirelessly into the final hours of the election, making a last-ditch trip to the southernmost state of Tasmania to visit two marginal seats before returning to his Sydney electorate to cast his vote with wife Jenny.

With just over 70 percent of the vote counted, the coalition appears on track to win 74 seats in the lower house, just short of the 76 needed to govern with a

majority.

Earlier in the evening, Shorten delivered a concession speech in which he announced he would step down from the party leadership but remain in parliament.

"I know that you're all hurting, and I am too," the 52-year-old former trade union leader said at Labor Party headquarters in Melbourne. "It is obvious

that Labor will not be able to form the next government."

His party campaigned strongly on a policy of greater action on climate change, as well as a raft of changes to taxation, while the Liberal Party, the dominant party in the coalition, stressed the importance of fiscal stability at a time of global economic uncertainty.

One of the few seats which the Liberal Party lost was that of former Prime Minister Tony Abbott, who saw his previously safe northern Sydney seat go to independent Zali Steggall, who campaigned mainly on climate change.

There are more than 16 million eligible voters in the population of 25 million, with voting being compulsory. The Labor Party lost the last two general elections in 2013 and 2016.

Morrison successfully faced his first election as leader since he replaced former Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull last August after a party-room revolt.—Kyodo News ■

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bolivian president launches bid for reelection to fourth term

CHIMORÉ (Bolivia)—Bolivian President Evo Morales launched his campaign Saturday for a fourth term, rejecting opposition allegations that he leads a corrupt and dictatorial government. Morales, 59, is Bolivia's first indigenous president and is aiming to be reelected in October. Bolivia's 2009 constitution, promulgated by Morales himself, limits a president to two consecutive terms of office. A 2016 referendum saw Morales defeated in his bid to secure public support to remove term limits. But his government rejected the result while the constitutional court, filled with Morales loyalists, ruled it was his human right to seek reelection. Before a massive rally of more than one million people, the leftist leader asked for "five more years (of leadership) to guarantee this liberation for life." —AFP ■

Helicopter crashes in Hong Kong, at least 1 dead

HONG KONG—A helicopter crashed at Hong Kong's Kadoorie Farm on Sunday, leaving at least one dead, according to police sources of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The crash happened at Lam Kam Road in the New Territories at around 5:30 p.m. local time, and one dead body was found at the scene. Due to the incident, the only lane of Lam Kam Road both bounds near Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden are closed to traffic.—Xinhua ■

One UN peacekeeper killed, several others wounded in Mali

UNITED NATIONS—A United Nations peacekeeper was killed and several others were wounded in two incidents in Mali on Saturday, the UN said. A UN statement said a Nigerian blue helmet "succumbed to his wounds following the armed attack by unidentified assailants" in Timbuktu. Another Nigerian peacekeeper was also injured in the attack. While expressing his deep sadness over the loss, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the attack could amount to a war crime.—Xinhua ■

Mineral misery: Viet Nam salt farmers battered by imports, climate

HON KHOI (Viet Nam)—The salt farmers of Hon Khoi rise before dawn as they have for generations, fanning out across shallow seawater pools in southern Vietnam to harvest the precious mineral, hoping for a better season than the last. The work is punishing and the incomes unstable, subject to seesawing demand swayed by foreign imports, and increasingly unpredictable weather patterns. Many people in the sleepy seaside town in Khanh Hoa province have worked much of their lives in the salt fields—an Instagram hotspot where workers wearing conical hats ferry mountains of the saline crystals in bamboo baskets along reflective ponds against a setting sun.

They shuffle carefully along narrow ledges separating the rectangular plots that are pumped full of salty seawater. But the farmers say life is tough on the fields where they toil during the annual harvesting season from January to June. “This job is no fun at all, we have to work so hard in the sun and then during the cool season we are off,” said Nguyen Thanh Lai, his tan skin weathered from nearly four decades working in the fields. He sells his harvest to local traders who pass it up the value chain until it reaches dining tables or factories around Vietnam, where it is used to preserve fish, concoct Southeast Asia’s popular, pungent fish sauce, or make soda water.—AFP ■

Over 200 stranded people rescued on Yakushima Island after heavy rain

KAGOSHIMA (Japan)—More than 200 people descended a mountain on Yakushima Island in southwestern Japan on Sunday with the help of rescuers after they were left stranded following heavy rain the previous day. Torrential rain of around 120 millimeters per hour fell on the island late Saturday afternoon. Roads heading to the main attraction—a giant cedar tree—were flooded and blocked by landslides.

Hikers in more than 10 cars and buses were forced to spend the night in the vehicles and a mountain cabin. Some spent the night outdoors. Due to the weather conditions, the rescue operation only commenced Sunday. Several of the hikers complained of pains or feeling unwell and some were taken to hospital. None were in serious condition, according to local officials.

The island, known for its Jomon cedar tree and the 1,936-meter Mt. Miyaura, has been designated as a world natural heritage site by the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.—Kyodo News ■

India’s acrimonious election comes to an end



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is showered with petals during a campaign stop. **PHOTO: AFP**

KOLKATA (India)—Voting in one of India’s most acrimonious elections in decades entered its final day Sunday as Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi scrambled to hang on to his overall majority. The seventh and final round of voting ended the world’s biggest election with 900 million

eligible voters from Goa’s beaches to Mumbai’s slums and Ladakh’s Himalayan monasteries. Long queues formed outside polling stations in eight northern states electing the final 59 candidates to India’s 543-seat lower house. Polls close at 1230 GMT with vote counting on Thursday. Heavy security

was imposed in West Bengal, which has seen street battles between followers of Modi’s Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and opposition groups.

An improvised bomb was thrown from a motorbike at one polling booth in the state capital Kolkata but no one was injured,

officials said. One group attacked a makeshift BJP office in the city and police also cleared other activists blocking polling stations. Modi’s constituency in Varanasi, the holy city in Uttar Pradesh state, was also among those to vote.

The conservative BJP has campaigned aggressively on Modi’s strongman image and played up recent cross-border air strikes against Pakistan. The opposition, led by the Congress party and its leader, Rahul Gandhi, have accused him of pursuing divisive policies and neglecting the economy. Modi and Gandhi have hurled insults at each other on a near daily basis with the prime minister calling his rival a “fool” while Gandhi derides Modi as a “thief”. —AFP ■

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Medical Equipments to New Yangon Specialist Hospital in the (2018-2019) Budget year.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services office No (4), Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from (21.5.2019).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office, not later than (20-6-2019), 15:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Phone No. 067-3411510, 067-3411544, Procurement and Supply Division Office, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports.

Procurement and Supply Division
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CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SATSUKI VOY. NO. (002 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SATSUKI VOY. NO. (002 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V ATLANTIS DISCOVERY VOY NO. (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ATLANTIS DISCOVERY VOY NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT 1 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 WILHELMSEN SHIP SERVICES PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V NORDTIGER VOY. NO. (919S/921N)

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY .NO. (1024 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY .NO. (1024 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

Take this app: tech firms tackle opioid crisis with software

WASHINGTON (United States)—Technology firms are taking aim at the opioid crisis and related health problems with a new class of treatments—digital therapeutics—delivered by smartphone.

These new treatments, backed by medical research and offered by prescription, are seen as potential ways to supplement, and in some cases replace, pharmaceuticals to treat addiction and an

array of other mental and physical health issues.

Smartphone technology may be well-suited to behavioral therapy for addiction, depression and other disorders by making treatment more accessible and trackable by medical professionals, researchers say. “Digital therapeutics are validated scientific treatments delivered in the form of software, which can increase access and provide an immediacy,”



Software delivered by smartphone for medical treatment—digital therapeutics—is being used for opioid addiction and other health conditions. **PHOTO: AFP**

said Yuri Maricich, head of the clinical and regulatory team at Pear Therapeutics.

The company has received approval in the United States for apps to treat opioid addiction and other kinds of substance abuse.

“It’s the same level of rigor (as pharmaceuticals) in terms of how the products are manufactured. We’ve run randomized clinic trials to make sure it produces the desired outcome and that it is safe,”

Maricich said.

In January, Pear launched in coordination with Novartis unit Sandoz the reSET-O prescription digital therapeutic 12-week cognitive behavioral therapy to treat opioid addiction after receiving approval by the US Food and Drug Administration.

It is offered with the commonly used medication buprenorphine for adults under the care of a therapist. —AFP ■

Soil heavy metal cadmium makes plants more sensitive to ozone pollution: research

SHENYANG—Chinese researchers have discovered that a high density of metal cadmium in soil makes plants more sensitive to ozone pollution. Heavy metal and ground-level ozone pollution have been steadily increasing, especially in cities with heavy industry, said the research paper published on the journal *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*.

Researchers from the Institute of Applied Ecology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences used the Urban Field Experiment Platform to conduct research on the effects of elevated ozone concentration and a high density of heavy metal on plants in

northeast China. The results showed that high cadmium content in soil increased the susceptibility and toxicity of plants, such as a hybrid poplar mentioned in their study, to ozone pollution, meanwhile the ozone exacerbated cadmium accumulation in above-ground parts of the plants grown on cadmium-polluted soil. The researchers did not find a significant effect of low cadmium soil on photosynthesis and above-ground biomass. The research results may be consulted when selecting plants for urban afforestation and ecological soil restoration in ozone-polluted and high soil heavy metal areas. —Xinhua ■

EIA Study of Exploration Drilling in Onshore Block RSF-5 by Eni

Eni Myanmar B.V. (Eni) is planning to conduct an Exploration Drilling in Myanmar Onshore Block RSF-5, located in Magway Region, Myanmar, scheduled to commence between November and December 2019 and finishing in June 2020. Eni Myanmar, Environmental Resources Management (ERM), and Sustainable Environment Myanmar (SEM) have prepared an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed activity. The EIA study will be submitted to the Environmental Conservation Department (ECD) and be made publicly available in June 2019. Eni will be meeting with stakeholders in Magway during May 2019 to present the preliminary findings of the EIA and collect feedback. After the EIA report is completed, it will be publically available on Eni's website as follows: https://www.eni.com/en_IT/media/focus-on/eni-myanmar.page. In the meantime, questions and comments can be submitted to Eni in writing by contacting the following e-mail address: info.enimyanmar@eni.com.

EIA Study for Exploration Drilling Campaign in Offshore Block MD-7 by PTTEP SA

PTTEP South Asia Limited (PTTEP SA), successfully completed 2D and 3D Seismic Acquisition in 2014 and 2016 respectively. PTTEP SA is now planning to conduct a drilling campaign in order to explore petroleum potential in Block MD-7. This drilling campaign consists of 1 exploration drilling well located Block MD-7 in Andaman Sea, Myanmar. The tentative plan for commencement of drilling will be end of 2019.

Regarding the Scoping Report which was submitted to Environmental Conservation Department (ECD), PTTEP SA with third party EIA/SIA consultants Environmental Resources Management (ERM) and Sustainable Environment Myanmar (SEM) are currently undertaking an EIA Study which includes associated stakeholder engagement. The EIA will be conducted in accordance with the Myanmar EIA Procedure (2015).

More information about the proposed activity can be found on PTTEP's website as follows: www.pttep.com.

Questions and comments can also be submitted to PTTEPI in writing by contacting the following e-mail address: TinNilarSoe@pttep.com

KOICA NOTICE OF TENDER For Consulting Services

Date: 20 May 2018

1. The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)'s Project Management Consultant (hereinafter referred to as the "PMC") for the Project for "Establishment of Integrated Agriculture and Irrigation Master Plan (EIAIDMP), Ayeyarwady Delta Region" invites prospective bidders for Consulting services for the "Data Survey on Agriculture and Rural Area" (hereinafter referred to as the "Services"). The EIAIDMP is being implemented with the grant aid of the Government of Republic of Korea.

Brief of Bidding

- **Bid Title:** Data Survey on Agriculture and Rural Area for the "Establishment of Integrated Agriculture and Irrigation Master Plan (EIAIDMP), Ayeyarwady Delta Region"
- **Contract Duration:** 120 days from the commencement date
- **Estimated Budget:** USD100,000 (inclusive of Taxes)
- **Summary of Consulting Services**
 - Type: Data collection and Analysis
 - Survey area: Ayeyarwady Region
 - Services/Survey Items: Specified in the Request For Proposals (RFP)
- ① Employer: KOICA PMC for the Project for "Establishment of Integrated Agriculture and Irrigation Master Plan (EIAIDMP), Ayeyarwady Delta Region"
- ② Bid Type: International Open Competitive Bidding
- ③ Selection of the Successful Bidders:
 - Evaluation consists of Bid Financial Evaluation of Twenty (20) Points and Technical Evaluation of Eighty (80) Points. Total of One hundred (100) points
 - Details of Selection of the Successful Bidder is specified in the RFP
- ④ The RFP will be provided upon applicants' request by emails or written letters to the PMC.
- ⑤ **Instructions and Schedule:**
 - [Clarification]
 - The Consultants may request clarification of RFP not later than 3 June 2019
 - [Bid]
 - Place for Bid Submission: at PMC Office
 - Bid Closing (Submission): 10 June, 2019, 14:00 at PMC
 - Financial Proposal Opening: 18 June 2019, 10:00 at PMC Office
 - ⑥ Currency of Financial Proposal (Bid Price): United States Dollar
 - ⑦ Currency of Contract: United States Dollar
 - ⑧ Consortium or Joint Venture is allowed.
- 2. Bid price of Financial proposal shall be equal or less than the 'Estimated Budget'. Any bid exceeding the above limitation may result in rejection of its bid.
- 3. The RFP includes following documents but not limited to:
 - ① Letter of Invitation
 - ② Instructions to Consultants
 - ③ Technical Proposal – Standard Forms
 - ④ Financial Proposal – Standard Forms
 - ⑤ Terms of Reference
 - ⑥ Standard Forms of Contract
- 4. Language of Proposal: All documents shall be in English. If the other languages documents delivered by the government administration, bank, educational, professional organizations and others for the proof of Bid Evaluation Criteria, the NOTARIZED English documents shall be attached.
- 5. PMC shall not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids
- 6. All bidders are expected to examine all instructions, forms, terms and specifications of the bidding documents. Failure to furnish all information required by the bidding documents or submission of a bid not substantially responsive to the bidding documents in every respect shall be at the Bidder's risk and may result in the rejection of the bid.

7. Contact Information

PMC Office
Address: 1F, Extension Building, Design Branch, Irrigation and Water Utilization management Department, Thitsar Road, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: 95-94 28460701
E-mail: EMAIL & ciaidmpkoica@gmail.com
Attention: ROH Gyeong Tae, Project Manager, EIAIDMP



Heading for Maliwan

By Maung Thar
(Archaeology)

A SPEED boat on Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung run left Dawei at dawn and reaches Myeik Jetty at 9 a.m. Before these speed boats ply this route, travellers from Dawei to Myeik or the other way round took coastal liners from Myanmar Five Stars Line, private motor launches, trawlers or cargo boats which makes the travel time longer.

Five years ago speed boats start running the Dawei to Kawthoung route. With their safe and fast service, it attracted more and more passengers. This was an improvement of transport modes in Taninthayi coastal region. However, speed boats run the routes only in the open season and the services were halted during the rainy season.

We boarded the speed boat at Myeik jetty and after storing our bags we descended into the hull where the passenger compartment was. Even though the passenger compartment had windows, the windows were water tight and sealed shut. The passenger compartment was air conditioned and the seats were arranged as on a highway express bus with entertainment provided for the passengers via a television. There were four entrances from the deck to the passenger compartment but the doors of these entrances were also closed once the speed boat was on



its way.

After a brief 45-minute stop at Myeik jetty, the boat sped on to Dawei. As the passenger compartment was down in the hull of the boat, except for the waves, we were unable to view much scenery. When we asked a crew member to view the scenery from the deck, the crew member replied that for safety reason, passengers were not allowed onto the deck while the boat was underway. That was why the doors were closed and we ended up either reading books or watching whatever was shown on the television. The speed boat took eight hours to make the Myeik-Kawthoung run and reaches Kawthoung at

about 5 p.m. Comparing our trip on the speed boat with the trip made before the speed boat ply the route, we miss viewing the natural scenery but we gain in travelling speed.

Our first destination in Kawthoung was Bayintnaung Cape. Kawthoung was the southernmost city of Myanmar while Bayintnaung Cape was the southernmost land of the country. Steel hand rails circled the Bayintnaung Cape while the floor was tiled. As the sea breeze blow through the cape, I stood enjoying the panoramic view as my clothes flap in the wind. I found it hard to describe my feeling at that time. Remembering the vast-



naung in Myanmar and English written by retired director general of Department of Archaeology Professor Sayagi Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt.

King Bayintnaung (AD 1551-1581) was born of father Minye Thihathu Mingyi Swe and mother Khin Myo Myat in 877 Myanmar Era (AD 1515). His was born Shin Ye Htut. His father was guardian of King Tabinshwehti and mother was a wet-nurse of King Tabinshwehti. Tabinshwehti and Shin Ye Htut were thus close friends since childhood. Tabinshwehti was three months and four days older than Shin Yet Htut. As they grew up, Shin Ye Htut fell in love with Khin Khin Gyi, elder sister of Tabinshwehti. When Tabinshwehti ascended the throne, King Tabinshwehti allowed his close friend Shin Ye Htut to wed his elder sister Khin Khin Gyi.

King Tabinshwehti also conferred a title of Kyawhtin Nawrahta on his faithful and brave friend Shin Ye Htut. While serving under King Tabinshwehti, Kyawhtin Nawrahta or Shin Ye Htut displayed his physical prowess as well as mental capability. He fought bravely in the victorious Naungyoe battle in 1537. King Tabinshwehti was so impressed that he took off his ring and bracelet and presented to Kyawhtin Nawrahta and also conferred Kyawhtin Nawrahta to rule Hline City. King Tabinshwehti also conferred the title of Bayintnaung on Kyawhtin Nawrahta and thus Shin Ye Htut became Bayintnaung Kyawhtin Nawrahta but was known more as Bayintnaung in Myanmar history.

Bayintnaung became crown prince in 1541 and took over the throne in 912 Myanmar Era (AD 1551). He founded the second Myanmar Empire and ruled it from Kanbawzathadi Royal Palace established at Hantawady Bago in 1553. He expanded eastward and brings in Phitsanulok and Ayutthaya into

his empire. As King of Ayutthaya presented four white elephants, King Bayintnaung was named White Elephants Owner Hantawady King. The Second Myanmar Empire stretched from Kengtung, Lan Xang, Luang Prabang, Ayutthaya to the east and Manipur in the west.

66 years old King Bayintnaung passed away in 943 Myanmar Era (AD 1581). As I read his brief biography, my patriotic and nationalist spirit rises. I ended up bowing to the 2nd Myanmar Empire founder King Bayintnaung kept in high esteem by citizens of Myanmar.

The next day we drove north of Kawthoung by car along the Union Highway to Maliwan Village at the 25 mile post. On the way, we visited Pulontontone wooden bridge that spans across the sea and paid homage to a Buddha image made of bamboo strips. Along the way we saw oil palm plantations and areca palm farms. We also saw areca nuts dried under the bright sun.

Bama, Shan and Salon arrived and settled in Maliwan area around 1750 as they seek greener pasture along the bank of Pak Chan River. The area was a flat plain with blossoming small jasmine flowers. In Thai, Mali means small jasmine and

Wan means day. So Maliwan means the day when small jasmine flower blossom. Locals say Maliwan is a land of blossoming jasmine.

Maliwan Village is home to some 4,000 people in more than 850 houses. We saw three monasteries, a primary school and a dispensary. The majority of the people work in agriculture – horticulture farms, rubber plantations and areca palm farms.

Maliwan Village host Kawthoung's sole waterfall and hot spring. Due to poor transportation in the past, Maliwab waterfall and hot spring were not known to many people. Now a local tour company TZK was working with the government to promote the waterfall and hot spring as a tour destination. Locals as well as visitors from afar can now visit and enjoy the waterfall and hot spring as the area develops.

As we entered Maliwan resort by walking over the wooden bridge, we saw a wide body of water that was the dam-up waters of the waterfall. There were a bunch of swimmers in the water while small groups of picnickers were here and there picnicking beside the water. Some had hiked along the mountain path to reach the

resort while there were some foreigners who seems to be there after visiting Kawthoung. There were waterfalls and hot springs in Ranong, Thailand, opposite of Kawthoung. I may be bit biased but I think Maliwan waterfall and hot spring was more beautiful. At least it was more of a virgin place.

After swimming, we hiked up to the top of the waterfall along the hill route. In addition to the natural beauty that surrounds the path, near the top was a concrete bock with an X-mark on it ringed with an iron chain. Some say it was something hidden by the Japanese during Second World War but no one knows for sure.

On the way back to Kawthoung, we visited 10 Mile Village, a seaside village where marine products including the famous Pashu fish paste was available.

Kawthoung associated with smuggling in the past was now thronged with visitors visiting Pulontontone beach resort five miles from Kawthoung, 10 mile beach resort 10 miles from Kawthoung and Maliwam resort. My visit to Kawthoung will remain in my memory for long.

Translated by Than Tun Aung



ness of Bayintnaung's empire, I felt proud to be standing at the southernmost tip of this once great empire while humbled by the vast panoramic view where I was just a small speck.

Bayintnaung Hillock, not far from Bayinnaung Cape was the first destination of almost all visitors to Kawthoung. Bayintnaung Hillock overlooked Pak Chan River. Kawthoung and the river looked so beautiful from the hillock. The statue of King Bayintnaung pulling his sword halfway out of the sheath was also so alive. The statue was said to be the work of veteran sculptor U Han Tin. A stone pillar near the statue depicts a brief biography of King Bayint-

Myanmar wins golds at SEA Bodybuilding Championship 2019

MYANMAR athletes gained victory in many contests, along with winning gold medals, at the 16th South East Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship 2019, which concluded at Myanmar Convention Center (MCC) in Yangon yesterday.

In the 80 kilo men's event, Myanmar's Khin Maung Kyaw won the gold medal, Thailand was in second place, Indonesia in third place, Viet Nam in fourth and Aung Soe Min (Myanmar) garnered fifth place.

In the 75 kilo Men's event, Thailand secured gold, while Myanmar's Thaung Than won second place, Malaysia was third, Viet Nam was fourth and Myanmar's Barein Mei took fifth place.

In the Men's Senior Class (80 kilo) event, Indonesia won the gold medal, Viet Nam secured second place, Myanmar's Zaw Thein Naing won the third, Viet Nam won fourth and Myanmar's Ko Ko Maung won fifth place.



Wut Yi Phyoe (Center) and Moe Moe (Left) are seen after securing gold and silver medals respectively at the 16th SEA Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championship 2019 in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: SPED (YANGON)**

In the (160 cm) Men's Athletic Physique event, Thailand won the gold medal, Myanmar's Aung Myint Thein grabbed the silver,

while Viet Nam took third, and Thailand came in fourth place.

In the (167 cm) Men's Athletic Physique event, Myanmar's

Myo Sat Aung won the gold medal, while athletes from Viet Nam grabbed the silver and bronze, Thailand took fourth place and

Myanmar's Ko Ko Kyaw Phyoe won fifth place.

In the Novice Class of Athletic Physique (160cm) event for women, Myanmar's Nhin Nhin Aye won the gold medal, Myanmar's Kyi Pyar Phone secured the silver medal, Viet Nam won the bronze, Thailand took fourth and Yin Yin (Myanmar) won fifth place. In the Senior Class of Athletic Physique (160cm) event for women, Myanmar's Wut Yi Phyoe won the gold medal, Myanmar's Moe Moe garnered the second place, Thailand took third and Singapore came in fourth.

In the Mixed Pairs Open event, pairs from Viet Nam won the gold medal, while Myanmar's pairs Tun Tun Aung and Nhin Nhin Aye grabbed the silver medal, pairs from Thailand took third and fourth place and Jawa Naw and Wutyi Thaung of Myanmar came in fifth place.—SPED (Yangon) ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

General Aung San Shield: Shan United secures semifinal with win over Hantharwady

TAUNGGYI based Shan United FC has advanced to the semifinals for the General Aung San Shield 2019, after defeating Hantharwady United in the quarter-final match of the General Aung San Shield 2019 at Aung San Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Shan United won the match with a come from behind victory, as Hantharwady United led the first half play with Yan Naing Aung's early minutes goal.

As the match is a knockout, both teams lined up with their star players.

Star players Captain David Htan, keeper Phone Thitsar Min, Nanda Kyaw and Zin Min Tun were included in Shan United FC, while Captain cum keeper Ko Ko Naing, Hein Htet Aung, Paing Phyoe Wai and Nyi Nyi Aung also lined up with the Hantharwady United FC during yesterday's match.

Shan United was headed by head coach U Aung Naing and Hantharwady United was headed by U Ngwe Tun as head coach.

Hantharwady United scored the opening goal at the four minute mark, with a long and accurate kick by Yan Naing Aung.

After the goal, Hantharwady



Shan United's Zin Min Tun (No.8) snatches the ball between Hantharwady players during the quarter final match of the General Aung San Shield 2019 at Aung San Stadium in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: GENERAL AUNG SAN SHIELD FACEBOOK PAGE**

FC showed their enthusiasm and played aggressively, causing difficulties for Shan United to equalize the goal.

The second half saw different tactics by Shan United, with Suam Lam Mang substituting in.

Suam Lam Mang came in within a few minutes, adding to the strength of Shan United, as he scored an equalizer for the team at the 53 minute mark.

After 1-1, Shan United again

turbocharged their play, as the team was eager to advance to the semifinal stage.

But all out efforts by Shan United were blurred under the massive defense of the defenders of Hantharwady, and smart goalkeeping by the team.

The winning goal for Shan United arrived just before the match end, at 90 plus three minutes, and the goal was surprisingly scored on a header by Shan

United's expat player, Maximin.

As for the win, Shan United will face Rakhine United in the semifinal stage, as Rakhine United also defeated Magwe FC 4-1 in the quarterfinal stage.

Shan United will play a first round semifinal match against Rakhine United on 25 May, and the second round match on 1 June, according to the Myanmar National League.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Defender Min Kyaw Khant: readying with Yangon United

YANGON United's young defender, Min Kyaw Khant, has said he is ready to play for Yangon United in the quarter-finals for the General Aung San Shield 2019, as he has been reunited with Yangon United after a half season suspension, according to Yangon United.

In the recent meet in the Myanmar National League match, Yangon United defeated Southern Myanmar FC with a decisive 4-0 result.

Southern Myanmar team is also displaying shining skills in the Myanmar National League, though the team always has a difficult time reaching the top ranking in the national league.

The match between Yangon United and Southern Myanmar will be broadcast live on MWD Channel, according to the Myanmar National League.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■