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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor sends congratulatory message to Gen. Chan-O-Cha on his election as PM of Thailand

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent a congratulatory message to General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.) on his election as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.—MNA ■

VP U Henry Van Thio calls for vigilant preparation for natural risks during monsoon



Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, addresses the second committee meeting of the year, held in Nay Pyi Taw, where he calls for greater attention to particular natural disasters that occur in the monsoon season. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE National Disaster Management Committee held meeting no. 2/2019 at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, where committee Chairman Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivered opening remarks.

The Vice President first drew attention to the main focus of the meeting, saying that he mainly wanted to discuss the suggestions of the disaster management advisory group, natural disasters that normally occur during the rainy season, and the unpredictable nature of earthquakes.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves two foreign loans programmes, one MoU signing

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw concluded its 12th regular session yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, with approving the two loan borrowing plans and signing as an observer in an MoU on establishing of tax administration mechanism of the Belt and Road Initiative.

A proposal submitted by the Union Government to borrow Euro 29.96 million loan from the Netherlands for a water supply project in Pyigyitagun Township, Mandalay Region, was approved, with 547 votes in favour, five against and one abstention.



Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw concludes its twelfth regular session in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Observer in MoU on establishment the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Mechanism

In the debate for signing as an observer in the Memorandum of Understanding-MoU on the Belt and Road initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Mechanism, U Win Maung of Magway Region constituency 6 said the issues of internal peace, lack of technology, tight budget and land confiscation in Myanmar should be taken into consideration if the country participates in the initiative.

Dr. Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11 said he hoped that the participation in the mechanism can promote the tax management capacity of Myanmar through working together with other countries included in the project.

Participation in the Belt and Road project can bring opportunities for benefits of the country and also bring challengers related with security as well, he added.

Just signing as an observer in the MoU was not enough and more efforts should be made to balance the weaknesses of both sides, said Dr. Khun Win Thaung.

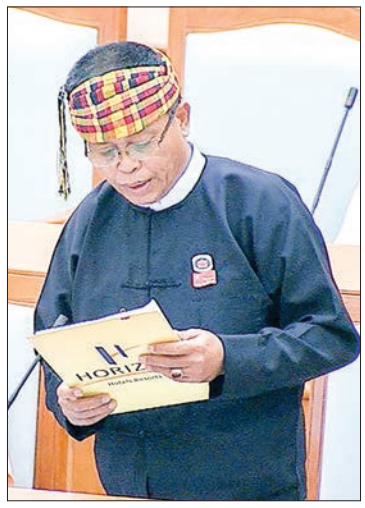
Another ten representatives of Hluttaw also took part in the debate.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win sought the approval from the Hluttaw for signing as an observer in the mechanism, saying that the country would gain international knowledge on tax administration through the participation in the project.

The proposal was approved by the Hluttaw.



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



MP Dr. Khun Win Thaung. **PHOTO : MNA**



Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win. **PHOTO : MNA**

Borrowing US$100 million from World Bank's IDA for cash assistance to pregnant women and children under two

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win took part in the debate for acquiring the $100 million loan from the World Bank's IDA for providing cash assistance to pregnant women and children under two year.

Deputy Minister U Soe Aung said the cash assistance programme would be carried out in Ayeyawady Region and Shan State in accordance with the population health survey 2015-2016 aiming at providing adequate nutrition of the pregnant women and children.

The programme will be expanded to Kachin State, Mon State and Sagaing Region in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, Mandalay Region and Magway Region in the 2021-2022 fiscal year, Tanintharyi Region in the 2022-2023 fiscal year, according to the deputy minister.

The proposal was approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with 302 votes in favour, 167 against and one abstention.

Afterwards, Dr. Myat Nyana Soe, Secretary of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee, sought the approval for the controversial Child Rights Bill between the two Hluttaws paragraph by paragraph.

The 12 regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw came to an end with concluding remarks by Speaker U T Khun Myat.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held 14 meetings during the period of the 12th regular session, approved seven laws and three bills.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw also completed seven agreements, six foreign loans programmes and three reports including the anniversary work report of the Anti-Corruption Commission. Besides, the Hluttaw also continued the process amending the 2008 Constitution.—Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Than (MNA) ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Union Attorney-General receives officials from DFID, IDLO

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo received Mr Joe Rolling from UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and Country Manager Ms Morgane Landel from International Development Law Organization (IDLO) at his office yesterday.

During their meeting, they discussed matters related to participation of rule of law centres in sharing law knowledge and aiding for access to justice for all, cooperative works with the rule of law and fair trial works coordination groups from regions and states, DFID's funding plan for supporting rule of law centres, and cooperative works between IDLO and Union Attorney-General Office.—MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo holds talks with Mr Joe Rolling from UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and IDLO Country Manager Ms Morgane Landel yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

VP U Henry Van Thio calls for vigilant preparation for natural risks …

FROM PAGE-1

The Vice President said the frequency and increasing force of natural disasters occurring due to climate change was no longer a unique case but now considered the norm. He highlighted the changes in the rain patterns and incidents of typhoons, cyclones, gales, hail, lightning strikes and floods that increased with each year.

During the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva held in May, experts and representatives of 182 countries and 100 humanitarian organizations, including from Myanmar, came to the conclusion that continuing international cooperation and inclusive collaboration was an integral part of reducing natural disasters in developing countries. He said they also discussed the importance of public participation in mitigating natural disasters.

The Vice President said that while cooperation has increased in disaster management efforts, we must continue to diligently make preparations in case of a natural disaster as they were unpredictable by nature.

He drew an example of Cyclone Fani's landfall on the Indian state of Odisha where it caused around US$7 billion in damages and left destruction so bad experts estimate it would take ten years to restore the area into its former state. However, only 64 deaths were reported, showcasing how strong India's preparations for responding to disasters were.

The Vice President said immediate attention needs to be given to the common natural disasters in the monsoon season, which included cyclones, floods, flash floods, lightning, collapsing of embankments, and landslides. He urged participants to draw on similar experiences from previous years to address these annual incidents. He also urged ministries and departments to work closely together and with the private organizations and the people in preparing for natural disasters.

The suggestions from the advisory group this year focused on climate change and its effect on agriculture, droughts, cyclones, lightning, fire and gales, said the Vice President.

He again urged participants to work in close collaboration with each other and across the ministries and regional governments to make all necessary preparations for natural disasters, search and rescue operations, emergency response, humanitarian aid, and the routes for vehicles to take in conducting these operations.

Next, the committee's vice-chairman, Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, reported on the nationwide cases of natural disasters, the casualties, damages and losses incurred from their destruction, the results of rescue operations, and the progress of preparations for natural disasters.

Following this, committee secretary Deputy Minister U Soe Aung reported on the completion and ongoing implementations of the union ministries, regional/state governments, and Nay Pyi Taw Council on the 19 decisions made during the committee's previous meetings, and submitted the committee's fund statement.

Next, committee members, who include union level ministers and subnational chief ministers, discussed and reported on the progress of their respective tasks pertaining to preparation against natural disasters. The Vice President considered all the reports and suggestions submitted by the participants, gave instructions as necessary, and then concluded the meeting. Present at the meeting were committee vice-chairman Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Home Affairs, committee members including union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and chief ministers of states/regions, deputy ministers, the chairman and secretary of the disaster management advisory group, permanent secretaries of union ministries, departmental heads and other officials. —MNA *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

Media briefing highlights promotion of diplomatic relations, achievements during Tatmadaw's unilateral ceasefire

U Zaw Htay, the Director-General of the Office of the State Counsellor, briefed the media in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday about the recent engagements of the President and the State Counsellor and the current developments in the area of politics, society, and economy in the country.

During the media briefing, the Director-General spoke about President U Win Myint's visit to India to attend the swearing-in of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the State Counsellor's visit to the Czech Republic and Hungary, discussions between Myanmar and the Czech Republic on opening embassies to promote bilateral cooperation, the State Counsellor's lecture on Myanmar's experiences in the transition to democracy at the National University of Public Service in Hungary, and her attending the Hungary-Myanmar Business Forum.

Speaking about the visits of Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe to the Republic of Korea, Japan, and Russia, U Zaw Htay said the Union Minister of the Office of the State Counsellor attended the 14th Jeju Forum in the Republic of Korea in May, the 25th Future of Asia Conference in Japan from 30 May to 2 June, and the 23rd International Economic Forum in Russia.

The leaders of the country are working on promoting diplomatic relations, friendship, and cooperation with other countries, he said.



U Zaw Htay, spokesperson for the Office of the President, talks to the media during a press conference in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Peace Process

Peace talks with the Northern Alliance are going on, and the Northern Alliance has sent proposals for signing a bilateral agreement, said the director-general.

"In response to their proposals, the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre has made suggestions on the ceasefire issue, prevention of armed conflicts, activities in the areas of internally displaced people, signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, and the necessary points for a bilateral agreement," he said. A negotiation for signing the bilateral agreement is expected to be held this month, according to the briefing.

The NRPC has proposed the next meeting be held at Panghsan, Lashio, or Kengtung, while the Northern Alliance has proposed Muse or Mongla, said the director-general.

The reason for holding the next meeting is that the unilateral ceasefire will expire at the end of June. The Tatmadaw had extended its unilateral ceasefire till June, at the request of the ethnic armed organizations after the four-month period ended on 30 April, he said.

The NRPC has asked the ethnic armed organizations to hold the meeting in June to avoid armed conflicts as the bilateral agreement has not been signed yet, he said.

The Tatmadaw's unilateral ceasefire agreement reduced armed conflicts, especially with the KIA and KIO, he said. The IDPs from Nan San Yan Village returned home of their own volition due to stability, and the government provided assistance to them. There were two significant outcomes from the negotiations between the Tatmadaw and the KIA, he said.

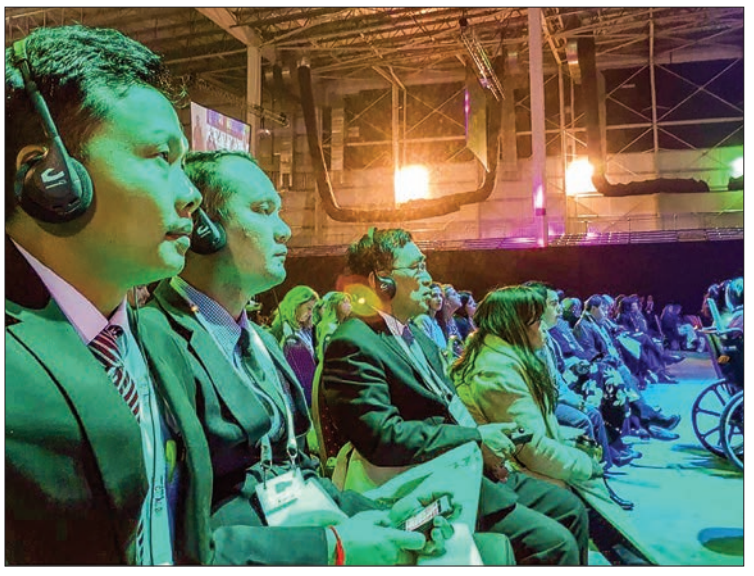
"In the first case, the KIA released three Lisu ethnic men after negotiations with the government, helping ease tensions with the Tatmadaw. The negotiations took place after KIA arrested one Lisu ethnic man. When the government questioned them, they said he was a KIA member and had been arrested as he had not returned to the unit. However, the Lisu ethnic denied this, and the KIA released three Lisu ethnic men, for peace and on demand of the people," he said.

"In the second case, a Tatmadaw column found a KIA camp on the route to Phakant, which was moved after the NRPC asked the PCG to tell KIA to avoid conflict as the bilateral agreement has not yet been signed. Both sides managed to avoid a conflict through negotiation," said U Zaw Htay.

Both sides also conducted a negotiation on the Nant San Yan IDP issue. Meanwhile, the NRPC and the committee for providing aid to Kachin IDPs, KECC, held a working meeting in Yangon and a formal meeting on 26 April in Nay Pyi Taw, following which, both sides reached an agreement.

To work for the IDPs in Kachin State, the Union Government has formed a working committee and held a meeting with KECC in Myitkyina on 24 May to discuss closing the IDP camps in Kachin State and helping IDPs return home. — MNA *(Translated by TTN)*

Myanmar delegation catches up on PLWD rights at global disability summit



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye attends the 2nd Global Disability Summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina. **PHOTO: MNA**

A Myanmar delegation led by Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, is attending the 2nd Global Disability Summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 6th to 8th June.

The summit is a collaboration between the Government of Argentina, the International Alliance Disability (IDA) and the Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS).

The first summit was held in London last year and this year's summit is a continuation that aims to strengthen the resolutions made by the attending countries to make visible changes for the world's PLWD population (people living with disabilities).

The summit seeks to empower PLWDs from disability-orientated organizations and to fully implement the rights of PLWDs in Latin America and the rest of the world, while strengthening the resolution of these organization's inclusivity.

PLWDs and leaders of disability organizations from Latin America and Argentina's Vice President Mrs. Gabriela Michetti attended the summit.

Dr. Win Myat Aye and his delegation attended the panel discussion held yesterday and also observed the display of innovative inventions to aid PLWDs, practical demonstrations and enjoyed musical performances from PLWDs. —MNA *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

Training on research methods, PR, information management concludes

A training programme on research methodology, public relations, and information management concluded yesterday at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw.

The training was jointly conducted by the Ministry of Information and the Panna Institute, with the help of Konrad Adenauer Stifung (KAS Myanmar).

A total of 50 trainees from Union-level institutions and ministries attended the five-day training programme.

Speaking at the ceremony to conclude the training, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun asked trainees to share the knowledge gained during training and serve the country by making the best use of their knowledge.

He also promised to conduct similar training programmes in the future, and encouraged sustainable learning among trainees. Lecturer U Htay Win Naing of Panna Institute and trainee Daw Myat Thiri Aye from the Ministry of Construction gave words of thanks. On behalf of the trainees, U Arkar Kyaw from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture accepted the completion certificates presented by U Htay Win Naing.

During the five-day training, trainees learnt about the forms of research, data collecting, making an assessment and finding solutions, forms of public relations, taking public opinions into consideration while drafting policies, management of data in the digital age, and management of information.—MNA *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*



Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun delivers the speech at the event to conclude training programme on research methodology, public relations, and information management yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Youth Integrity Camp 2019 concludes

YOUTH Integrity Camp 2019, a collaboration between the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and the Ministry of Education (MoE) concluded yesterday at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the ceremony, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission U Aung Kyi and secretary of the commission presented certificates recognizing the integrity and completion certificates of the camp to the faculties and students who participated in the camp.

The trainees presented eight ethics for youths.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Anders Frankenberg, Head of Development Cooperation Department of the Swedish Embassy, expressed his delight for participation of youth in fighting corruption, stressing the important role of youth in fighting the corruption in the country.

He also welcomed the establishment of Corruption Prevention Unit-CPU at the ministries.

In his remarks at the closing ceremony, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission U Aung Kyi urged the youth to develop the culture of integrity among their generation while following their ethnics for integrity.

He also stressed the need for those who will take a leading role in fighting the corruption to have five qualifications: free from politics, free from bias, impartiality, honesty and expertise.—MNA *(Translated by TTN)*



Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi delivers the conclusion speech at the Youth Integrity Camp 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Authorities to step up drive to impound unlicenced vehicles

By Nyein Nyein

MORE than 100 unlicenced vehicles have been impounded in Yangon in the current financial year, and the traffic police will step up its drive to seize unregistered vehicles, said Col. Aung Soe Moe, the Minister of Security and Border Affairs for Yangon Region.

"As part of the road safety enforcement programme, the traffic police, with the cooperation of the relevant authorities, have been seizing unlicenced vehicles and cars without registered number plates, in accordance with the existing law, since last July. There are ten teams assigned with the task of impounding vehicles plying on the road without number plates issued by the Road Transport Administration Department, and carrying out road safety enforcement tasks. In the 2018-2019FY, we seized over 100 unlicenced vehicles here, and we are planning to accelerate the drive in the future," said Col. Aung Soe Moe at a press conference on the Yangon Region government's third-year performance, which was held on Wednesday.

It has been seen that some vehicles in the region are running on the road without number plates issued by the Road Transport Administration Department, and some people have installed fake number plates on their cars, said the minister.

In the month of May, there were 55 instances where unlicenced vehicles were seized in Yangon. Col. Aung Soe Moe said the region has also witnessed an increase in the number of undisciplined motorbikes. "Motorbikes have been found in restricted areas which have led to unwanted incidents. Therefore, instructions have been issued to control undisciplined motorbikes to ensure public safety," he said.

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

UEC Chairman U Hla Thein receives Norwegian Ambassador Ms Tone Tinnes

U HLA THEIN, Chairman of Union Election Commission, received Ms Tone Tinnes, Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar and party at the guest hall of his office yesterday. During their meeting, they discussed matters related to ensure the general election in 2020 is free, fair, and transparent and the preparation for successful holding the elections, the role of women in election process, the arrangement for voting by migrant workers and internally displaced people, and cooperation to prevent hate speech and fake news on social media network. Also present at the meeting were commission members and officials. —MNA/ *(Translated by TTN)*



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein meets with Norwegian Ambassador Ms Tone Tinnes at the UEC Office. **PHOTO: MNA**

Rakhine State Peace, Stability Committee to conduct field trip soon

THE Committee for Supporting Peace and Stability in Rakhine State held a coordination meeting at the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The committee's Chairman U Aye Tha Aung, who is also Deputy Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw, first delivered a speech. He said the committee will be conducting another ground observation trip soon.

The Chairman called on participants to discuss the armed conflicts in Rakhine after their second trip to the state. He urged everyone to consider the current armed conflicts and preparations for their next observation trip.

U Aye Tha Aung said they will be soliciting suggestions and conclusions from local residents and people are involved in or have experience with Rakhine State's armed conflicts and peace process during the upcoming trip. He said this data will be used in compiling a report to the Union Government suggesting long-term and short-term tasks appropriate for furthering Rakhine State's stability and development.

The Chairman urged the participants to carefully work together on this trip so as to compile a comprehensive report while at the same time considering support for the livelihood, healthcare and education of IDPs in Rakhine State.

Next, the committee's Vice-Chairman Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information, Secretary U Tin Myint, Deputy Minister for the Union Government Office, and committee members Colonel Phone Tint, Rakhine State Minister for Border Affairs and Security, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, U Zaw Aye Maung, Yangon Region Minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs, State Hluttaw representatives U Maung Maung Ohn and U Oo Than Naing, Deputy Chief of Myanmar Police Force, Police Maj-Gen Aung Naing Thu, and Dr. Nyi Hla Nge discussed about current conflicts in Rakhine State, its situation, the upcoming observation trip, peaceful coexistence between both communities, the lives of local residents, acquiring suggestions and opinions from those that matter, and reducing armed conflicts in the area.

Afterwards, the Chairman delivered the closing speech and ended the meeting. —MNA *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*



Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Thar Aung delivers the speech at the Committee for Supporting Peace and Stability in Rakhine State held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Notification 85/2019
5th Waxing of Nayon, 1381 ME
7 June 2019

Permission to register Kachin State People's Party (KSPP) as a political party

The Kachin State People's Party (KSPP) headquartered at No. 386, Yuzana Ward, Myintkyina in Kachin State, has been permitted to register as a political party in accordance with Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 7 June 2019.

The registration number of Kachin State People's Party (KSPP) is 115.

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Notification 86/2019
5th Waxing of Nayon, 1381 ME
7 June, 2019

Abolishing registration as political party

1. Union Election Commission permitted Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State (UDPKS) that had been allowed to set up as a political party with the registration No. 40 of the Notification (83/2010) on 2-8-2010, Kachin State Democracy Party with the registration No. 67 of the Notification (36/2013) on 10-12-2013 and Kachin Democratic Party with the registration No.72 of the Notification (3/2014) on 13-1-2014.
2. Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State (UDPKS), Kachin State Democracy Party and Kachin Democratic Party applied to the Union Election Commission to combine them and to be registered as one political party under the name of "Kachin State People's Party (KSPP)" and the UEC permitted the Kachin State People's Party (KSPP) as a political party with registration No. 115 and with Notification 85/2019 on 7 June 2019. Hence, according to the Political Parties Registration Rule 25 of the Union Election Commission, Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State (UDPKS), Kachin State Democracy Party and Kachin Democratic Party, which were registered as political parties, shall be abolished. Properties owned by each abolished party shall be handed over to the Kachin State People's Party.
3. It is hereby announced that registration as political parties of Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State (UDPKS), Kachin State Democracy Party and Kachin Democratic Party were abolished starting on 7 June 2019.

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

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Yangon to get more CCTV cameras for safety

By Nyein Nyein

MORE closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras will be installed across Yangon, especially in crime-prone areas, to monitor criminal activities and ensure public safety, according to Col. Aung Soe Moe, the Yangon Region Minister for Border Affairs and Security.

"A total of 2,995 CCTV cameras were installed at 1,138 points across Yangon. However, the number is insufficient with regard to public safety, and we will continue to install more CCTV cameras in areas where crimes are rampant," Col. Aung Soe Moe said at a press conference on the Yangon Region government's third-year performance, held on Wednesday.

He said 140 of the 240 CCTV cameras supported by China will be installed in Hlinethaya Township to ensure rule of law. The rest will be put to use where necessary.

In addition, a plan is under way to install CCTV cameras not only in townships which have reported the highest crime rates in the past three years, but also townships located within the municipal areas of Yangon.

Col. Aung Soe Moe said Yangon Region has a population of more than seven million. "The region is sprawling from the security point of view. Hence, the Myanmar Police Force is promoting collaboration with respective ministries to ensure the safety of the public," he said.

To ensure regional security, the No.2 Security Police Command is implementing security measures at the Yangon International Airport, well-known pagodas, important buildings, homes of very important persons, and embassies. It is also protecting ambassadors, luminaries paying a visit to Myanmar, foreign guests, and the public. The body is continuously trying to provide effective security measures for the region, the minister said.

The Yangon Region Police Force is getting technical assistance in conducting security operations and ensuring rule of law in the region due to the skewed police-population ratio. ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

New routes help boost passenger traffic by 4.2% at Yangon International Airport

THE Yangon International Airport handled 2.32 million passengers in the first four months of 2019, an increase of 4.2 per cent from the 2.22 million passengers recorded in the same period of last year, according to the Yangon Aerodrome Company Limited. The rise in passenger traffic followed the addition of new routes and destinations recently, it added.

The growth in the number of passengers in January-April was driven by international traffic, which was up 7.9 per cent compared to a year ago. Meanwhile, domestic traffic declined 3.1 per cent.

At the end of May, the Yangon International Airport was serving 30 international airlines connecting Yangon to 28 cities in 11 countries in Asia. A year ago, it was serving 27 airlines connecting Yangon to 22 cities in 11 countries.

On 2 April, the China Eastern Airlines launched thrice-weekly services to Yangon from Hohhot (Inner Mongolia) via Kunming. This is China Eastern Airlines' third international destination connecting Yangon to China. On 28 March, the Sichuan Airlines launched twice-weekly flights to Yangon from Chengdu, its third international destination connecting Yangon to China.

"While domestic air travel activity has slowed, our international expansion has clearly borne fruit. As the operator of the international air gateway to Myanmar, YACL will continue to build on this momentum to open up routes to more Asian destinations in the near future," said Mr. Ho Chee Tong, Chief Executive Officer, YACL.

The Yangon International Airport has 47 retail and service stores and 23 F&B outlets. With 30 international airlines connecting Myanmar to 32 destinations, the airport served a total of 6.035 million passengers in 2018.—GNLM ■

Over 90,000 beehives to produce plum honey in September

OVER 90,000 beehives will produce plum honey in September in Sagaing Region, said U Myo Tint, the head of the region's beekeeping business.

"There are about 1,400 beehives belonging to the Sagaing Region beekeeping business and more than 90,000 beehives belonging to private businesses. We are preparing to start mass production of plum honey in September," he said.

"Honey will be produced during the plum blossom season from September to November. Currently, the businesses are trying to increase the size of their colonies by touring the sesame fields in Shwebo, Wetlet, ChaungU, Sagaing, and Pale," said U Myo Tint.



Honey bees clustered on a wooden frame. **PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN**

Pollen from sesame flowers has the highest protein, so queen bees mostly eat sesame pollen. The queen bees usually lay a large number of eggs in this season.

There are 313 private beekeepers in Sagaing Region, and beekeeping businesses are especially concentrated in Indaw Township. — Myo Win Tun (Monywa) ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

Fire breaks out at fuel station in Minhla Township; none injured

A FIRE broke out at a petrol station on the evening of 6 June at Konegyi Village in Minhla Township of Magway Region. There were no injuries.

According to the Fire Service Department's report, the fire started while 250 gallons of raw kerosene was being transferred from a brick container to an oil storage tank. The tube and the oil storage tank reacted chemically and the raw kerosene and the tube caught fire, causing the flames to spread.

The fire was put out by the Township Fire Services Department, with the help of police and locals. —IPRD ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

Yangon to invite long-term FDI for low-cost housing projects

By Nyein Nyein

FOREIGN investors will be invited to develop long-term low-cost housing projects in Yangon, said Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein at a press conference on the Yangon Region government's third-year performance, held on Wednesday.

The regional government is planning to invite foreign investors to develop more low-cost homes across Yangon as local developers can only invest in projects where apartments are sold under a five-eight year payment plan, said U Phyo Min Thein.

Low-income buyers will find it difficult to buy apartments under the short-term payment plans, as the apartments are priced beyond their earnings, he said. That is why the government will seek foreign investors who can invest in the region's housing projects, particularly for low-income families, for a period of 15 to 20 years, he added.

The Chief Minister said Yangon is in need of more low-cost homes because of the mass migration of job seekers. The government is seeking suitable means, including ways to build houses by excluding the cost of land, and arrangements are being made to develop such housing as quickly as possible, he said.

Now, the plan has evolved to a certain degree, he added.

For the time being, the Yangon Region government is re-developing three expired housing projects — the Lanthit housing project in Lanmadaw Township, the Mingalayeiktha housing project in Thingangyun Township, and the Pyidawthit housing project in Pazundaung Township.

Housing officials are currently implementing the second phase of the Bohmu Bahtoo affordable housing project in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, which will include 27 units with 864 apartments. ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



Photo shows Thilawa Special Economic Zone. **PHOTO: PHO HTAUNG**

Japan-backed Thilawa special economic zone expanding

YANGON — A Japan-backed special economic zone in Myanmar is expanding as an alternative production hub for China and Viet Nam, attracting growing numbers of Japanese and other foreign firms to the outskirts of Yangon.

More than half of the total developed area of 5.83 million square meters in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone is already occupied, said Tomoyasu Shimizu, president of Myanmar Japan Thilawa Development Ltd., or MJTD, the operator of the economic zone.

Since its opening in 2015, 105 companies have moved into the zone or signed tenancy contracts through last month, with 90 firms under full foreign ownership and 13 foreign-Myanmar joint ventures.

There are 54 Japanese companies in the boundaries of the zone, 15 from Thailand, eight from South Korea and six from Taiwan, according to the MJTD, a Japan-Myanmar joint public-private sector venture. The tenants are companies from a wide variety of sectors including apparel, building materials, packaging and food and beverage.

Rising labor costs and tighter environmental regulations are driving foreign companies out of China to other Asian countries such as Viet Nam and Myanmar, Shimizu said.

In fact, the Thilawa SEZ has emerged as an alternative even for Viet Nam, which is also experiencing soaring labor costs, prompting Chinese and Taiwanese exporters to the United States to "increasingly visit for on-site inspections," he added.

The MJTD has developed Zone A of 4.05 million sq. meters and the first to third phases of Zone B with a combined land area of 2.24 million sq. meters, documents show.

Shimizu said the Thilawa SEZ is set to further expand as it is preparing to break ground on the fourth phase of Zone B with an area space of 490,000 sq. meters in 2020.—Kyodo News ■

Myanmar imports decline 6% in current fiscal

MYANMAR'S imports have exceeded US$12 billion in the eight months since October in the current fiscal year, the Ministry of Commerce reported on Friday. Compared with the corresponding period of the 2017-2018FY, imports have declined by more than $780 million, or 6 per cent.

From 1 October to 31 May in the 2018-2019FY, the public sector spent about $700 million on imports of three groups of products — $538 million on capital goods, $126 million on intermediate goods, and $33 million on consumer goods. Compared with the same period in the previous FY, public sector imports have declined by more than $200 million.

During the period, private importers bought four major kinds of goods: capital goods worth $3.8 billion, semi-finished goods valued at nearly $4.6 billion, consumer products worth almost $2.2 billion, and raw materials used by CMP (cut-make-pack) businesses worth over $1.5 billion.

The total value of goods imported by the private sector was $11.5 billion, a decline of more than $570 million compared with the same period in the previous FY. During the October-May period in the previous fiscal year, Myanmar imported goods worth $12.9 billion, with the public sector spending over $900 million, and the private sector $12.06 billion.

While imports fell during the eight-month period, exports rose by $1.25 billion.—Swe Nyein ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)



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8 JUNE 2019
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Reuniting with old friends from afar

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was recently on an official state visit to the Czech Republic and a working visit to Hungary at the invitation of Czech Prime Minister Mr. Andrej Babiš.

Both countries are located in Central Europe and are members of the European Union. While both countries have a landmass and population smaller than Myanmar, their economy and scale of development are miles ahead of ours. Therefore, it is very much worth our time to observe and learn from these two nations.

> She described our country's actual situation and the journey we are going through in a clear, open and comprehensive manner. We hope this will dispel the rumours and misunderstandings on Myanmar that are floating among Western countries.

Compared to the Czech Republic, Myanmar is about eight and a half times larger and has about 44 million more citizens compared to the 10 million or so people of the landlocked nation. However, Czechia (as it is also known) has a GDP three times that of our nation.

During her visit to Czechia, the State Counsellor talked about promoting the friendly relations between our two countries, one that has existed in historical tradition, and increasing bilateral cooperation in trade, investment and other economic sectors.

She also discussed promoting more interaction between the citizens of both countries, more cooperation in education, healthcare and cultural affairs, and exchanging visits between high-ranking figures of both nations.

Furthermore, the State Counsellor delivered a lecture on Myanmar's transition period titled 'Challenges faced in transitioning to a democratic system' to the rector, faculties and students of Charles University, the first university established in Central Europe.

During the meeting with leaders of the Czech Republic and Hungary, and with the university communities of both countries, our State Counsellor delivered lectures that explain Myanmar's democratic transition, her internal peace process, and matters related to implementing stability, peace and development in Rakhine State.

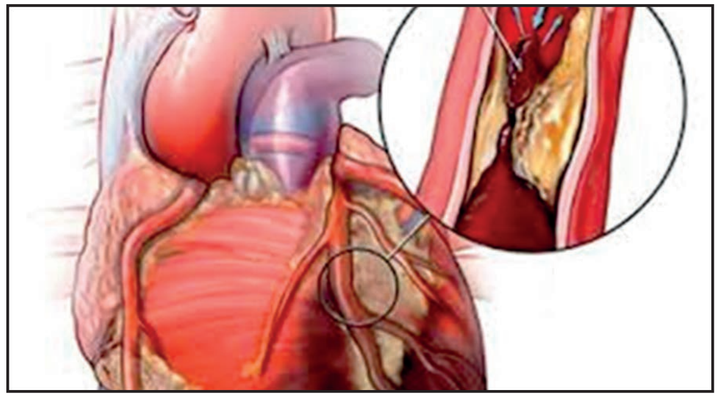
She described our country's actual situation and the journey we are going through in a clear, open and comprehensive manner. We hope this will dispel the rumours and misunderstandings on Myanmar that are floating among Western countries.

In addition, we have successfully organized the Myanmar-Czech and Myanmar-Hungary economic forums. These have allowed traders, entrepreneurs and industrialists from all three countries to have direct conservations, expand their range of opportunities, and promote cooperation in trade, investment and economic partnership.

In conclusion, the State Counsellor's recent visits to the European countries has rekindled the existing connection with our long-time friends. We see this as the opening of the yellow brick road that will generate bountiful merits in foreign relations, development, education, and to our economy, society and culture.

Are you at risk of a Heart attack?

By Professor Dr Maung





A shocking news

It was stated in Kyemon newspaper on 29th April. 'Around the world at every thirty-four seconds, a person is dying from cardiovascular disease particularly due to ischemic heart attack', it said.

World Health Organization reported that there were 30,295 numbers of deaths due to ischemic heart attack in 2017 in Myanmar comprising 7.6% of total death for the year.

Dr Ko Ko Zaw (Department of Medical Research, Ministry of Health and Sports) and his team did a study in 2017 in four townships in Myanmar and reported that the prevalence of possible heart attack was 7.5% and the prevalence of hypertension was 51%.

Ischemic heart disease is caused by progressive narrowing of blood vessels, the process called atherosclerosis.

Narrowing of arteries over the age

The narrowing of arteries with ages is caused by cholesterol in the diet. When taken in excess, it deposits onto the inner wall of arteries starting the damaging process. The smooth inner lining of the vessel wall becomes damaged and replaced by fibrous tissue resulting in hardening and narrowing of the lumen. Over time, fibrous tissue builds up as plaques, limiting the blood flow. Atherosclerosis causes ischemic heart attack, stroke or even death.

In fact, atherosclerosis is an inevitable aging process. Although it is not coming up to disease level, it starts early in life and everyone have had it.

The risk of this process developing into disease depends on the presence of risk factors.

Risk factors

The important risk factors include age, family history, smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes mellitus, high cholesterol in the blood, overweight and obesity, unhealthy eating habits and lack of physical activity.

While you are reading this article, in the moment of ten minutes, almost twenty persons are dying because of coronary heart disease over the world. The question is 'How can it be sure that you are not the next in another ten minutes or ten hours' time.?'. The chance of developing a heart attack depends on how many risk factors you are having.

Chance of having coronary heart disease.

By answering twelve questions released by Australia Heart Foundation, one can guess himself the possibility of coronary heart disease.

What you find out in the next few minutes could probably save your life.

Add up your total score that indicates if your score is:

12-20: You manage your heart well and do many of the right things. Keep up the good work.

21-30: You have a few risks. If you are over 45, now is the time to get a heart health check.

31-40: You have some risk factors which need to be managed. Must get a heart check today.

41-48: You have significant risk of heart disease or may already have it. Check back on the questions where your score was high. Identify the lifestyles changes you might need and start accordingly right away. Keep in touch with a doctor and follow the instructions ASAP.

Take home messages

Coronary heart disease is a leading cause of death not only in Myanmar but also all over the world.

By answering twelve questions released by Australia Heart Foundation, one can guess himself the possibility of heart attack.

Understanding the risk factors and lifestyle modification is crucial importance for preventing a heart attack.

Let your wisdom save your life.

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3. Mechanism of beneficial effects of physical activity on atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease. J.Appl Physiol 2011 Jul: 111(1): 308-310

4. Coronary Heart disease in Myanmar. World Life Expectancy. https://www.worldlifeecpectancy.com/myanmar

5. Are you at risk of heart disease? https://www.heartfoundation.org.au

1.	Do you currently smoke?	
a.	No	(1 mark)
b.	Not now, but used to smoke	(2 marks)
c.	Only socially about once/twice a week	(3 marks)
d.	Yes	(4 marks)
2.	What age range are you?	
a.	Under 30 years	(1 mark)
b.	30-44 years	(2 marks)
c.	45-60 years	(3 marks)
d.	Over 60 years	(4 marks)
3.	How many servings of vegetables (including fresh, frozen and tinned) do you eat each day?	
a.	Five or more	(1 mark)
b.	Three or four	(2 marks)
c.	One or two	(3 marks)
d.	None, I don't eat vegetables	(4 marks)
4.	How many servings of fruits (including fresh, frozen and tinned) do you eat each day?	
a.	Three or more	(1 mark)
b.	Two	(2 marks)
c.	One	(3 marks)
d.	None, I don't eat fruits	(4 marks)
5.	In a typical week, on how many days would you do moderate or vigorous physical exercise for at least 30 minutes?	
a.	Every day	(1 mark)
b.	Four or five days	(2 marks)
c.	Two or three days	(3 marks)
d.	No more than once	(4 marks)
6.	How often do you eat deep fried or fatty foods?	
a.	Never	(1 mark)
b.	No more than once a week	(2 marks)
c.	Two or three times a week	(3 marks)
d.	Most days	(4 marks)
7.	Have you been told by a doctor you have high cholesterol?	
a.	No	(1 mark)
b.	I don't know	(2 marks)
c.	Yes, but more than five years ago	(3 marks)
d.	Yes	(4 marks)
8.	Are you on any medicine for high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes or heart disease?	
a.	No	(1 mark)
b.	Yes, in the past	(2 marks)
c.	Yes, last year	(3 marks)
d.	Yes, since last year up to now	(4 marks)
9.	Have you been told by a doctor you have high blood pressure?	
a.	No	(1mark)
b.	I don't know	(2 marks)
c.	Yes, five years ago	(3 marks)
d.	Yes	(4 marks)
10.	Does anyone in your family have heart disease or a heart attack?	
a.	No	(1 mark)
b.	Yes, a distant relative	(2 marks)
c.	Yes, a close relative (e.g. uncle, aunt, cousin)	(3 marks)
d.	Yes, immediate family (father, mother, brother, sister)	(4 marks)
11.	Have you spoken to your GP about your heart health?	
a.	Yes	(1 mark)
b.	Yes, two years ago	(2 marks)
c.	Yes, five years ago	(3 marks)
d.	Never	(4 marks)
12.	Have you had a heart attack or angina?	
a.	No	(1 mark)
b.	Yes, five years ago	(2 marks)
c.	Yes, three years ago	(3 marks)
d.	Yes, within the past three years	(4 marks)

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 7th June, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 8th June, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be Isolated in Southern Shan and Kayah states, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago regions, (Northern and Eastern) Shan State, fairly widespread in Yangon and Ayeyawady regions, Kayin and Mon states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts and slight elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-6) feet in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts and (3-4) feet in Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon –Taninthayi Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Moderate monsoon over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8th June, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8th June, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8th June, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and fairly widespread in Yangon Region.

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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Vladimir Putin slams attempts to 'push' Huawei from global markets



Chief legal officer of Huawei Song Liuping speaks during a press conference at the Huawei facilities in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, China, on May 29, 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

MOSCOW—Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday slammed US moves against Chinese tech giant Huawei, which has signed a deal to develop a 5G network in Russia.

Speaking at an economic forum also attended by Chinese President Xi Jinping, Putin condemned "the situation around the company Huawei that they are attempting not just to squeeze but to unceremoniously push out of the global market."

"In some circles this is even being called the first technological war of the dawning digital era," Putin said.

Despite international concerns that it could present a security risk, Huawei on Wednesday signed an agreement with Russian telecoms company MTS to develop a 5G network in the country, on the sidelines of a meeting between Putin and Xi in Moscow.

The Chinese telecom giant has been in turmoil since May, when US President Donald Trump's administration banned US companies from selling high-tech equipment to Huawei over suspicions it is spying for Beijing.

Several companies have already distanced themselves from Huawei, including Google, whose Android system equips the vast majority of smartphones in the world.

Huawei's reported potential involvement in Britain's 5G network has proved politically sensitive and Theresa May's government insisted no decision has been made on the issue.—AFP ■

UAE says 'state actor' was behind tanker bombings

DUBAI—Initial findings of an investigation led by the United Arab Emirates of May 12 attacks on oil tankers point to the likelihood that a state was behind the bombings, but there is no evidence yet that Iran was involved, the UAE said Thursday.The UAE along with Saudi Arabia and Norway presented the preliminary findings during a briefing to the UN Security Council, which will also receive the final results of the probe to consider a possible response.The United States has accused Iran of being behind the attacks on the four oil tankers off the Emirati coast, which came at a time of escalating tensions between Tehran and Washington.

The four vessels—two Saudi-flagged, a Norwegian-flagged and an Emirati-flagged—were damaged by explosions that took place within UAE territorial waters, off the port of Fujairah.

After assessing the damage and carrying out chemical analysis, the UAE told the council that the attacks were sophisticated and of the type most likely carried out by state services.

"While investigations are still ongoing, these facts are strong indications that the four attacks were part of a sophisticated and coordinated operation carried out by an actor with significant operational capacity, most likely a state actor," said a statement from the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Norway.

The initial findings showed that it was "highly likely" that four Limpet mines, which are magnetically attached to a ship's hull, were used in the attacks, placed by trained divers who were deployed from fast boats, according to the preliminary findings.

The UAE believes the attacks required intelligence capabilities to pick the four oil tankers as targets, one of which—a Saudi ship—was at the opposite end of the anchorage area at Fujairah from the three other tankers.

Saudis blame Iran

Iran has rejected accusations that it was behind the sabotage and diplomats said there was no mention of Iran's possible role during the briefing by the UAE.

Saudi Arabia, Iran's arch-rival, told reporters that Tehran was nevertheless the most likely culprit."We believe the responsibility for this attack lies on the shoulders of Iran," Saudi Arabia's UN Ambassador Abdallah al-Mouallimi told reporters after the briefing. — AFP ■



Handout, Emirati National Media Council, AFP | A picture taken on May 13, 2019 off the coast of the Gulf emirate of Fujairah shows Norwegian oil tanker Andrea Victory, one of the four tankers damaged in alleged "sabotage attacks" in the Gulf. **PHOTO: AFP**

China has tools to handle trade war: central bank chief


China's yuan currency has rapidly depreciated against the dollar as trade tensions have ramped up in recent weeks, nearing the critical seven to the dollar exchange rate. **PHOTO: AFP**

BEIJING—China's central bank chief said Friday the country has plenty of policy tools left to handle the trade war with the United States.There is "tremendous" room to counter the deepening trade war, People's Bank of China governor Yi Gang said in an interview with Bloomberg TV.

"We have plenty of room in interest rates, we have plenty of room in required reserve ratio rate, and also for the fiscal, monetary policy toolkit, I think the room for adjustment is tremendous," Yi said on Bloomberg TV.

Ties between China and the US have deteriorated sharply after trade negotiations stalled last month without a deal to lift bruising tariffs on goods worth $360 billion in two-way trade.

China said Thursday that it would soon release detailed information about a planned blacklist of "unreliable" foreign companies and individuals, that analysts expect will target firms cutting off supplies to Chinese tech giant Huawei. Last month the US Commerce Department placed Huawei and dozens of its affiliates on an "entity list" on grounds of national security, curbing its access to crucial US-made components and software—though a 90-day reprieve was later issued.

Yi has participated in several rounds of the trade negotiations with Washington and is scheduled to meet with US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin this weekend during the G20 gathering of financial policymakers in Japan.

He said the meeting with Mnuchin would be "productive talk, as always," but trade war discussions would be "uncertain and difficult", according to Bloomberg News. — AFP ■

Scientist looks to resurrect Hong Kong's 'Pearl of the Orient' past



Freshly harvested pearls, each containing a radio-frequency identification (RFID) chip, are washed on a fishing raft in the rural Sai Kung region of Hong Kong. **PHOTO: AFP**

HONG KONG — On a raft floating off Hong Kong's rural eastern coastline former investment banker turned scientist Yan Wa-tat patiently scrapes barnacles off some 2,000 oysters — a tiresome but crucial part of his mission to bring back pearl farming.

"The species was once abundant in Hong Kong," the 58-year-old lamented.

"We have a history of pearl fishing of over one thousand years... but because of overfishing in Hong Kong, we only have very few of them left," he explained.

Yan is farming Akoya pearl oysters, a specimen prized for jewellery, hoping his research will show other fisherman that the industry could be viable.

It's a calling that requires patience. Cultured pearls take around a year to form and every few weeks Yan has to scrape away any barnacles that might compete for food with his precious oysters.

This kind of knowledge was once ubiquitous to the region. After all, the famous waterway that sustains this part of southern China — along one of the world's most densely populated regions — is called the Pearl River.

The world's biggest pearl, once owned by Catherine the Great and known as "The Sleeping Lion" because of its bizarre shape, is thought to have been plucked from southern China's waters sometime in the 1700s before Dutch traders spirited it away.

And Hong Kong — dubbed the Pearl of the Orient by its former colonial overlords — remains the world's largest importer and exporter of pearls, with exports topping $1.8 billion in 2016, according to UN trade data.

But none of them are produced locally. Overfishing and market forces have long devastated the wild pearl farming trade in the city.

Cultured pearl farming is a relatively modern industry, and a few Hong Kong ventures rose to the challenge in the 1950s. But they struggled against Japanese competitors who came to dominate the trade. The city's last pearl farm was shuttered in 1981. —AFP ■

Chinese scientists design heat insulator inspired by polar bear hair

WASHINGTON — Chinese scientists got inspiration from the hair of polar bears and developed a light-weight, stretchy heat insulation material, which can be applied in the architecture and aerospace sectors in the future.

The study published on Thursday in the journal Chem has shown that the insulator has a similar structure with the polar bear hair, which is hollow inside.

Under the microscope, a polar bear hair has a long, cylindrical cavity through its center that renders the bear remarkable heat-holding capacity, according to the study.

Scientists led by Yu Shuhong, a chemistry professor at the University of Science and Technology of China, produced a spaghetti-like aerogel block with millions of hollowed-out carbon tubes, each equivalent to a single strand of hair.



The study published on Thursday in the journal Chem has shown that the insulator has a similar structure with the polar bear hair, which is hollow inside. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

"Polar bear hair has been evolutionarily optimized to help prevent heat loss in cold and humid conditions, which makes it an excellent model for a synthetic heat insulator," said Yu, the paper's co-senior author.

The heat conductivity of the material is even lower than that of dry air, since the air inside the tiny cavity, only 35 nanometers in its inner diameter, can hardly transfer heat, according to the study.

Also, minimum density of the material is only 8 kilograms per cubic meter, lighter than the majority of current heat insulators.

The new material was extraordinarily elastic, and it could maintain its structure intact after one million compress-release cycles at a 30 percent strain, according to the study.

The research team is working to overcome the obstacle to build those insulators on the meter scale.— Xinhua ■

'Best ever' simulation solves 40-year black hole mystery

PARIS — Scientists on Thursday unveiled the most detailed simulation of a black hole yet, solving a mystery dating back more than four decades over how the star-devouring monsters consume matter.

Coming fresh on the heels of the first ever photo of one of the giant objects, which are scattered across the Universe, astrophysicists are now several steps closer to understanding how they form and develop.

A black hole is born when a large star collapses in on itself. Far from being a "hole", they are instead incredibly dense objects with a gravitational pull so strong that nothing, not even light, may escape them.

As they suck in matter such as gas, dust and space debris, they form an accretion disk — a churning mass of super-accelerated particles that are among the brightest objects in the Universe — around them.

It is the accretion disk that can be seen as a blurry halo around the image of the black hole released in April from the Event Horizon Telescope.

But accretion disks are nearly always tilted at an angle to the orientation of the black hole, known as its equatorial plane.

In 1975, Nobel Prize-winning physicist John Bardeen and astrophysicist JacobusPettersontheorised that a rotating black hole would cause the inner region of a tilted accretion disk to line up with the black hole's equatorial plane.

But no model could ever work out how, precisely, that would happen. Until now.

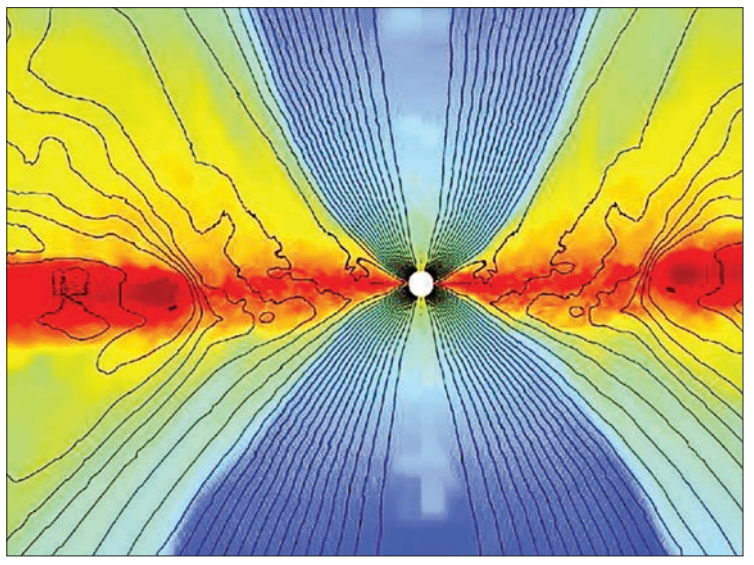
A team of astrophysicists from Northwestern University, Oxford University, and the University of Amsterdam, used graphical processing units to crunch large sets of data and simulate how black holes interact with their accretion disks.

Crucially, their approach gave them the computing power to account for magnetic turbulence, which occurs when different particles churn at different speeds within the accretion disk.

It is precisely this electromagnetic effect that causes matter to fall to the centre of the black hole.

Alexander Tchekhovskoy, assistant professor of physics and astronomy at Northwestern's Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, likened matter accumulating near a black hole to throwing a dart towards the board at random.

"If you don't really aim it will never hit the bullseye," he said. "In the same way, when (matter) falls into the black hole it has some rotation but this rotation will have nothing generally to do with how the black hole rotates. The two rotations will not know anything about each other." —AFP ■



A vertical slice of a black hole, created as scientists unveiled the most detailed simulation of one yet. **PHOTO: AFP**

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Gas surges globally as green groups cry foul

PARIS — 2018 was a "golden year" for natural gas with demand surging worldwide, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Friday, prompting concern from environmental groups over the climate impact of the world's new favourite fuel.

Demand for gas grew 4.6 per cent last year — the fastest rate since 2010 — and gas accounted for nearly half of the total increase in worldwide energy consumption, according to the IEA's annual report on the fuel.

The surge in natural gas, which while cleaner than coal remains a fossil fuel that contributes to manmade emissions, was put down to ballooning production in the US and an insatiable demand for alternatives to coal in China.

"In 2018, natural gas played a major role in a remarkable year for energy," the IEA's executive director FatihBirol said.

"Global energy consumption rose at its fastest pace this decade, with natural gas accounting for 45 per cent of the increase, more than any other fuel."

The IEA, the global authority on energy, said that gas had helped play a role in reducing air pollution and limiting the rise of greenhouse gas emissions. But environment and energy sector analysts said the gas boom could have dire effects on Earth's climate, as scientific warnings of the need to slash fossil fuel use grow ever stronger.

"When it comes to gas, the IEA horse has blinkers on and is heading straight over the cliff of climate disaster," Lorne Stockman, senior research analyst at Oil Change International, told AFP. "Gas is not clean, cheap or necessary." —AFP ■



Demand for gas grew 4.6 per cent – the fastest rate since 2010 – and gas accounded for nearly half of the total increase in worldwide energy consumption. **PHOTO:AFP**

Russia fines fishing firm running 'whale jail'

MOSCOW — A Russian court on Friday fined a fishing firm for illegally capturing killer whales and keeping them in an overcrowded "jail" in the country's far east.

The company that supplies sea mammals to aquariums is one of four firms keeping 10 killer whales and 87 Beluga whales in a controversial facility near the port town of Nakhodka.

Media have nicknamed it a "whale jail" due to its crammed pens and the company's controversial plans to sell the animals to aquariums om nearby China.

A district court in the far eastern city of Vladivostok ruled that the White Whale company violated fishing regulations when it captured three killer whales, also called orcas, and ordered it to pay a fine of 28.1 million rubles ($432,000), news agencies and activists said.

Local environmental activist Dmitry Lisitsyn, coordinator of Sakhalin Watch group, said he expected similar decisions about the rest of the killer whales and eventually Belugas.

The fate of the Russian orcas and Belugas — highly intelligent and social marine mammals — hasscandalised the international community, with scientists and celebrities calling for their release. Laws regarding the capture and keeping of marine mammals in Russia contain multiple loopholes. The fishing firms have argued they had the proper paperwork and planned to deliver them to aquariums abroad. —AFP ■



An activist paints the Greenpeace logo onto an image of an orca during a protest against the "whale jail". **PHOTO: AFP**

14 lions on the loose in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG — A pride of 14 lions is on the loose near a mining community bordering South Africa's Kruger National Park, officials said Friday, and warned members of the public to be alert.

The lions have been spotted roaming around the Foskor phosphate mine outside the town of Phalaborwa on the western boundary of the famed wildlife park, which is fenced in.

It is suspected the big cats escaped from the park, said the government of the northern Limpopo province, which has allocated rangers to monitor the pride while officials decide where to send them.

"Employees at Foskor Mine and members of the public are hereby advised to be alert at all times," the provincial department of environment and tourism said in an online statement.

It said a meeting of government and park officials had concluded that the lions must be captured and released into the Kruger National Park.

But park spokesman Ike Phaahla said this was not feasible, as the new arrivals "will continually break out as other dominant lions will chase them out."

He added that any animal outside the park "is the responsibility of the provincial authority."

Until the matter is settled, Phaahla warned "there is a danger to members of the public who are working in the area.

"There is the possibility of wildlife-human conflict, so people have to be careful," he told SABC public television. "We need to identify a park where they can be taken and establish their own area."

It was not clear how long the lions have been on the loose.

Earlier this week, a leopard killed a two-year-old boy inside a fenced-off staff compound in the Kruger.

A team of rangers hunted down two suspected leopards and shot them dead to avoid the risk of a repeat.

The park covers nearly two million hectares (4.9 million acres) and is home to over 500 bird species and 147 mammal species.—AFP ■

Three elephants found poisoned in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR — Three elephants were poisoned to death near a palm oil plantation in Malaysia, officials said Friday, in the latest case of the endangered creatures being killed near human settlements.

Local police in southern Johor state found the animal carcasses and alerted wildlife officers on Tuesday, Wildlife and National Parks Department director-general Abdul Kadir Abu Hashim told AFP. The dead animals are believed to be part of a herd of 30 elephants from the nearby forest reserve. "We conducted a post-mortem on the three female elephants aged between 18 and 22, and it revealed they were poisoned," Abdul Kadir said. "I am shocked and saddened by this incident. If this trend continues, all our wild elephants will be wiped out." Electric fences used to keep elephants away from village crops were not functioning and allowed the creatures to trespass on plantations, Abdul Kadir said. Liver and kidney samples from the elephants were being examined to determine the type of poison used, said Natural Resources Minister Xavier JayakumarArulanandam.

Malaysia has seen a spate of elephant killings as a result of human settlements or agricultural plantations expanding into the creatures' habitats.—AFP ■

UK hopes to build on EU-Japan deal after Brexit: Fox

LONDON — The United Kingdom hopes to agree a wide-ranging trade deal with Japan after it has left the European Union, with increased cooperation on digital services, according to International Trade Secretary Liam Fox.

Speaking to Kyodo News in London ahead of the Group of 20 ministerial meeting on trade and digital economy in Japan on the weekend, Fox said preliminary discussions on a future trade deal had been "very constructive," with both countries having "similar views" on trading priorities.

"We decided we would not do a straightforward replication of the EPA (the economic partnership agreement between Japan and the European Union) but use it as a basis where we can improve it and be free of some of its restrictions," he said.

Fox cited removing obstacles to digital services as a potential area for cooperation in a new trading relationship.

He enthusiastically reaffirmed the United Kingdom's interest in joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, also known as the TPP11.

Fox described the deal, which includes Japan, Australia and Malaysia, as an "important liberalization of the global economy" in a region which is predicted to grow faster than the European Union. And he noted that if the United Kingdom did join this trading bloc then it would be roughly equivalent in economic terms to a reduced European Union of 27 member states.

Speaking about the stalled Brexit negotiations, he said it is important that the new prime minister, due to be chosen toward the end of July, works hard to convince Brussels that both sides need a deal.

"I think the challenge facing the new leader is to get the message across to Brussels in the next few months with equal strength that we want there to be a deal but we are willing to leave without one, if we can't reach one.

"I very much hope we will leave with a deal. I think it's the least disruptive way of doing so but of course we have had extra time to prepare for no-deal," he said.

Fox said that in his discussions with G-20 colleagues he will be reinforcing the need for a rules-based global trading system as well as pushing for reforms of the World Trade Organization in order to cope with new challenges, particularly greater liberalization on services.

He said this approach was needed more than ever given the "gathering headwinds" on global trade and the US-China trade dispute.

"The question is how do we open up the global economy and deal with areas like e-commerce and better manage trade and development," he said.

Fox said London and Tokyo shared a similar outlook on global trade.

"The UK and Japan have a huge overlap of views. We share a similar type of economy in which we are both big services exporters and we share a similar analysis of where the global system needs to go right across the whole digital space, the rules-based system and in terms of trade blocs," he said.—Kyodo News ■



British International Trade Secretary Liam Fox. **PHOTO:KYODO NEWS**

Japan economy "worsening" despite improvement in key index: gov't

TOKYO — The key index reflecting the current state of the Japanese economy rose in April, but the improvement was not enough to change the government's assessment that it is "worsening," the Cabinet Office said Friday.

The office said its coincident index of business conditions for April climbed 0.8 point from the previous month to 101.9 against the 2015 base of 100, amid a recovery in domestic demand and exports of automobiles and motorcycles

"The figures related to manufacturing components are rising but they were not enough for (the government) to upgrade the assessment," a Cabinet Office official told reporters.

The latest assessment comes at a sensitive time, with the government planning to raise the consumption tax rate in October to 10 per cent from 8 per cent, a move that could dampen consumer spending.

The government has said it will go ahead with the tax increase unless the world's third-largest economy faces a shock on the scale of the financial crisis triggered by the 2008 collapse of US investment bank Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.

Last month, the Cabinet Office downgraded its economic assessment to "worsening" for the first time in over six years, signaling the economy is heading into recession. —Kyodo News ■

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V VIOLET ACE

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V VIOLET ACE VOY. NO. (1906) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-06-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 TAICHI SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 2301185

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICTY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(19/2019)

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

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-216(18-19)	Assorted Sizes of Coverall Cotton(1)Lot	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-217(18-19)	Assorted Sizes of Safety Shoes(1)Lot	Ks
(c)	DMP/L-218(18-19)	Industrial Raw Materials(2)Groups	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 Electricty and Energy Website Portal (www.moee.gov.mm) as from **7 June 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 **8 July 2019**.
4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **8-7-2019, 14:00 pm**

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

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

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

Reference No.	Lot No.	Description	Unit	Quantity
G 134	1	T-Shirts with project logo	T-Shirt	111,000
G 135	1	Caps with project logo	Cap	57,000

Expressions of Interest for one or both Quotation must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number (s) above. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ) by return email. Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address below by the deadline **date and time stated in respective ITQ**, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

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

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to the Union National Community Driven Development Project, Procurement Unit: Attention to U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Department of Rural Development, Office N° 36, Nay Pyi Taw. For detailed information please contact Mobile phone 0943434333. Telephone (95-67)418637. Email: unioncddprocurement@gmail.com. Please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

World famous Myanmar primates from Bahin area

Mann Thit Nyein
(Archaeology)

IT has been 10 years since I start participating in Myanmar-France field survey on primate fossil in 2008. In the first year our trip to Bahin Village in Myaing Township via Pyay and Pakokku was a very difficult one. Road transport was very bad. As some rains had fallen I vividly remember reciting all the religious verses I knew as we made the journey arduously.

Bahin Village in Magway Region, Pakokku District, Myaing Township had now become a major village tract and the 27 miles journey from Pakokku to Myaing and 16 miles trip from Myaing to Bahin Village can be made on decent modern buses that ply daily to and fro. Bahin Village Tract consist of Htanaung-gon, Oo Nap Yin , Shan Tone, Magyikan, Nandawya, Spaykan and Paukkhaung villages and Bahin Village itself had close to 500 households. The village tract with Bahin Village and seven other villages had more than 2,000 households in total.

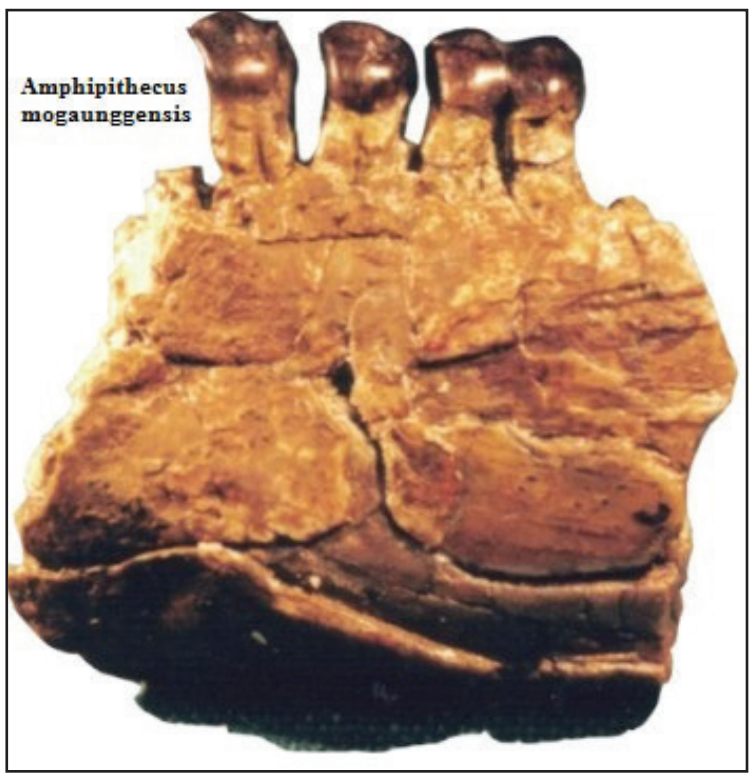
There's one sub-high school in Bahin Village in addition to one station hospital where treatments were provided full time. The major economic activity was agriculture and trade. The village market was full of buyers and sellers from Pakokku, Myaing and Monywa as well as nearby villages and in addition to having a good living standard it also had a police station that contributes toward security and rule of law.

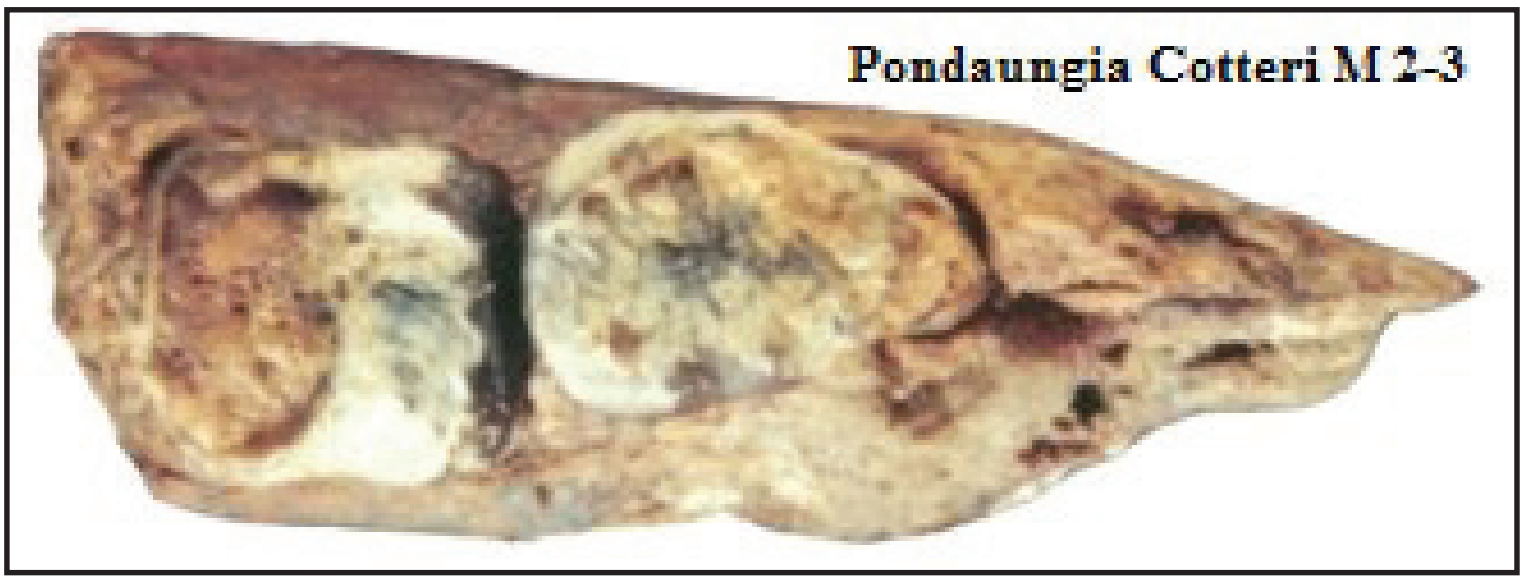
Bahin Village also had the historical Shwe Hintha Pagoda and when the annual pagoda festival was held on the Full Moon of Tabaung, it attracts merchants from Pakokku, Myaing and Monywa and devotees and revellers from nearby villages. In addition to all of these, Bahin Village and its vicinity became a world famous place in archaeology after discovery of more than 40 million years old fossil remains of primates. The latest addition to this village now will be a museum displaying the fossil remains discovered in the area. The museum was constructed by Department of Archaeology and National Museum.

Primates are any mammal of the group that includes the lemurs, lorises, tarsiers, monkeys, apes and humans. Humans and primates had similar evolutionary process. Primates were descendent of tree dwellers. The original habitats of primates are important in the study of its evolutionary process. Primate fossils from Eocene period (55 million to 38 million years ago) were found but most were found from the Oligocene period that starts about 38 million years ago.

Primate fossils such as Amphipithecus and Pondaungia from about 40 million years ago found in Myanmar was the oldest discovered in the world. Looking back, in 1914 palaeontologist G.D.P. Cotter found the first primate fossil of Myanmar in Pangan, Myaing Township. In honour of the founder, it was named Pondaungia Cotteri. In 1923 Dr. Barnum Brown found another primate fossil near Mogaung Village, Pale Township which was named Amphipithecus mogaungensis in honour of the place where it was discovered. In April 1978 Mandalay University Geology Department Lecturer U Ba Maw led 13 students on a field survey in Sagaing Region, Pale Township, Mogaung Village and found two primate teeth fossil remains. The tooth fossil remains were Amphipithecus and Pondaungia discovered by Myanmar experts for the first time. In October 1978 Mandalay University Geology Department Lecturer U Thaw Tint together with demonstrators conducted a field survey near Moguang Village and found more primate teeth fossil remains.

On 14 February 1997 State Peace and Development Council Secretary 1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt directed Tatmadaw Office of Strategic Studies and expert geologists from Ministry of Education to jointly explore and search for fossilized remains in Pondaung and formed a Fossil Exploration Team led by Col. Than Tun which conducted ex-







ploration works in Pale Township and Myaing Township.

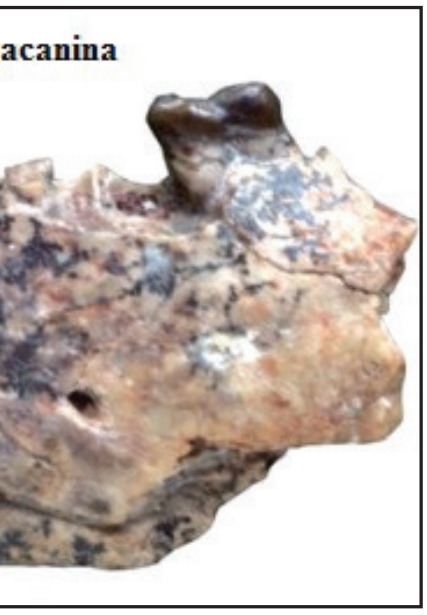
Upon invitation international fossilogists also cooperated and participated in the exploration works. Now, 21 years has passed since Japan and French fossilogists has worked together with Myanmar experts and throughout this period more primate fossil remains were found.

Bahinia Pondaungisis found in the area was considered and widely accepted as the oldest primate fossil found in the world. Ganlea megacanina, a primate lower jaw fossil remain found in November 2008 at Myaing Township Pauk Khaung Village was about 38 million years old.

According to Dr. Chris Beard, palaeontologist at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Museum of Natural History, discovery of Ganlea megacanina primate put up a new thought to the previously accepted concept of primates originating from Africa. This discovery was also important in the study of the evolution of Myanmar primates.

The six Myanmar primates fossils Pondaungia, Amphipithecus, Bahinia, Ganlea, Colonbine and Myanmarpithecus found in Pondaung area were of mid or late Eocene period. The search for primate fossil has been conducted since 1997 and new discovery will become rare and more difficult. As there can be instances of smuggling abroad fossilized remains it should be noted that this amount to destruction and removing our cultural and historical heritages. Now, 25 areas near the vicinity of Magway Region, Pakokku District, Myaing Township, Bahin Village where primate fossil remains were discovered were designated as protected zones. As such locals and the people of the county should come together to protect and maintain this Bahin area as an important cultural and historical heritage area.

(Translated by Zaw Min)





Ancient Myanmar wooden monasteries in Mandalay

By Min Htat Aung
(Mann Sub Printing House)
PHOTO: Aung Phyo Kyaw

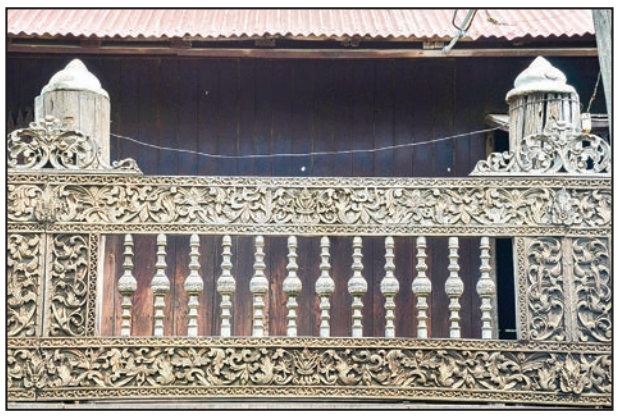
MANDALAY is where Myanmar's cultural heritages are. Many ancient Myanmar wooden monasteries with late Konbaung dynasty's Inwa, Amarapura and Yadanapon era architectural and construction styles were constructed in Mandalay. The monasteries were treasured and well maintained and thus can be seen in magnificent forms today.

People of Myanmar construct monasteries for monks to live peacefully and conduct their religious duties. As they construct these monasteries, they adorn it with their artistic skills. The treasured and well maintained monasteries then became places where ancient traditional architectural and construction styles were maintained and preserved together with the teachings and practices of Buddhism.

Some of these splendid ancient Myanmar wooden monasteries can be seen in Shwe In Pin Monastery and Kin Wun Min Gyi Monastery in Mahaaungmye Township, Thingaza Monastery in Daywun West Ward, Bhamo Monastery, Kyay Myin monastery and Yamethin monastery in Aungmyethazan Township and Maha Min Htin monastery in Chanmyathazi Township.

(Translated by Handytips)















Myanmar lose to Viet Nam 0-2 in friendly match



Myanmar's Ye Min Thu (No.3) tries to pass the ball through Viet Nam players during a friendly match at the Viet Tri Stadium in Viet Nam yesterday. **PHOTO: MFF**

THE MYANMAR U-23 national football team lost their friendly match against Viet Nam by two goals yesterday at the Viet Tri stadium in Viet Nam.

The exhibition match was held in preparation for the 2019 SEA Games.

Both teams played energetically from the start, but the Viet Nam defenders proved to be too strong for Myanmar strikers.

Myanmar lined up with Hein Phyo Win, Ye Min Thu, Ye Yint Aung, Kyaw Myo Naing, Lwin Moe Aung, Myat Kaung Khant, Win Naing Tun, Hein Htet Aung, Kyaw Thu Tun, Captain and Goalkeeper Phone Thitsar Min, and Aung Naing Win.

Team Myanmar was led by head coach Velizar Popov.

The match proved to be thrilling for Viet Nam fans. In the early minutes of the first half, Myanmar launched attacks, but Viet Nam kept the possession of the ball, denying Myanmar a chance to score.

At the 14th minute, Viet Nam scored the opening goal. A kick by its striker took Myanmar keeper Phone Thitsar Min by surprise and landed the ball in the net.

Myanmar strikers tried to respond and got golden opportunities to even the score, but team Viet Nam's keeper was too strong and was able to clear the ball and make special saves.

In the second half, team Myanmar changed its tactics.

Team Viet Nam won its second goal at 75 minutes, with a neat and tidy kick which landed the ball straight into the net.

Win Naing Tun was issued a red card for rough play at 76 minutes.

Myanmar tried to equalize in the later minutes, but with just 10 players, Myanmar failed to change the result.

Although Myanmar got several chances to score, Viet Nam defenders held strong, and the match ended with a score of 2-0 in favour of Viet Nam. – Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Sagaing beat Hantharwady 3-1 in U-19 MNL 2019

SAGAING United beat Hantharwady United by two goals in the U-19 Myanmar National League 2019 match yesterday. Goals by Aung Thiha and Bo Bo Aung secured the victory for Sagaing United.

Hantharwady United forced the play from the kick-off, but the opening goal came from Sagaing United. A long and accurate kick by Aung Thiha at the 8th minute secured the goal for Sagaing United.

Bo Bo Aung scored the second goal for Sagaing United at the 17th minute.

Twenty-nine minutes into the match, Win Ko Ko from Hantharwaddy and Moe Myint Maung from Sagaing United were sent out from the field with red cards for rough play.

Four minutes before the match ended, Sagaing United was awarded a penalty shoot, and the penalty was successfully scored by Bo Bo Aung. The first half ended with Sagaing United leading with three goals.

In the second half, Hantharwady United forced the play and launched quick attacks, while Sagaing United switched to defence.

Hantharwady's power play was significantly better with some players' substitution.

At the 81st minute, one of the substituted players, Aung Phyo Min, made a brilliant effort, scoring a goal for Hantharwady.

Hantharwady launched frequent attacks, but at the final whistle, Sagaing United was still leading by 3-1. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)



A young striker (red) from Hantharwady United tries to breach Sagaing United's defense during the U-19 Myanmar National League 2019 match yesterday. **PHOTO:MNL**

Netherlands beat England in extra time at UEFA Nations League

NETHERLANDS have defeated an error-prone England outfit 3-1 in the extra time of the UEFA Nations League's semifinal to set up a final showdown against Portugal.

Marcus Rashford put England in front from the penalty spot, in the 32nd minute, after he himself was upended in the area.

Matthijs de Ligt was at fault for the first goal but he redeemed himself in the 73rd minute after heading the Dutch side level.

The game went into extra time and the Netherlands took the lead in the 97th minute through a Kyle Walker own-goal after some farcical defending by England.

Dutch striker Quincy Promes killed off the game 17 minutes later and yet again England, who'll now face Switzerland in the 3rd place playoff, were the architects of their own misery. —AFP



Netherlands' forward Quincy Promes celebrates his team's second goal during the UEFA Nations League semi-final football match between The Netherlands and Engl[illegible] the Afonso Henriques Stadium in Guimaraes on June 6, 201[illegible] **PHOTO: AFP**