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State Counsellor encourages further participation in school healthcare from society

AT the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered a speech that brings the positives of social studies, sexual and physical education to light while impelling a greater need for participation from the school faculties and student's communities.

The motto for the seminar was "Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for The Brighter Future" and took place in Myanmar International Convention Centre II.

Opening remarks

The two-day national seminar is organized by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health and Sports and will focus on methods for dissuading students from bad habits and promoting healthy lifestyle choices, said the State Counsellor.

She said this encompasses ensuring schools and universities are free of drugs, no one uses cigarettes, tobacco or quid, combating alcoholism and its negative consequences, lowering traffic accidents, reducing excessive electronic gaming among students, encouraging habits for healthy living, and including reproductive health in school teaching.

The State Counsellor expressed hope that everyone responsible for practically implementing the results of this seminar, especially the education ministry, will carry out their tasks with dedication.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi warmly greets children as she visits booths set up at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

She said the nationwide census in 2014 shows there are 14.4 million teenagers under 15 in the whole country and 9 million citizens between the ages of 15 and 24. This accounts for 46.5 per cent of Myanmar's population. She said the estimates for this year is roughly the same with 15.06 million under 15 and 9.41 million

between 15 and 24, accounting for 45 per cent of the national population.

The 20% demographic

Surveys in 2018 show there were 9,144,469 students in the 47,005 basic education schools throughout Myanmar and 1,527 monastic schools across the nation provided education to 309,938

students, said the State Counsellor. She said these students and those from private schools made up 20 per cent of the nationwide population.

Furthermore, there is also a sizable student population in public and private universities.

The State Counsellor said these high numbers point out how

much of an impact the younger generation will have on the country's future. She said they will require a safe and healthy learning environment that promotes wholesome living so that they can access a bright and fulfilling future.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives Foreign Affairs Minister of Timor-Leste

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr. Dionisio da Costa Babo Soares, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 June 2019 at 11 am during his official visit to Myanmar.

During the meeting, the State Counsellor and Timor-Leste Foreign Affairs and International

Cooperation Minister discussed cordially to promote existing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries, regional cooperation and application of Timor-Leste for ASEAN Membership.

Present at the meeting were U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation, Senior Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Joao Freitas de Camara, Ambassador of Timor-Leste to Myanmar and the members of the Timor-Leste del-



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin meets with Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister of Timor-Leste Dionisio da Costa Babo Soares in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister of Timor-Leste Dionisio da Costa Babo Soares in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

egation.

Earlier on the same day, U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation, also received Mr. Dionisio da Costa Babo Soares, separately at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and discussed on various matters of the latest developments in Myanmar and

Timor-Leste, promoting cooperation between the two countries in energy, trade and investment sectors as well as cooperation in international arena and application of Timor-Leste for ASEAN Membership.

Afterwards, U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International

Cooperation, hosted a luncheon in honour of Mr. Dionisio da Costa Babo Soares, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and the delegation at Hilton Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, according to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

Signing Ceremony for Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) was held

THE signing ceremony for Letter of Agreement (LoA) on the cooperation for UNFPA 4th Country Programme (2018-2022) between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and UNFPA was held on 12 July at Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw.

The Letter of Agreement (LoA) was signed by the U Than Aung Kyaw, Director General of Foreign Economic Relations Department, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Mr. Ramanathan Balakrishnan, UNFPA Representative in Myanmar.

This signing ceremony was attended by officials from concerned ministries that are coordinating and implementing with UNFPA, and officials from UNFPA.

UNFPA 4th Country Programme (2018-2022) will be

implemented with estimated budget US\$ 20.0 million in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and women's empowerment and population dynamics in the collaboration with concerned ministries.

Since 2002, UNFPA has implemented three programmes in Myanmar. The 1st UNFPA program of assistance to Myanmar (2002-2006) with US\$ 16 million, The 2nd UNFPA program of assistance to Myanmar (2007-2011) with US\$ 25.2 million

and the 3rd UNFPA program of assistance to Myanmar (2012-2017) with US\$ 37.5 million were implemented in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and women's empowerment and population dynamics.—MNA ■



A signing ceremony for Letter of Agreement (LoA) on the cooperation for UNFPA 4th Country Programme (2018-2022) between government and UNFPA held in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 June 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar Daily Weather

(Issued at 7:00 pm
Wednesday 12th June, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 13th June, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region, Shan and Kayah states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavyfalls in Rakhine State, isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (8-10)feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

State Counsellor encourages further participation in school healthcare from society

FROM PAGE-1

The State Counsellor said the Ministry of Education is responsible for implementing healthcare, security and development in youths while the Ministry of Health and Sports is tasked with providing technological support and medical services. She called on related ministries, international organizations, NGOs, civil society organizations, and ethnic organizations to cooperate as well.

Physical & mental hurdles

According to the 2016 Myanmar Global School Health Survey (GSHS), malnutrition rates for teens between the ages of 13 to 17 are as high as 18 per cent while 10 per cent have obesity, said the State Counsellor. She said the 2017 Myanmar Micronutrient and Food Consumption Survey show that 18.8 per cent of teens between the ages of 15 and 19 are underweight while 5.2 per cent are overweight.

She also said only one in ten teenagers undertake at least an hour of physical activity per day, which the World Health Organization states is a minimal requirement for healthy living. In addition, one in ten teenagers feels isolated from their peers.

When you compare the 2007 GSHS with the 2016 GSHS you will see that less and less time is being given for physical activities while one in six person is increasing their screen time, said the State Counsellor.

She said within the ten year period from 2007 to 2016, smoking has risen from 2 to 6.6 per cent, chewing tobacco from 3.6 to 8 per

cent, and alcohol consumption from 1.4 to 4.3 per cent, adding that half of it is consumed by children under 14 years of age.

Health promotion system

The State Counsellor said the Ministry of Health and Sports has been following WHO's Health Promoting School Framework since 1996 to promote healthy lifestyle choices among the students, their peers and families. These activities include healthcare awareness campaigns, cleaning the school campus and promoting personal hygiene, disease prevention, nutritional programmes and food safety, school health security, physical education programmes, aiding healthy transition from school life to adulthood, providing social support and counselling, and conducting training and research initiatives.

The State Counsellor said while the aforementioned activities are undertaken in schools across the nation, data from the 2018 Health Management Information System show that only 42 per cent are truly implementing the higher healthcare tasks.

The State Counsellor said effective methods for imparting general health knowledge in students is through the school health security programmes, systematic teaching of social studies, and from their friends and social media.

Developing social skills, awareness in the classroom

Social studies is an important lesson for students who spend most of their time within school buildings and the subject, having



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the opening speech at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The success of these programmes is not the sole responsibly of the union ministries but requires active, resolute participation from educators, parents and the students themselves.

been taught since 1998, has been added as a main subject beginning from the 2017-2018 academic year, said the State Counsellor.

She said the context of the subject consists social skills, environment and sanitation, disease prevention and nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV/AIDS, drug use, and emotional intelligence. Furthermore, the curriculum is designed to deliver knowledge-based and skill-based lessons to students to develop their communication,

thinking and emotional capacity.

However, the State Counsellor pointed out that social studies is still not well received due to constraints in capable staff and teaching aid, and a lack of interest from teachers and parents.

Taboo on sex ed must give way

The State Counsellor then talked about comprehensive sexuality education. She said that it is a rights-based and gender-focused approach to sexuality edu-

cation that is taught with age-appropriate information consistent with the evolving capacities of young people.

She explained that it incorporates discussions on family life, relationships, value, rights, culture, gender roles, discrimination and abuse, self-care, human anatomy, development and reproductive health. She said these programmes help young people develop self-esteem and life skills that encourage critical thinking and enables them to make decisions that do not undermine their happiness or of others.

If we observe carefully, health promoting school activities are cost-effective and cover a wide demographic while effectively supporting student learning and attendance, said the State Counsellor.

She reiterated that the success of these programmes is not the sole responsibly of the union ministries but requires active, resolute participation from educators, parents and the students themselves.

Commitment to rules still frail

The State Counsellor said the Youth Policy was released in 2017 and drafts for relevant strategies are underway. She said we need to ensure no one gets left behind and strive for the inclusivity of all youths, regardless of whether they are living with disabilities, in remote areas or outside of schools.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for the documentary photo together with Union Ministers, diplomats and attendees at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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State Counsellor encourages further participation...

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The State Counsellor said there needs to be greater adherence to the rule of law to instil peace and stability across the nation. She brought attention to the weak enforcement of the updated 2016 Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Products Law, which forbids the use and sales of tobacco products inside school and university campuses, within 100 feet of these institutions, and to persons under the age of majority.

The State Counsellor said teaching strategies for teens need to be engaging and effective, as they are more attuned to new and innovative technology. She said we need to carefully consider having teens participate in research surveys which concern their age group and organize sustainable tasks for them.

Best efforts despite insufficient resources

The State Counsellor said more focus should also be placed on physical education as it develops physical wellbeing, reduces

addiction to electronic games, and fosters cooperation, teamwork and sportsmanship. She said the majority of the public think only the health and sports ministry is responsible for school healthcare assignments when in reality it is also the duty of the teachers, parents and students to promote it as well. The State Counsellor acknowledged that the Ministry of Health and Sports does not have enough human resources, finance and equipment to provide the full benefits and services it needs to. She also highlighted the need for the Ministry of Education to appoint healthcare experts in schools for ensuring the programmes are effectively implemented.

Concluding remarks

The State Counsellor said there is a lot of room left for enacting comprehensive national policies that safeguards the health and safety of students and youths, who are the priceless human resources of Myanmar. She ended her speech by urging the two ministries to work hand in

hand in realizing the ethos of the seminar's motto: "Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for The Brighter Future".

Afterwards, the State Counsellor took a group documentary photo with everyone in attendance. Next, the State Counsellor viewed the exhibitions related to promoting healthcare in schools on display.

The seminar was attended by the following persons:

Union Ministers U Min Thu, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr. Aung Thu, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Dr. Myint Htwe, U Soe Win and Dr. Win Myat Aye, deputy ministers, Hluttaw representatives, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, state/regional ministers for social affairs, facilitators for the panel discussions, ministerial permanent secretaries and departmental heads, experts attending to give lectures, officials from international organizations, representatives of student unions, and students from basic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Norwegian Ambassador



Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein shakes hands with Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Tone Tinnes. **PHOTO: MNA**

DEPUTY SPEAKER of Pyithu Hluttaw U Tun Tun Hein received Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Tone Tinnes at his office, Hluttaw Building, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During their meeting, they openly discussed and exchanged views on matters

related to collaborating on economic, democratic transformation and peace process in Myanmar, providing assistance for Hluttaws' development, sharing experiences of electoral system, and conserving environment. —MNA

(Translated by TTN)

Asia Media Summit tackles fake news in digital era



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint and Ministers from other countries pose for a photograph at the opening ceremony of the 16th Asia Media Summit in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on 12 June 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION MINISTER for Information Dr. Pe Myint led a delegation to attend the 16th Asia Media Summit in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and attended the opening ceremony yesterday.

The three-day summit, held under the topic of Media Digitalization Focusing on Developing Markets, was organized by the Cambodian Ministry of Information in collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Institute

for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)

Firstly, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen delivered the opening speech. He said the Industrial Revolution 4.0 is encouraging the media market to digitalize which promotes opportunities for closer cooperation but increases the threat from fake news and cyber-crimes at the same time.

The ministerial-level dis-

cussion then began with Dr. Pe Myint, Cambodian Information Minister Dr. Kheiu Kanharith, Filipino Information Minister Mr. Jose Ruperto Martin M. Andanar, Bangladeshi Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud, ROK Deputy Communications Minister Dr. Sam Soeg Ko, and Samoan Associate Minister of Communications and Information Technology Mr. Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi leading the dialogue



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint shakes hands with Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen in Siem Reap, Cambodia. **PHOTO: MNA**

under the title 'How we can adapt to Digital Revolution'.

The Ministerial Sideline Meeting commenced in the afternoon with the attendees openly sharing suggestions for cooperating against fake news.

The summit is held from 12 to 14 June with 600 media representatives from 42 countries, including AIBD President Mr. Fayyaz Shehryar, participating in the discussions.

AIBD was established in 1977 under the auspices of UNESCO and currently has 26 member countries from within the region and over 50 affiliates from the Asian, Pacific, European, African, Arabian and North American regions.

Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) became a full member to AIBD on 29 July 1997. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, U Thaung Tun receives the delegation led by Assistant Minister for Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China



Union Minister U Thaung Tun holds talks with a delegation led by Assistant Minister for Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, H.E. U Thaung Tun received the delegation led by Mr. Li Chenggang, Assistant Minister for Ministry of Commerce, People's Republic of China at the office Building No (1), the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw, today.

At the meeting, they discussed further promoting of ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries as well as matters relating to trade and investment.—MNA ■

The Sixth Working Coordination Meeting on ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2025 Implementation held

THE sixth coordination meeting on ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2025 implementation was held today, at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw.

The coordination meeting was chaired by U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Deputy Ministers, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, Permanent Secretaries, Directors General and Central Executive Committee Member of Union Myanmar Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry representing 22 work committees attended the meeting.

Current status of implementation of AEC Priorities Measures, the outcome of 25th AEM Retreat as well as the proposed Country Visit under the AEC 2025 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework were discussed in the meeting.

The Minister recalled that ASEAN had identified the priority measures for the implementation of AEC 2025, and that 170 Measure had been earmarked for 2019 for ASEAN as a whole.



Union Minister U Thaung Tun attends the sixth coordination meeting on ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2025 implementation meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

He noted that 35 Measures have been implemented by all ASEAN Member States in 2019.

Myanmar was scheduled to implement 166 Priority Measures in 2019. Of the 166 measures, 38 have been implemented as of June 2019. The Union Minister urged working committees to expedite the implementation of the outstanding measures.

Director General of Foreign Economic Relations Department, U Than Aung Kyaw explained the situation regarding

the implementation of Priorities Measures and the details regarding the Country Visit Programme under the AEC 2025 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

The Chairmen and Secretaries of the 22 work committees of AEC 2025 reported on the current status and future work program for their respective committee.

The Working Coordination Meeting was follow by the remarks by Union Minister U Thaung Tun.—MNA ■

Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman receives Australian Ambassador Ms Andrea Faulkner

U Aung Kyi, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission, received Ms Andrea Faulkner, Ambassador of Australia to Myanmar, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During their meeting, they discussed the commission's works including establishing Corruption Prevention Units in 18 Union Ministries, providing educational programmes to

promote integrity of students in basic and middle school, organizing the Youth Integrity Camp 2019 held earlier this month in Nay Pyi Taw, and drafting the law on whistleblower protection.

Also present at the meeting were commission Secretary U San Win, members U Zaw Win and Daw Myat Myat Soe and officials.—MNA ■ (Translated by TTN)



Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi meets with Australian Ambassador Ms Andrea Faulkner yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Heads of service organizations appointed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against their name on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) Dr. Ei Ei Hlaing Pro-rector University of Computer Studies (Taungoo) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector University of Computer Studies (Taungoo) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education
(2) Dr. Thin Thu Naing Pro-rector University of Computer Studies (Taunggyi) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector University of Computer Studies (Taunggyi) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education
(3) Dr. Khin Marlar Tun Pro-rector University of Computer Studies (Patheingyi) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector University of Computer Studies (Patheingyi) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education
(4) Dr. Myo Nyunt Pro-rector Technological University (Monywa) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector Technological University (Monywa) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 20/2019

JOINT COMMITTEE on Amending the 2008 Constitution's meeting 20/2019 was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was attended by the Chairman of the Joint Committee, the Deputy Speaker of both the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw, U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Joint

Committee Secretary Dr. Myat Nyana Soe, Joint Secretary U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho, committee members including Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives, and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. —MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



The meeting 20/2019 of Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution held in progress. **PHOTO:**

National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promotion School kicks off in Nay Pyi Taw



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe gives speech at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

NATIONAL Seminar on Strengthening Health Promotion School titled "Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for the Brighter Future" was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the seminar, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe said the tasks for strengthening the health promotion at schools is as important as the National Health Plan 2017-2021, the road map for the tasks for health sector of the country.

He continued to say that promoting health standard of the school-age children who makes up about 20 per cent of the country's population would ensure the all-round development of the country.

The Union Minister said the suggestions given by experts from different sectors includ-

ing education, health and sport areas would be used for laying down strategies and future plans strengthening health promotion at schools.

Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe also called on other related ministries, INGOs and civil society organizations for cooperating in implementing the seven tasks for promoting the health standard at schools under the leadership of the Ministry of Education as the Ministry of Health and Sports alone can not bring success to the programme.

He also stressed the important role of the heads of schools, teachers, parents, school children and representatives of the Students Unions in implementing the school health programme and activities.

Schools which has high performance for promoting school health should be honoured, said Dr. Myint Htwe stressing

the need to lay down strategies which can meet the need of respective regions.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Health Dr. Myo Thein Gyi also delivered key-note address and called on faculties of the Ministry of Education, parents and students to cooperate the best with the ministries concerned and MPs in carrying out the school health promotion programme which can ensure the children free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and free from dangers and can promote the healthy living styles and can reduce game addict.

Following the addresses of the two Union ministers, the seminar began with the discussion of experts.

The national-level seminar continues today.—MNA ■

(Translated by Tun Tun Naing)

Lashio Tsp: Seven immigration officials, accomplice charged with corruption

The Anti-Corruption Commission received a report that the head of the Lashio Township Office for Immigration and Population, five subordinates and a broker have been soliciting bribes for issuing national registration cards, NRC renewals for reaching adulthood, household registrations and birth certificates.

An investigation group formed by the ACC looked into the matter and acquired the following information:

U Kyaw Kyaw Lin, Head of the Lashio Township Office for Immigration and Population, Lashio District, Northern Shan State, abused his position and extorted a total of K1,280,000 as bribes.

Deputy Immigration Suo-ficers Daw Kyi Kyi Nyunt and U Yan Win Aung extorted K1 million and K1.5 million as bribes respectively.

Assistant Immigration Officer U Htet Wint Aung extort-

ed K2.1 million as bribes and through Daw Mar Shauk San, a broker, extorted K500,000 for applying for ten NRC cards and K680,000 for birth certificates.

Assistant Immigration Officers Daw Ei Ei Mon and Daw Khin May Tun extorted K1.6 million and K900,000 respectively.

Assistant Immigration Officer U Kyaw Thu Hein solicited the bribes on behalf of U Kyaw Kyaw Lin and Daw Mar Shauk San accepted K100,000 from U Htet Wint Aung as payment for assisting in the extortions.

The ACC has charged these eight individuals with Section 56 of the Anti-Corruption Law, with U Kyaw Thu Hein and Daw Mar Shauk San carrying an additional charge under Section 63 of the same law.

The ACC has opened a case at the Lashio Police Station yesterday and is pursuing further legal action. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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National Day ceremony of Russia celebrated in Yangon

THE National Day ceremony of the Russian Federation was held at Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday evening, with Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung in attendance.

The ceremony was opened with the Myanmar and Russian national anthems.

Afterwards, Russian Ambassador Dr. Nikolay Listopadov and Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung delivered speeches.

Next, the union minister and the ambassador had commemorative photographs taken,

together with other officials. The ambassador also hosted the attendees a dinner.

Also present at the event were Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thien and wife, Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy, Air Force) General Mya Tun Oo and wife, Tatmadaw's high-ranking officials, ambassadors and chargé d'affaires from foreign embassies in Myanmar, representatives from the United Nations, and invited officials.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung, Russian Ambassador Dr. Nikolay Listopadov pose for a commemorative photograph together with other officials at the National Day ceremony of the Russian Federation. **PHOTO: MNA**



NHK team interviews Japanese man Mr. Imoto. **PHOTO: MNA**

Documentary filmed on collection of WW-II era Japanese soldiers' remains

A TEAM from the NHK public broadcasting service of Japan has made a documentary feature about a Japanese man collecting remains of the World War-II era Japanese soldiers in upper Myanmar.

The team shot a scene for the film about Mr. Imoto who

has searching and collecting the remains of Japanese soldiers since seven years ago.

Yesterday, NHK team shot the scene in which a 89-year old local man showed Mr. Imoto the site where Japanese troops camped and went into the battle fields between the Japanese and

British troops. The three-member crew is making the feature from 4 to 18 June in Yangon Region, Kachin State, Sagaing Region and Mon State.

The feature film is a program on Kyushu Island channel.—MNA ■ (Translated by GNLM)

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated naval patrol



Myanmar Border Police and Border Guards Bangladesh conducting coordinated naval patrols. **PHOTO: MPF**

MYANMAR and Bangladesh conducted a coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River on 12 June, according to the information released by Myanmar Police Force.

The patrol of Myanmar was led by inspector Kyaw Min from No.2 Border Police sub-division of Maungtau Township, while the Bangladeshi side was led by Subedar Md, Sha Alom from No. 2 Border Guard Force, Nhilla BOP Outpost of Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB).

The Myanmar troops in the two water crafts, including vessel no. 003, met with the Bangladeshi troops on their two water crafts at the middle of the Naf River near the opening to Pyu Ma Creek, and patrolled together from nautical miles 11 to 15.

After the patrol, the two forces held a discussion on watercraft no. 003. —GNLM ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Gems sale in local currency continues in Nay Pyi Taw

THE fifth day of a sale of gems and jades in local currency continued at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

On the fifth day of gem sale, 998 jade lots out of 1050 jade lots were reported to be sold at K21671.979 million. Further-

more, merchants examined the 1008 jade lots to be sold on 13 June at the emporium and bid price proposals for their selected lots were put into the designated tender boxes.

During the emporium, a total of 49 gem lots were sold at K362.099 million on 10

June and a total of 1038 jade lots at K18800.16 million on 11 June.

The emporium aims to provide local small merchants with raw materials and businesspersons with income.—Aye Aye Thant ■

(Translated by TTN)



Merchants appraise jade stones at the Myanmar Gems Emporium in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: KO AYE THAN**

Honesty is essential to prevent unfair competition in the market

BUSINESSPERSONS are playing an important role in boosting the economy of Myanmar. That's why, the Myanmar Competition Commission, which was set up to implement the Competition Law, is committed to removing hindrances to fair competition while working with businesspersons.

The commission is dedicated to becoming a reliable and competent authority for the benefit of the people.

To effectively encourage fair competition and a free market, the commission will explore and take action against those who violate the law.

The Competition Law allows anyone to report unfair competition in Myanmar's economic landscape to the competition commission.

The law forbids any attempts by an individual or business entity from monopolizing the market or hindering competition among businesses in the market.

The competition commission is responsible for creating an environment of fair competition for businesses and for scrutinizing reports on unfair competition.

The Competition Law extends to both foreign and domestic businesses in the market, and thus, each businessperson, investor, producer, trader and service provider is required to operate in accordance with it.

The law prohibits businesses from pricing products or services below the production value or at variance with the market value, restraining production and distribution of other businesses, setting rules that will lead to unfair competition, among other things.

The commission can collaborate with ministries to issue warnings, collect fines, and suspend or shut down businesses. Those who disagree with the decision of the Investigation Committee formed by the commission can appeal to the Commission within 60 days. Several exceptions and exemptions have been made for micro, small, and medium enterprises in the country.

Any person who fails to comply with the request of the Investigation Committee can be imprisoned for up to

3 months or slapped with a fine of up to K100,000, according to Section 43 of the law.

If the committee finds enough evidence that the law has been violated, then a case will be filed with the police and legal action pursued through the courts.

Those found reporting a false violation out of ill will or providing fake evidence will be prosecuted. However, if accomplices are involved in any matter outlined in Section 13, the law will grant them a degree of leniency.

A conviction for unfair competition can attract imprisonment of 3 months to 3 years or a fine of K100,000 to K15 million.

The law reflects that honesty is essential for creating fair competition and boosting the country's economy.



The people are satisfied with the endeavors of the Anti-Corruption Commission, and urged to work hard in wiping out the corruption problem completely.

U Ye Htut (Representative for the Sagaing Region Constituency-5)

By Shin Min

Anti-Corruption is the duty of every citizen

SARCASTICALLY, the people used to lament "business as usual" when an ongoing and unchanging state of affairs despite difficulties or disturbances, which ironically happened to be the buzzword in the domain of anti-corruption drive in our country.

A survey was commissioned by the Myanmar Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to determine the perceptions of people on corruption in the bureaucracy.

When asked whether the citizens experienced difficulties doing business with the government unless they gave officials presents or

on 13 May 2019, Hluttaw representatives discussed 2018 yearly corruption cases of Myanmar at Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 12th regular session meeting in Nay Pyi Taw.

Lauding the newly constituted Anti-Corruption Commission during the time of incumbent government, lawmaker of Sagaing Region Constituency 5 U Ye Htut said that the people are satisfied with the endeavors of the Anti-Corruption commission, and urged to work hard in wiping out the corruption problem completely.



MP U Ye Htut of Sagaing Region Constituency -5



MP Naw Christ Htoon (a) Dr. Arkar Moe Kayin State Constituency -7



MP Dr. Khun Win Thaung Kachin State Constituency -10



MP U Khin Cho Hlaingbwe Constituency



Anti-Corruption Commission chairman U Aung Kyi delivers a speech at an event to mark International Anti-Corruption Day in Yangon on Dec. 9, 2018.

money, 90 percent of respondents said "business as usual".

The survey was conducted at the selected localities from October to December 2018. Most of the respondents are of the view that the action taken by the government against the corrupted officials was not effective.

However, expectation are high among the citizens that the anti-corruption drive would be enveloped with the "sweet smell of success", if the people join hands in the eradication of corruption campaign.

Five times higher

Pouring in heavily, the Anti-Corruption Commission received 10,543 complaint letters in 2018, alarmingly five times more than the previous year.

A couple of weeks back,

Suggestions

Parliamentarians were of the view that the graft cases handing over and transferring to the government departments by the Anti-Corruption Commission might delay the functioning of the commission.

Regularly rolling into the commission were the complaint letters year after year with 2,014 letters in 2017; 710 letters in 2016; 983 letters in 2015; 968 letters in 2014.

Wish to be strong driving force

Kayin State Constituency (7) Hluttaw Representative Naw Christ Htoon (a) Dr. Arkar Moe said that the bribery and corruption is the main obstacle and delay in the development of a nation; that the ranking of Myanmar in the

world corruption list is in the red level in the back; that the situation is still in a bad and alarming stage; that Myanmar has fallen into the list of Least Developing Countries (LDC) due to corruption and remained underdeveloped; that the corruption must be erased for the sake of development of the nation; that the anti-corruption drive must be accelerated in top gear; that the role and responsibility of the commission should be more powerful, muscular and robust.

Scrutiny

Some are not happy with the commission's performance, noting that of the more than 10,000 complaints lodged in 2018, it had only opened 46 cases. It also unveiled that among the 10,000 complaints; 1795 were handed over to the ministries, region and state

governments; 5268 were not actually complaints but just suggestions on how to eradicate graft; while 2824 were not actionable; and 610 were under investigation.

Hluttaw representative of Kachin State Constituency (10) Dr. Khun Win Thaung was of the view that the endeavors of the commission are satisfactory but the routine transfer of the cases from the commission to the departments is the stumbling block; that in the absence of tangible complaints over the corruption cases the investigation and action could not be filed, leaving the departmental officers and staff members in sinister smile on their cunning character; that the anti-corruption drive would be successful in line with the direction of the President's speech with the collective participation of all stakeholders and the people.

Two stage down

The 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index, published by Transparency International, measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories, where Myanmar stands out in ranking 132 / 180 and scoring 29/100, sliding down in performances.

Corruption is the main stumbling block and obstacle in the democratic transition and the nation—building for the incumbent government.

Thus, the President met with Anti-Corruption Commission on April 11th 2018 and instructed to take action according to Law, re-

gardless of status of the people in question. The President's message of greeting to international Anti-Corruption Day states that on the part of the public, they are required to report any involvement or interference of people in authority and of power to the authority along with concrete facts and evidence.

Corruption does not solely mean money matters

"We can find out and clamp down on any obvious cases of corruption, but the ones committed under concealment. An international organization said that there was a lost of about 2000 million dollars caused by corruption. If we can eliminate corruption, the country will develop at fast pace. Money, which is subjected to corruption, can be spent investing. It

can also be spent on building and upgrading of basic institutions. Corruption doesn't always mean money matters. corruption can employ wrong person at wrong time in service. For example, getting an appointment in an under-hand way. Since such individual doesn't deserve the position, they will not perform effectively. They will perpetuate the way they get their current position to make money and abuse power" said U Ye Htut from Sagaing Regional

Constituency-5.

Great help

Anti-corruption Commission report stated that even though public do not understand corruption well, nobody wants it. People consider giving bribe for various essential services at Government offices but instead of doing so, the belief in all-out effort to eliminate corruption will be a great help to commission.

In addition to that, the delay of counter check of power abuse for one's own benefit, unethical promotion and transfers, confusing people with procedures within the department causes corruptions.

Investigate and take action

U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe Constituency discussed that corruption is common in department where there are direct contacts with people. It can be found departments, organization, places to draw evidence concerning lands and places to deal with business people, places that requires to handle much money and positions of authority.

It was reported that 10 high

ranking officials, 13 officials, 17 government employees and 6 public servant, 46 in total were investigated and charged under the Anti-Corruption Law in 2018.

Furthermore, asserts and money acquired from corruption were confiscated as public property. The confiscation amounted to K30.890 million and US\$4.003 million.

To counter corruption, Anti-Corruption Commission has drawn up Anti-corruption Grand strategy and to affectively do so the anti-corruption law has been amended for the 4th time and enacted.

Extensively educating

The Anti-corruption Commission's report stated that for the success of tenders which governments departments and organizations are in charge, and for the good result of them at lowest possible cost, for sensible judgment of tenders and to know dos and don'ts in situations linked to corruption extensive educating must be carried out.

Sharing sessions

Thus, Anti-corruption Commission is now conducting research on budget and fund, which might be wasted owing to corruption committed towards tender regulations, by local and international experts. They also run courses and sharing sessions.

When a survey concerning bribery to government departments was carried out, the majority of public answer that it was paid because there is no other way to get the job done. Corruption has been deeply rooted in the system for decades in many areas. That is why it is required to create a culture with zero tolerance for corruption. It is also important to take action against corrupted people. Only if public collaborate with government to fight corruption, will the standard of living of government and public, eradicating poverty and country's economy move towards development. Decrease in corruption goes hand in hand with development.

(Translated by UMT (Ahlon) and Alphonsus)



When a survey concerning bribery to government departments was carried out, the majority of public answer that it was paid because there is no other way to get the job done.



Opening ceremony of the branch office of the ACC on 16 March, 2019.

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

Magway Region gets guidelines for managing dengue

AS Magway Region recorded the second highest number of cases caused by the Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever among the five states and regions most affected by the DHF outbreak in 2018, clinical management guidelines were issued for the region as part of a training course held on 11 June.

The training course was attended by doctors from township and station hospitals of 25 townships in Magway Region. The Magway Region Public Health Medical Services Department, Deputy Director-General Dr. Thaung Hlaing, gave the opening speech.

"In 2018, a total of 3,056 people contracted DHF in Magway, with 18 reported dead. The outbreak of DHF in Magway Region was record high when compared with other states and regions. Dengue fever breaks out mostly in Yangon, Magway, Ayeyawady, and Sagaing regions as well as Mon State. The training is aimed at preventing a DHF outbreak as well as providing medical treatment. We need to update the line of treatment to reduce cases of



Deputy Director-General Dr. Thaung Hlaing delivers the opening speech at the training course in Magway.

PHOTO: ZEYATU (MAGWAY)

death," said Dr. Kyi Tha Swe, the Regional Anti-Malaria Division Team Leader, at the training course.

During the training session, Dr. Kyi Tha Swe explained the National Strategic Plan for Prevention and Control of Dengue, while specialist Dr. Zaw Hlaing Toe from Magway People's Hospital discussed Adult Dengue, and Dr. Win Mar, a lecturer from the University of Medicine (Mag-

way), outlined the Guideline for Clinical Management of Dengue.

"It's important that the public participate in preventive measures being taken against the disease. I want local people to participate in prevention activities by keeping their homes and environment clean every day, and making sure there is no water left for the insects to breed. Our staff will also conduct awareness training courses," said Dr.

Kyi Tha Swe.

"A total of 86 people have been diagnosed with dengue hemorrhagic fever as on today. But, there have been no deaths this year. DHF mainly affects children under 15 years of age. The fever can break out any time, although people think it occurs only in the rainy season," according to the Regional Anti-Malaria Division.— Zeyatu (Magway)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Authorities hand out relief supplies to 425 persons in MraukU IDP camp

THE Disaster Management Department of Rakhine State distributed relief supplies to 425 persons from 117 households in the afternoon of 11 June at the monastery relief center in Tein-nyo Village, MraukU Township, Rakhine State.

At the ceremony, Daw Nan Moe Nwe, the Assistant Director

of the Disaster Management Department, and other officials, under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement offered clothing, including longvis, towels, and T-shirts, as well as 127 bags of rice to the displaced persons as their monthly ration.

—IPRD

(Translated by La Wonn)



Authorities hand over aid to people in MraukU IDP camp.

PHOTO: TOWNSHIP IPRD

Bamboo xylophone skills passed on to next generation in Kyaikto

A course on concluding classical training in Pattalar, or bamboo xylophone, was held at 10 a.m on 10 June at the Mahar Maygawon monastery in Kyaikto Township, Mon State, under the supervision of the state's Minister for Bamar Ethnic Affairs.

At the ceremony, U Aung Zaw Tun, deputy officer, Township General Administration Department, expressed his delight at the preservation of traditional ethnic dances and Myanmar musical instruments.

He said it is necessary to pass on Myanmar classical mu-

sic and instruments from generation to generation.

U Wang Kyi, the chairman of Kyaikto Township's Mon, Kayin, Bamar, Pa-O Literature and Culture Committee, said the course aimed to preserve Myanmar traditional music and instruments for the new generation. Later, trainers awarded gifts and graduation certificates to trainees. Trainees who completed the course also gave a classical music performance with bamboo xylophones.— Win Maung (Kyaikto)

(Translated by La Wonn)



Trainees give classical music performance with bamboo xylophones in Kyaikto, Mon State. **PHOTO: WIN MAUNG (KYAIKTO)**

MTB to lend 30% of total loan to applicants from hotels and tourism industry

By Aye Yamone

THE Myanmar Tourism Bank launched a new loan service on 12 June, under which it will lend 30 per cent of the total loan portfolio to applicants from the hotels and tourism industry.

The bank launched its 'Traveling Loan Special Service Programme and Interest Rate of Bank Deposit' in cooperation with the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association at the Republic of the Union of Myan-

mar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

"Loans can be sought from 12 June. All of our products are ready. If we find things inconvenient, we will mend them right away. Those who are interested in our project can discuss it us in detail. Then, we will lend the money," said U Bo Bo Wai Maung, the Managing Director of MTB.

"The loan amount will depend on the deposit. The banks face a higher risk when com-

pared with other businesses. Normally, our bank demands a down payment of 30 per cent of the total loan from applicants from the hotels and tourism industry. But, we may demand only 20 per cent from other industries," said U Bo Bo Wai Maung.

"To ensure smoother processing of loans, the Myanmar Tourism Bank will have to check the demand side and supply side. The supply side includes hotels and restaurant

businesses, while the demand side includes those traveling within and outside the country. The MTB will charge an interest of 12 to 16 per cent per year, and the loan period will depend on the type of loan," he said.

In a notification issued in January, the Central Bank of Myanmar permitted local banks to charge up to 13 per cent interest on loans with collateral and up to 16 per cent interest on loans without collateral.

The MTB will provide

facilities such as term loans, overdraft, hire purchase, SME loans, home loans, staff loans, travel loans, and education loans.

The MTB was opened to help improve the Myanmar tourism industry and its infrastructure. It started operations on 6 May. The bank is providing services not only to the tourism industry, but also to other sectors, just like commercial banks. ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

Tourist arrivals on visa up 32% in Jan-May

THE number of tourists arriving in Myanmar on a visa rose by 188,555, or 32 per cent, in January-May compared to the year-ago period, according to figures released recently by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

Between 1 January, 2019 and 31 May, 2019, 781,726 tourists entered Myanmar on a visa through the three international airports, sea ports, and border checkpoints, as per data from the Ministry.

The number of tourists entering Myanmar using border passes also increased by 18 per cent in January-May compared with the same period a year ago, with estimated arrivals of over one million.

Myanmar has hosted a total of 1.8 million tourists up till May in the current fiscal, while during the same period last year, tourist arrivals were registered at 1.48 million.

The tourists entered the

country through the three international airports — the Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport, and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, and the Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Hteekhee, Tamu, and Reedhorda checkpoints.

Package tours, caravan tours, yacht tours, and riverine tours along the Ayeyawady and Chindwin rivers, and cruises and chartered flights require permission from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, sought through local tour agencies.

Tourist arrivals from the US alone increased, while the number of visitors from Canada and the Americas and Oceania declined. In spite of the increase in Italian, Australian, and Spanish travellers, the number of tourists from other European countries registered a fall this year compared to the year-ago period. Meanwhile, the number of visitors from Asia, Mid-

dle East, and Africa increased. Among the Asian countries, a large number of tourists from China, South Korea, Japan, and China (Taipei) visited Myanmar this year. Myanmar grants passport holders from 100 countries and China (Taipei) eVisas for tourist purposes, and businessmen from 54 countries and China (Taipei) eVisas for business. For more details, tourists can visit www.evisa.moip.gov.mm.

During the one-year trial period (1 October, 2018 to 30 September, 2019), ordinary passport holders from Japan, South Korea, Macau, and Hong Kong do not required to apply for a tourist visa for visits of up to 30 days, and they can enter and leave from all international checkpoints.

Starting 1 October, Italian, Spanish, Australian, Swiss, German, and Russian tourists with ordinary passports will be granted visas on arrival. — GNLM ■

Fire breaks out on ferry in Kyunsu Township



Fire destroys ferry in Kyunsu Township, Myeik on 11 June 2019. **PHOTO: MYINT OO (MYEIK)**

A FIRE broke out on a ferry around 12:45 p.m. on 11 June, while it had halted near the bridge on the Ngamantaung brook in Kyunsu Township, Myeik District, Taninthayi Region for loading goods.

A short circuit in the engine room caused the fire while workers were loading goods onto the vessel.

The blaze was brought under control by 1:25 p.m. and put out by 1:30 p.m. by a team led

by U Win Zaw Moe from the Kyunsu Township Fire Services Department, firefighters, and locals.

The fire caused losses to the tune of around K4 million. There were no injuries.

The Kanmaw Police have initiated action against the vessel's driver, Kyaw Zin Htike, 25, under Section 285 of the Penal Code.—Myint Oo (Myeik) ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

Seedlings distributed for dry zone greening program in Sagaing Region



Officials from Dry Zone Greening Department distribute the seedlings to local people in Koneywar village, Yinmabin Township. **PHOTO: THAN HTAY AUNG (KANI)**

THE Dry Zone Greening Department, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, has distributed free seedlings to the residents of Koneywar village, Yinmabin Township, Sagaing Region for plantation, as part of a program with the aim of reducing the destruction of the ecological system and the impact of climate change and global warming.

"Currently, the Township Department is working to preserve the forest from natural disasters, maintain the ecological balance, and fulfill basic needs. In addition, the Dry Zone Greening Department is conducting a firewood plantation drive for local

people annually," said U Nay Myo Tun, the head of the Yinmabin Township Dry Zone Greening Department.

The Yinmabin Township Dry Zone Greening Department is currently planting 60,110 seedlings including rain trees, tamarind, eucalyptus, teak, sandalwood, and other varieties of shady trees in Yinmabin Township. With the rainy season beginning, they have distributed a total of 3,100 seedlings — 2,100 Sterculia plants, 500 sandalwood trees, and 500 teak trees — to residents of Koneywar village in Yinmabin Township of Sagaing Region.—Than Htay Aung (Kani) ■ (Translated by La Wonn)

Union Minister for Commerce attends South and Southeast Asia Commodity Expo and Investment Fair in Kunming

THE South and Southeast Asia Commodity Expo and Investment Fair (SSACEIF) 2019 was opened yesterday at the Kunming Dianchi International Convention and Exhibition Center in China.

Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint and party, accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador to the People's Republic of China U Thit Lin Ohn, attended the South and Southeast Asia Commodity Expo and Investment Fair (SSACEIF) 2019 at the Kunming Dianchi International Convention and Exhibition Center in China yesterday.

In the event, the un-

ion minister and the ambassador looked around the booths displaying Myanmar's products, and coordinated over the businesspersons' discussed requirements.

In the opening event, PRC Governor of Yunnan Province Mr. Ruan Chengfa acted as mater of ceremony, and Yunnan Province Party Secretary Mr. Chen Hao, Union Minister Dr. Than Myint and leaders of the delegation of the South and Southeast Asia countries delivered speeches.

Afterwards, the union minister and Chin State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai attended the

ceremony to sign MoU on cooperating in upgrading technology and trading elephant foot yam between Chin Taung Yadanar Co., Ltd from Myanmar and Sichuan Newstar Konijac Co., Ltd from China.

In the evening, the union minister and party discussed the matters related to cooperation on trade and investment with the PRC Governor of Yunnan Province Mr. Ruan Chengfa.

The commodity expo and investment fair was attended by 250 businesspersons from Myanmar, displaying 66 product booths.

An agreement worth nearly US\$5 million on trading some 500 tons of



Union Minister Dr. Than Myint inspects a Myanmar booth showcasing wicker products at a commodity expo in Kunming, China. **PHOTO: MNA**

elephant foot yam from Chin State yearly, and oth-

er commodity agreements were also signed in the event.—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Deputy Minister inspects IPRD offices, Minbu TV transmission station in Magway



Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun inspects the Mini Museum of Minbu IPRD. **PHOTO: MNA**

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun inspected Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) offices in Magway, Minbu and Aungmyan townships and Minbu

TV transmission station in Magway Region

He arrived in Magway Region Government Office in the morning and met with Regional Ministers Colonel Min Oo, U

Tin Ngwe Oo, U Myint Swe and officials. He discussed preparation for General Youth Development Festival which will be held next summer. He also observed the Magway University.

He went on to inspect Minbu TV transmission station and community centre at the Minbu District IPRD. In the afternoon, the Deputy Minister inspected the IPRD in Aungmyan.

He gave instructions to keep the building clean and strong enough to withstand the occupants of the building, and urged keeping up with changing technology while working for the development of region. He also asked to carry one's duties with admiration towards the country. A general round of discussion then followed. —MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonusus)

Illegal transport of coal on Chindwin River continues unchecked: Hluttaw representative

THE government of Sagaing Region has not yet formed inspection teams to check the illegal transport of coal on the Chindwin River, said the Minister for Chin Ethnic Affairs for Sagaing Region at the 19th regular meeting of the regional Hluttaw, held on 12 June in Monywa.

"As soon as we receive information concerning illegal mining and transport

of coal, we are taking legal action with the help of a combined team. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has also appointed separate employees at the No.1 Mining Enterprise to supervise coal transportation. Currently, the regional mining bloc scrutinizing team is negotiating with entrepreneurs on matters pertaining to the sale,

purchase, and transport of metals. But, they haven't granted any permissions yet," he added.

Budalin Township No.2 Regional Hluttaw Representative Dr. Kyaw Zay Lin had asked whether there were many problems in making coal transportation legal, whether any legal action has been taken against illegal coal transportation, and whether the

authorities have issued permissions for transporting coal. "There should be no illegal transportation of coal on the Chindwin River any more. Although we find the authorities are taking legal action against the use of illegal wooden rafts, coal is still being carried on wooden rafts," said Dr. Kyaw Zay Lin.—Myo Win Tun (Monywa) ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (010W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY. NO. (010W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-06-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V RAINBOW FAIRY

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V RAINBOW FAIRY VOY. NO. (105) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-06-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T-3 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.

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India unveils spacecraft for moon-landing mission

BANGALORE (India) — India on Wednesday unveiled a spacecraft which is expected to take off for the moon next month, making the country only the fourth to achieve the feat.

The mission is India's second to the moon, and if successful it will put the nation in the league of the US, the former Soviet Union and China.

Named Chandrayaan-2, the craft is made up of an orbiter, a lander and a rover developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

It will be launched from Sriharikota space



Scientist Kailasavadivoo Sivan gestures during a press conference where he unveiled details of the country's moon-landing project. PHOTO: AFP

centre on July 15 and is expected to land near the lunar South Pole on September 6. Once it touches down, the rover will carry out experiments while being controlled remotely by

ISRO scientists. "It is going to be the most complex mission ever undertaken by ISRO," chairman K. Sivan was quoted as saying by local media.—AFP ■

Astronomers determine mass of small black hole at center of nearby galaxy

CHICAGO — A team of astronomers have discovered that a black hole at the center of a nearby dwarf galaxy, called NGC 4395, is about 40 times smaller than previously thought.

To determine the mass of NGC's black hole, the astronomers employed reverberation mapping, which measures mass by monitoring radiation thrown off by what's called an accretion disk around the black hole, according to a news release posted on the website of the University of Michigan (UM) on Monday.

Using data from the MDM Observatory, the astronomers calculated that

it took about 83 minutes, give or take 14 minutes, for radiation to reach the broad-line region from the accretion disk.

To calculate the black hole mass, they also had to measure the intrinsic speed of the broad-line region, which is the speed at which the region cloud is moving under the influence of the black hole gravity. To do this, they took a high-quality spectrum with the GMOS spectrometer on GEMINI North telescope.

By knowing this number, the speed of the broad-line region, the speed of light and what's called the gravitational constant, or

a measure of gravitational force, the astronomers were able to determine that the black hole's mass was about 10,000 times the mass of the sun, which is about 40 times lighter than previously thought.

This is also the smallest black hole found via reverberation mapping.

"This regime of dwarf galaxies is largely unexplored when it comes to the properties of their nuclear black holes," said UM astronomer Elena Gallo. "We don't even know if every galaxy has a black hole. This adds a new member to the family of black holes we have information about."—Xinhua ■

Notice Inviting Objection To Change of Distributor

FMC Corporation USA holds the provisional registration of the following pesticide granted by the Pesticide Registration Board of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 9 May 2019.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1.	Coragen™ Insect Control	Chlorantraniliprole 18.4% w/v SC	P2018-4114

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor of FMC Corporation for above pesticide is changing to JJ-Pun Trading Company Limited from Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co., Ltd now. JJ-Pun Trading Com Ltd., invites objections to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice, with copies of such documents and other proofs in support of their objections. If no objections are received within the period prescribed above, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

JJ-Pun Trading Company Limited.

Second Notice

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION

In accordance with section 116(i) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, **CITY MART HOLDING COMPANY LIMITED**, a company incorporated in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with Company Registration Number: 113516550, (**CMHL**) hereby gives notice that its shareholders have approved a reduction in share capital. The resolution approved the cancellation of 9,739,084 ordinary shares in CMHL. CMHL's share capital will consist of 827,878 ordinary shares following completion of the capital reduction and no cash will be paid by CMHL to shareholders' as a consequence of this corporate action. Completion of the capital reduction will occur not less than 28 days following the publication of this Notice.

For **CMHL**
Min Min Ayer Naing, Partner
SCM Legal Limited
email: office@scm-legal.com

Dated: [] 2019

REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF HOTELS AND TOURISM ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF THE POOR AND WOMEN IN THE EAST-WEST ECONOMIC CORRIDOR PROJECT

Request for Quotations

Date: 13th June 2019
Grant No. and Title: JFPR Grant 9184-MYA Economic Empowerment of the Poor & Women in the East-West Economic Corridor
Contract No. and Title: CW-02 Civil Works for Bamboo Processing Facilities in Chaungzone & Kyaikhto townships
Deadline for Submission of Quotations: 1st July 2019, 13:30 PM (MST)

1. Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) administered by Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Economic Empowerment of the Poor & Women in the East-West Economic Corridor project.
2. Project Management Unit (PMU) invites eligible suppliers and firms to submit quotations for the construction and completion of two Bamboo procession facilities and associated works for the items below:

Bamboo Processing Facilities

Item No.	Number of units	Building Type/Description
1	2 (two)	One Bamboo Processing Facility, Khalabi Village, Chaungzone Township, Mon State
		One Bamboo Processing Facility, Taung Kalay Village, Kyaikhto Township, Mon State

3. To obtain further information and inspect the documents, bidders should contact the PMU. Each bidder must submit ONE original quotation- signed, stamped, sealed, addressed and delivered to:
U Than Win, Project Director, Project Management Unit
Office Building No 33, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Nay Pyi Taw
G-9184-MYA: Economic Empowerment of the Poor & Women in the East-West Economic Corridor Project
Ph No 95 67 406102, 95 67 406081, 95 57 2021446(Office Hour),
Email: director.planning.moht@gmail.com; monmo3982@gmail.com; pramirez@gmail.com
4. Required documents related to item no 1 (Request for Quotation, Concept Notes, Form of Quotation) will be available through the link www.empowermentmonstate.org

Validity period of offered quotation: at least 30 days from deadline for receipt of quotation/s.

Each quotation submitted in the company's letterhead must either be in English or Myanmar language/s. It must use the Form of quotation shared by the project and must clearly indicate that all Myanmar taxes have been included.

Each quotation must clearly specify name and address of bank, owner of bank account (account owner), and bank account number.

A site visit will not be organized by the Employer, but prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the sites. Contact Phone; 95 57 2021446(Office Hour),

Yemen rebels hit Saudi airport, coalition vows action

RIYADH (Saudi Arabia)— A Yemeni rebel missile attack on an airport in southwestern Saudi Arabia wounded 26 civilians on Wednesday, drawing promises of “stern action” from the Saudi-led coalition fighting the rebels.

Yemen’s Huthi rebels, who have faced persistent coalition bombing since March 2015 that has exacted a heavy civilian death toll, have stepped up missile and drone attacks across the border in recent weeks.

Wednesday’s missile strike hit the civil airport in the mountain resort of Abha, which is a popular summer getaway for Saudis seeking escape from the searing heat of Riyadh or Jeddah.

Eight of the wounded were admitted to hospital, coalition spokesman Turki al-Malki said.

The other 18 were discharged after receiving first aid, he added in a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency.

The missile caused some damage to the airport’s arrivals lounge and flights were disrupted for several hours before returning to normal.



Saudi Arabia Map locating Abha, in Saudi Arabia, where 26 people were wounded in a rebel attack on the airport. PHOTO: AFP

Malki said at least one Indian was among three women wounded along with two Saudi children.

‘Stern action’

Malki said the strike on the airport amounted to a “terrorist attack” on a civilian target which could be considered a “war crime.”

He said the coalition would “take stern action” to deter the rebels and protect civilians.

The rebels confirmed they had launched a missile at Abha airport but insisted they had the right to defend themselves in the face of more than years of Saudi-led bombing and air and

sea blockade.

“The continuation of the aggression and siege on Yemen for the fifth year, the closure of Sanaa airport and the rejection of a political solution make it inevitable for our people to defend themselves,” Huthi spokesman Mohammed Abdulsalam said in a statement reported by the rebels’ Al-Masirah television.

There has been a spate of cross-border attacks by the rebels in recent weeks which have coincided with reports of intensified coalition strikes on rebel strongholds on the other side of the border.

On Monday, Saudi air defences intercepted two rebel

drones headed for Khamis Mushait.

The city, not far east of Abha, houses a major airbase that has been one of the main launchpads for the coalition’s bombing campaign in Yemen.

Last month, the Saudi air force shot down a rebel drone that targeted Jizan airport, on the Red Sea coast close to the Yemeni border, the coalition said.

The rebel attacks come as Saudi state media reported the coalition was intensifying its air raids on rebel positions in the northern Yemeni province of Hajjah.

‘Proves’ Iran support

In May, the rebels also carried out twin drone attacks on the kingdom’s strategic east-west oil pipeline, forcing a two-day closure of the main diversionary route for Saudi exports avoiding the Gulf.

Riyadh accused its regional arch foe Iran of having a hand in that attack and it levelled a similar allegation over the airport strike.

The coalition spokesman said the missile hit “proves this

terrorist militia’s acquisition of new advanced weapons and the continuation of the Iranian regime’s support and waging of cross-border terrorism.”

The uptick in violence comes as a UN-led peace push falters despite the rebels’ unilateral withdrawal from the lifeline Red Sea port of Hodeida last month.

The Yemeni government has accused UN envoy Martin Griffiths of bias towards the rebels despite the Security Council’s expression of renewed support in him on Monday.

The coalition intervened in support of the Yemeni government in 2015 when President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi fled into Saudi exile as the rebels closed in on his last remaining territory in and around second city Aden.

Since then, the conflict has killed tens of thousands of people, many of them civilians, relief agencies say.

It has triggered what the UN describes as the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, with 24.1 million — more than two-thirds of the population — in need of aid. —AFP ■

Trump inadvertently reveals more of US-Mexico migrant deal

WASHINGTON (United States) — US President Donald Trump accidentally revealed Tuesday that Mexico agreed to take stronger legal action to halt Central American migrants if its initial efforts to stem the flow don’t show results in 45 days.

In bright sunshine outside the White House, Trump waved what he said was the text of an agreement Mexican and US officials signed Friday to avert the application of tariffs on their exports to the United States.

Photographs of the document revealed that Mexico appeared to pledge to enact or enforce certain domestic laws if Washington is not satisfied with the results of its first promised efforts — deploying 6,000 National Guardsmen to reinforce its southern border and expanding its policy of taking back asylum-seekers as the United States processes their claims.

If, after 45 days, the US government “determines at its discretion” that the results aren’t enough, the document says, “the Government of Mexico will take all necessary steps under domes-

tic law to bring the agreement into force.” The document gives the Mexican government another 45 days to achieve that. It was not clear what specific measures the Mexican government would have to take.

Washington said last week it wanted Mexico to agree to a “safe third country” policy, in which migrants entering Mexican territory must apply for asylum there rather than in the US.

Trump waved the ostensible agreement in front of reporters amid questions about whether his administration really did reach a substantial agreement last week to stem the flow of hundreds of thousands of migrants who pass through Mexico to enter the United States. The initial deal appeared to repeat previous undertakings the Mexicans have made. But Trump has repeatedly suggested there is another secret part of the deal that would require more of Mexico. “Mexico is doing a great job at the border, really helping us,” he said Tuesday.

“They have been working very hard. We’re doing very well together. Good relationship.” —AFP ■

North Korea taking ‘emergency’ measures to contain swine fever

SEOUL (South Korea) — North Korea is taking emergency measures to prevent the spread of the highly contagious African swine fever, its state media said Wednesday, weeks after confirming an outbreak in the isolated country.

The virus, fatal to wild boar and pigs but harmless to humans, has cut a swathe through China, Vietnam and Mongolia before reaching the isolated country.

Last month, Pyongyang told the World Organisation for Animal Health that 77 out of 99 pigs had died from the disease at a farm near the China border, according to the South’s agriculture ministry.

Seoul has expressed concern over the possible spread of the disease across the border and repeatedly offered to assist with quarantine efforts, but said Pyongyang had yet to respond.

The North’s official Rodong Sinmun newspaper said Wednesday that nationwide quarantine efforts were un-

derway, including disinfecting farms and banning the distribution of pork products.

“Emergency preventive efforts are actively underway all across the country to block the spread of the African swine fever,” it said.

“If a highly contagious disease like the African swine fever spreads... it could lead to the culling of herds of farm animals.”

African swine fever has devastated supply chains in

China — the world’s largest consumer of pork — where authorities have ordered the culling of hundreds of thousands of pigs.

Seoul believes Pyongyang raises some 2.6 million pigs across 14 state-run farms.

The outbreak could worsen food shortages in the impoverished North, where food production has hit the lowest level since 2008, according to the World Food Programme. —AFP ■



African swine fever, fatal to wild boar and pigs but harmless to humans, has cut a swathe through China, Vietnam and Mongolia. PHOTO: AFP

Hong Kong police use tear gas as protesters try to storm parliament

SHANGHAI (China) — Violent clashes broke out in Hong Kong on Wednesday as police tried to stop protesters storming the city's parliament, while tens of thousands of people blocked key arteries in a show of strength against government plans to allow extraditions to China.

Police used tear gas, rubber bullets and batons to disperse crowds of black-clad demonstrators — most of them young people and students — calling for authorities to scrap the Beijing-backed law.

Clashes broke out shortly after 3:00 pm (0700 GMT) — the deadline protesters had given for the government to abandon the controversial bill — and continued throughout the afternoon in the worst political violence the city has seen in years.

Rows of riot police battled protesters — many wearing face masks, helmets or goggles and using umbrellas as shields — who had gathered in the centre of the city ahead of a scheduled debate in the city's legislature.

That debate had to be re-scheduled "to a later date" after huge crowds seized major roads outside the parliament.

The scenes echoed the

pro-democracy "Umbrella Movement" of 2014 where protesters calling for greater democratic rights shut down swathes of the city for two months and battled police but won no concessions from Beijing.

In a repeat of four years ago people flooded major roads and junctions on Wednesday, dragging barricades onto highways and tying them together. Others plucked loose bricks from pavements. After the deadline expired, protesters broke into the forecourt of the legislature in a bid to breach the building and demonstrators were seen throwing missiles including metal bars at riot police. An injured

policeman was carried away unconscious.

Police beat back demonstrators first with batons and pepper spray, then firing rubber bullets and bean bag rounds — small fabric bags filled with lead pellets — and dozens of rounds of tear gas as they cleared one side of the surrounded parliament building.

Hong Kong's police chief Stephen Lo defended his officers, saying they had shown restraint until "mobsters" tried to storm parliament. "These violent protesters kept charging at our line of defence, and used very dangerous weapons, including... throwing metal barricades at us and throwing bricks," he said.



Police used tear gas, pepper spray and batons to break up crowds. **PHOTO: AFP**

'Million' march

Many Hong Kongers are incensed that the government ignored a massive march on Sunday calling for the bill to be scrapped. "It's the government who has forced people to escalate their actions, so I think it's inevitable for the fight this time to get heated," said 21-year-old protester Lau Ka-chun.

Organisers said more than a million people turned out on Sunday to oppose the proposed law, which would allow Hong Kong to send suspects to other jurisdictions around the world — including China.

But the record numbers failed to sway Hong Kong's pro-Beijing leader Carrie Lam, who has rejected calls to withdraw the bill. Matthew Cheung, the city's chief secretary, on Wednesday called on demonstrators to withdraw. "I also urge citizens who have gathered to show restraint as much as possible, disperse peacefully and do not defy the law," he said in a video message. Opposition to the bill has united an unusually wide cross-section of the city from influential businesses and lawyers, to religious groups, student unions and workers.—AFP ■

Two Italian artists to stage concert for Oboe and Piano on 20 June in Yangon

TWO Italian artists Gianfranco Bortolato (oboist) and Giovanni Dal Missier (pianist) will perform a concert dedicated to "the Charm of oboe music" on 20 June at the Pullman Centre Point Hotel in Yangon.

The cultural programme is organized by the Italian Embassy in Yangon.

"Music is a powerful tool of communication, capable of building bridges among distant societies, and our concert will give Myanmar people the opportunity to listen to an artistic language "written" by some of the most prominent classical and contemporary Italian composers", said Ambassador Alessandra Schiavo.

The concert will begin at 7:00 pm it will be free, and it is not necessary to subscribe before.—GNLM



Japan PM on Tehran mission to ease Iran-US tensions

TEHRAN (Iran) — Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is expected in Tehran on Wednesday for a rare diplomatic mission, hoping to ease tensions between the Islamic republic and Tokyo's key ally Washington.

The first Japanese prime minister to visit Iran in 41 years, Abe is expected to arrive in Tehran at around 1120 GMT and go straight into talks with President Hassan Rouhani.

Abe's arrival was preceded by that of Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Kono, who held closed-door talks with his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif.

Addressing a cabinet meeting ahead of the visit, Rouhani said Iran's leaders and people were united in their view that "the main culprit is America. Not a single individual doubts it."

He said Washington had now dialled up its pressure on the Ira-

nian people to "the maximum". "The pressure has reached its full potential," he told the cabinet.

Tehran is locked in a bitter standoff with Washington after President Donald Trump withdrew from a landmark 2015 nuclear deal in May last year.

Washington has since reimposed crippling unilateral sanctions that have forced Japan to halt its once substantial purchases of Iranian oil and launched a military buildup in the Gulf.

"Amid concerns over growing tension in the Middle East and with the attention of the international community on the issue, Japan wishes to do its best towards peace and stability in the region," Abe told reporters in Tokyo before leaving for Tehran.

"Based on traditional friendly ties between Japan and Iran, I would like to have candid exchanges of opinions with Pres-

ident Rouhani and supreme leader Khamenei towards easing tensions," he said.

Lower the temperature

Japanese government officials said Abe would not present Tehran with a list of demands, or deliver a message from Washington, but instead wanted to play the role of neutral intermediary.

Abe discussed "the situation in Iran" in a telephone call with Trump on Tuesday, a Japanese government spokesman said.

A government official said Abe will not be in Tehran to "mediate between Iran and the US" and that "easing tensions" was the prime purpose.

"He might touch upon the subject (of mediation) but that does not necessarily mean he is delivering a message" from Washington, he added.

After holding talks with



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe hopes to use Tokyo's longstanding trade ties with Tehran and strategic alliance with Washington to persuade Iranian leaders to calm soaring tensions in the Gulf. **PHOTO: AFP**

Rouhani on Wednesday, Abe is to meet Iran's supreme leader on Thursday morning.

Japan is hoping to lower the temperature, officials say.

Abe won Trump's blessing for the mediation mission when the US president visited Tokyo last month.

"We believe it is extremely important that, at the leadership level, we call on Iran as a major regional power to ease tension, to adhere to the nuclear agreement and to play a constructive role for the region's stability," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said.—AFP ■

Winning FIFA friendly against Singapore has boosted our confidence: Radulovic

THE head coach of the Myanmar national men's football team, Miodrag Radulovic, said the team's win against Singapore at the FIFA International Friendly match has boosted their confidence for upcoming games and tourneys.

The friendly match, which took place at the National Stadium in Singapore on Tuesday, was an important one with both teams making efforts to win.

Myanmar beat Singapore with a score of 2-1, aided by two goals scored by Kyaw Ko Ko at 5 minutes and 68 minutes, with a brilliant assist from Myanmar stars Aung Thu and Si Thu Aung.

Head Coach Radulovic said the match was his first with team Myanmar and he could shape a win for the team.

"The win will really raise the spirits of Myanmar fans. As team Myanmar beat Singapore, their motivation has increased to perform better in the upcoming SUZUKI Cup and the Qualifiers



Myanmar head coach Miodrag Radulovic speaks at a press conference in Singapore. **PHOTO: MFF**

for the FIFA World Cup," he said.

The coach thanked all the players and expressed his appreciation of their capabilities. He said he will try to improve the understanding between the players.

During the friendly match, Myanmar made six player substitutions, while Singapore substituted five players, and both teams worked to exhibit their football skills before fans.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Anthony Joshua is 'finished' says Tyson Fury

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Tyson Fury believes former world champion Anthony Joshua is "finished" after the British heavyweight's shock defeat to Andy Ruiz Jr in New York.

Joshua lost his IBF, WBA and WBO titles on June 1 in one of the biggest upsets in the history of the division.

After the fight, Fury sent a message on Twitter that urged his fellow Briton to "rest up, recover, regroup and come again".

But this week he told BBC Sport: "When a man doesn't want to be there once, he will always do it and it's hard to

come back from.

"It's been done many different times by many different fighters. He did it that night and I don't think he will come back from it. Finished. Ask any top trainer who has been around the sport a lifetime. When he got to the ring I saw he didn't want to be there." Joshua, 29, whose defeat against Ruiz was the first of his career, had previously made Fury an offer to fight.

"Everybody thought that man could beat me," said Fury. "In what world could he ever beat me? What were people seeing?

"I don't know what people were looking at as I don't know in what world he could have beaten me." Joshua's seventh-round stoppage by Ruiz came as a huge surprise as his opponent had been given barely one month's notice for the fight and weighed in at more than 20 pounds (nine kilograms) heavier than the Briton.

But unbeaten Fury, who shed around 10 stone (64 kilograms) in a bid to re-establish himself in the heavyweight division after a battle with mental health and drugs issues, said body shape was no indicator of success. "Physically Joshua could out-train everyone," said the 30-year-old, who is preparing to fight Germany's Tom Schwarz in Las Vegas on Saturday.

"He would break every heart monitor, has probably worn out every treadmill in the gym, smashes the bag, it's all very unimportant.

"Boxing isn't rocket science and today people are trying to make it a scientist thing. If you can fight you can fight, if you can't you can forget about it." —AFP ■



Anthony Joshua suffered a shock defeat to Andy Ruiz Jr. **PHOTO: AFP**

Shan United still leading in U-19 MNL 2019

TAUNGGYI-based Shan United is still leading the U-19 Myanmar National League (MNL) with 40 points and no losses so far in the tourney.

Shan United has won 13 of the 14 matches played and ended one match in a draw, displaying the team's strength in both defense and attack.

Southern Myanmar F.C. is placed second, with a difference of nine points from Shan United. The team has scored 31 points in the tourney so far with nine wins, four draws, and one loss out of the 14 matches played.

Yadanarbon F.C. is standing third with a total of 29 points from 9 wins, two draws, and three losses.

Yangon United is placed fourth, with the same number of points as Yadanarbon F.C., but with goal differences.

Meanwhile, Ayeyawady United is in the fifth place with 7 wins, three draws, and four losses out of 14 matches played. It has garnered a total of 24 points.

At the bottom of the table stands Chin Land F.C. with 6 points from one win, three draws, and 10 losses.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■



Andy Murray is eyeing a return to singles action. **PHOTO: AFP**

Andy Murray aims for singles return this year

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Andy Murray hopes to be back on the singles court later this year, but the British former world number one is setting no time limits on his return. Murray will step up his comeback bid from the hip surgery he underwent in January when he competes in the doubles with Feliciano Lopez at Queen's Club next week. The 32-year-old then plans to play doubles at Wimbledon, where he has won two of his three singles Grand Slam titles.

However, Murray still expects to take his time before returning to singles action, which probably rules out competing at the US Open at the end of August.

"It's baby steps just now," said the Scot. "I'm feeling good, pretty much pain-free and enjoying kind of just training, practising, improving all the time just

now. "I don't think when Wimbledon finishes that I will just step onto the singles court the following week and everything's good. I still have quite a lot of work to do before I'm at a level where I feel like I'll be able to be competitive."

Murray, who last played singles at the Australian Open in January, said he had been making consistent progress but he would probably plateau at some stage.

"I hope at some stage this year I would be able to get back to playing singles again," said Murray, speaking at the launch of a new tennis support scheme in partnership with Amazon Prime at the Queen's Club in London.

"When that is, I'm not really interested in putting a time limit on because I'm quite happy just now so I don't need to play singles after Wimbledon or at the US Open. —AFP ■