

NATIONAL

Myanmar to continue participating in international tourism expos

PAGE-2

NATIONAL

T&C Union Minister inspects upgrade of Yangon-Mandalay railroad

PAGE-3

Union Health Minister attends celebration of World AIDS Day 2019



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe and dignitaries open the World AIDS Day 2019 celebration in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe attended the celebration of the World AIDS Day 2019, taken place at the Union Hall in Kyaik-kasan Sports Ground in Yangon yesterday morning.

At the event, the Union Minister said Myanmar has adopted the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS (2016-2020), and preparing for extending of the plan to 2021-2025 period for prevention and treatments

in coordination with the HIV programme and partner organizations to cover the whole country.

The lack of health knowledge, no access to preventive measures, drug injections into veins, sexual intercourse with women sex workers, male homosexuality, prisoners and migrate workers are mostly included in the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The Union Minister said

that an estimated 237,000 people have been infected with HIV in 2018, and 0.57 per cent of them has suffered AIDS.

The newly infected cases in 2000 was 29,000 at the recorded rate, and declined to 10,000 in 2018. The figures also showed that the new cases were mainly found at the people who injected drugs (also known as PWID), female sex workers, and male to male sex contacts.

The highest infection rates

were also found in Kachin State, northern Shan Sate, Sagaing Region and Yangon Region.

Medical treatments with the lifelong ART were given to 85,000 patients out of 200,000 HIV infected people in 2015, and over 175,000 patients received this medicine in September 2019, showing the figure has been double in comparing these two periods.

SEE PAGE-3

Union Minister, UN agencies discuss resettlement of IDPs

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye met representatives of UN agencies, led by the UN resident coordinator in Myanmar, yesterday morning at the Yangon Region office of the Social Welfare Department, and discussed cooperation between local and foreign organizations to implement the national strategy on the resettlement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and closure of IDP camps.

The UN resident coordinator was accompanied by resident representatives of UNDP, UN Habitat, UNICEF Myanmar, IOM, FAO, UNHCR, WFP, WHO, UN Women, UNOCHA, UNFPA, ICRC, MRCS, IFRC, and INGO Forum.

At the meeting, the Union Minister said that out of the four work committees of the Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State, the Work Committee for Resettlement and Socio-Economic Development has been implementing the task of resettling IDPs and closing IDP camps since 2016, while trying to draw a national strategy for the same.

SEE PAGE-6

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

E&E Deputy Minister inspects oil and gas projects in Mandalay

PAGE-3



LOCAL NEWS

Over 1,000 cyclists take part in Monywa mass cycling event

PAGE-4



BUSINESS

Onion imports possible only in case of shortage: Minister

PAGE-5



Myanmar to continue participating in international tourism expos

UNION Minister for Hotel and Tourism U Ohn Maung and Deputy Minister U Tin Latt attended a coordination meeting for promotion of Myanmar tourism industry held at the Center for Tourism Development on Bosonpat street in Yangon yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the Union Minister confirmed that Myanmar, as usual, will take part in the international tourism expos in the 2019-2020 financial year while the ministry is working together with the private sectors to promote the non-smoke industry of the country.

He also called for the discussions to ensure significant results from these events.

The Deputy Minister and senior officials, tourism associations and private organizations exchanged views and the Union Minister coordinated the

discussions.
On 30 November evening, a welcoming dinner was hosted to honour the representatives of JATA Fam Trip from Japan.

At the dinner in Pullman Yangon Centre Point Hotel in Yangon, the Union Minister talked about arrangements of Fam Trips, the formation of working groups, relaxation of visa policies, participating in international tourism expos, and promoting tourist attraction sites by digital marketing.

He also advised the representatives of Fam Trip to share pleasant, peaceful and exciting experiences to the people in Japan.

The Japanese ambassador and an official from JATA Fam Trip also extended greetings at the dinner.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



The welcoming dinner being hosted to honour the representatives of JATA Fam Trip from Japan.
PHOTO: MNA



Children receive gift at the ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day in Sittway. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

World AIDS Day 2019 celebrated in Sittway

THE World AIDS Day 2019 was celebrated at the U Ottama Park in Sittway Town, Rakhine State yesterday.

At the event, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and Head of the State Public Health Department Dr Sai Win Zaw Hlaing made the remarks on the World AIDS Day 2019.

Afterwards, officials presented awards to the winners of essay, painting and cartoon on the World AIDS Day 2019 competitions.

The event held under the

title “Communities make the difference” includes musical performances, entertainments, booths giving the knowledge of ADIS and quiz games.

With the guidelines from Ministry of Health and Sports and the assistance from foreign and local civil society organizations, the State Public Health Department led holding the event which was aimed at sharing knowledge of AIDS and raising health awareness.—Zaw Gyi

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Khumi Tribe celebrates traditional New Year in Paletwa

KHUMI ethnic tribe held their traditional New Year festival in Paletwa, Chin State, yesterday with sports activities and concerts.

The festival was opened with the song “Graceful Khumi New Year” by Khumi ethnic women.

At the festival, outstanding students of Khumi ethnic tribe were honoured and the winners in volleyball, Sepak takraw, taekwondo and tug sports were awarded with prizes.

The visitors were also entertained with Khumi eth-

nic songs and the bonfire dance.

Since 2014, Khumi ethnic tribe in Paletwa Township celebrates annual traditional new year festival on December 1.

The New Year festival is organized by Khumi Literature and Culture Association.

The families of the ethnic tribe also celebrate the traditional feast at their homes in November and December at their convenience.—Maung Maung Kyawt (Paletwa)

(Translated by Bahtoo)



Khumi ethnic tribe perform with traditional dances and songs at the Khumi New Year festival in Paletwa yesterday. **PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG KYAWT (PALETWA)**

T&C Union Minister inspects upgrade of Yangon- Mandalay railroad

UNION Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung looked into Yangon-Toungoo railway section upgrade which is the phase one in developing Yangon-Mandalay rail network upgrading yesterday morning.

The Union Minister and officials inspected the completion of bridge construction between Swa and Konegyi stations before meeting with the railway staff at Toungoo Station.

At the Ottwin Station, the Union Minister discussed the

works with the staff members and local companies which are working with the foreign counterparts in the project.

The Union Minister and party then arrived at Phyu Creek Bridge 203 and inspected soil preparations under the bridge. They also looked into soil tests near the milepost 95/5-6.

They also inspected Bridge 83 and 79 between Pynpongyi and Phayagyi stations, and a railway section near Htoneygi station. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung and party inspect the bridge construction between Swa and Konegyi stations yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Health Minister attends celebration of World AIDS Day 2019

FROM PAGE-1

Over 130,000 patients were treated at the state-run health centres up to September 2019, and some patients from the INGOs and local NGOs have been transferred to the public health centres.

Although ART medicines can help the HIV patients live longer, although this medicine can cause side effects for hypertension and diabetes.

The Integrated Biological and Behavioural Survey 2017 (IBBS-2017) has showed that the number of PWID was 93,000, and the rate of HIV infection to them was 34.9 per cent.

The rate of HIV infected pregnant women has gradually declined to 0.57 per cent in 2018 from 0.84 per cent in 2011. Myanmar has targeted no mother to child transmission of HIV by 2025. The Union Minister also emphasized to continue taking seriousness in prevention of HIV infections.

Myanmar submitted a proposal to the 71st World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland, in May 2018, to become a member of Global HIV Prevention Coalition Group which is jointly operated by the World Health Organization and the UNAIDS in over 30 countries.

A fund of US\$ 466 million was received for anti-AIDS program for the period from 2016 from 2020. The State contributed 20 per cent of the fund, Global Fund, 50 per cent and other or-

ganizations such as PEPFAR, Access to Health Fund and ADB also provided financial assistance.

In conducting the anti-AIDS program, efforts will be made for the essential packages for health services-HIV to reach all the persons who actually need it of the 330 townships. If there is decline in the HIV infection rate, funds for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment will be effectively diverted to other areas of healthcare services. It is important for all the people including female sex workers (FSW), men who have sex with men (MSM), public-based organizations to make united and harmonious efforts, and the Ministry of Health and Sports will provide all necessary help. it is a special message of this speech.

Afterwards, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Phyo Min Thein made a speech, Country Director of UNAIDS Mr Ousama Tawil read out the UNAIDS message, Deputy Chief of Mission of US Embassy Ms. Deborah C. Lynn gave a speech on the World Aids Day, Resident Representative of WHO Dr. Stephan Paul Jost read out the message sent by the director of WHO South-East Asia Region, Chairperson Daw Khin Mar Win of Myanmar Committee for People Living with HIV, on behalf of the person infected or related with HIV gave talks. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin & Tin Maung Than)

E&E Deputy Minister inspects oil and gas projects in Mandalay

Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy, inspected the Mandalay Operation Center of Myanmar-China Oil and Gas Pipelines project in Singaing Township, Mandalay Region yesterday.

Upon the report by officials on collecting and distributing natural gas, the Deputy Minister said that the strength of pipelines was very important for sustainable distribution of the oil and gas, and instructed the officials to timely conduct necessary inspections and repairs to the pipelines and compressors.

He also urged the officials to conduct capacity building trainings for the local employees working at the project so

that they can supervise the whole project.

He also called for improving the skills of the staff of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise by conducting pipelines maintenance training. He then inspected its control station.

Afterwards, the Deputy Minister and party arrived at the natural gas Off-Take Station in Taungtha Township, and inspected collecting and distributing natural gas in its control room.

The natural gases produced by Shwe Natural Gas Project were being transported to Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise about 100 million cubic feet a day — via Mandalay Off-Take Station (Tawma) which

transports about 28 million cubic feet and Taungtha Off-Take Station which transports about 72 million cubic feet.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise was regularly distributing the gases to Kyaukse glass factory, Belin power station and Myingyan power station via its Belin Off-Take Station and Myingyan Off-Take Station.

Afterwards, the Deputy Minister and party arrived at the Pyawbwe maintenance station of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and inspected inside the station. — MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Deputy Minister Dr Tun Naing and party inspect the oil and gas stations in Mandalay Region yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

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Mass walk event organized to mark 2019 IDPWD

A mass walk event was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning to mark the 2019 International Day of People with Disabilities which will fall on 3 December.

As part of a week-long activities for this day, the National Committee on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (NCRPD) organized the mass walk which started in front of Nay Pyi Taw Herbal Park to the finishing point Gate 3 of the Water Fountain Garden where the participants took physical exercises.

The event was taken part by Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung, and its members, Deputy Minister for Social Welfares, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung, departmental staff, the affiliated



The mass walk event being held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning to mark the 2019 International Day of People with Disabilities. **PHOTO: MNA**

groups of people with disabilities under the UNICEF, World Vision, the Leprosy Mission Myanmar, Humanity & Inclusion, Help Age International, Myanmar Independent Living Initiative and local people.—MNA
(Translated by Aung Khin)

Over 1,000 cyclists take part in Monywa mass cycling event

A mass cycling event kicked off on December 1, the first Sunday of the month, in Monywa with the participation of more than 1,000 cyclists.

“This year, the December cycling event has attracted more than 1,000 cyclists. Earlier, only 800 people joined the event. Well-wishers donated steamed sticky rice and coffee at the event,” said U Than Aung, director of the Sagaing Region Sports and Physical Education Department.

The cyclists were flagged off from Monywa’s public sports field. The participants cycled over 3 miles, taking 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the trip.

“I have been cycling for health reasons for a month. I wish the mass cycling events are held frequently,” said a participant.

“The cycling event also includes 700 lucky draw programs for participants,” an event organizer said.



Young cyclists take part in the mass cycling event in Monywa on 1 December. **PHOTO: MYO WIN TUN**

The mass cycling event was held to promote physical fitness. Two more mass cycling events will be held on 15 and 29 December, which are also Sundays.

“Both professionals and amateurs can join the events with any kind of bicycles,” said U Than Aung.—Myo Win Tun
(Translated by EMM)

Sagaing Region government receives 600 requests for jobs in Japan

AROUND 600 locals have sought permission from the Sagaing Region government to take up jobs in Japan, according to U Moe Kyaw Thu, Minister of Immigration and Human Resources for the region.

“Young people need to learn foreign languages and other skills. The Sagaing Re-

gion government has received 1,200 applications for overseas jobs, and 600 of the applicants want to work in Japan,” said U Moe Kyaw Thu.

The Japanese government is bringing in workers from ASEAN countries, including Myanmar, for 14 types of jobs — caregiving; cleaning buildings; manufacturing machine

parts and tooling; assembling industrial machinery; electrical work, electronics, and information technology; construction; shipbuilding and ship machinery; automobile repair and maintenance; aviation; hospitality; agriculture; fisheries and aquaculture; manufacturing food and beverages; and, food services.

“Those who wish to work in Japan must be fluent in Japanese. They need to pass N4 and the required tests for related jobs. They would have to get a work visa from the Japanese Embassy, along with an offer of employment letter from their employers,” he added.—Myo Win Tun
(Translated by EMM)

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Onion imports possible only in case of shortage: Minister



A man carrying sacks of onion near a warehouse in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

DESPITE the surge in onion prices in the local market, onion imports will not be allowed during harvest time, said Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo.

The minister said imports will be allowed only if there is a shortage of onions in the local market coupled with a price escalation. At present, more than 160

tons of onions from central Myanmar have flooded the local market. The local market has witnessed a huge increase in onion prices owing to strong demand

from Bangladesh. However, Bangladesh suspended purchase of Myanmar onions in October-end as the price rose dramatically in Dhaka. On 20 September, onions fetched K500-900 per viss (one viss equals 1.6 kg) in the wholesale market. The price jumped to K2,000 per viss on 16 November. “In early November, onions were priced around K3,000 per viss in the retail market of Pazuntaung Township. The price shot up to K4,000 per viss on 15 November,” said a housewife who lives on the junction of Bogyoke Road and 51st street. At the beginning of the onion season, onions were being sold for just K400-500 per viss. But, the prices rose in a volatile market mid-year. Although traders said stocking onions might lead to

losses, the price of domestic onions crossed K3,000 per viss in 2015, 2018, and 2019. “The price of onions was K800-900 per viss in September. Last month, Bangladesh’s demand for Myanmar’s onions coupled with high demand in the local market hiked up prices,” according to the Mandalay commodity depot. Earlier, in response to the surge in prices, the government had allowed onion imports. In the previous years, China flooded the onion market with bulk supply. As their production in Myanmar exceeds self-sufficiency, onions are also shipped to external markets. Onion prices may change depending on the weather conditions and market supply, said traders.—GNLM (Translated by EMM)

Myanmar’s bilateral trade with Germany exceeds \$820 mln last FY

TRADE value between Myanmar and Germany in the last fiscal year (2018-2019) reached US\$821.5 million, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce. Myanmar’s export to Germany surpassed its import, with \$624.67 million worth of export and \$196.86 million valued import, according to the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce. Beyond regional trade regime, Myanmar has established trade links with EU members. Germany is the biggest trade partner in European Union, fol-

lowed by the UK and France. The main export items are rice, pulses, tea leaf, coffee, garments on Cut-Make-Pack basis and fisheries. Meanwhile, machinery, data-processing equipment, electrical and optical goods, chemical products, motor vehicles and parts and pharmaceutical products, cosmetic, food and beverages and consumer goods are imported into Myanmar. Myanmar reinstated EU’s Generalized Scheme of Preference starting from 19th July 2013. Myanmar can enjoy GSP for export of fisheries, rice, puls-

es, agro products, bamboo and rattan finished products, forestry products, apparels and finished industrial goods. Nevertheless, EU imposed three-year tariff on indica rice (long-grain rice) imported from Myanmar and Cambodia starting from 18 January 2019. Trade value with Germany was registered at \$373 million in the past mini-budget period (April-September 2018), \$584 million in 2017-2018 FY, \$342 million in 2016-2017 FY and \$153 million in FY 2015-16 respectively.—GNLM (Translated by EMM)



Farmers picking tea leaves in a farm in northern Shan State. **PHOTO: KHINE SET WAI**

Negotiations underway with China for cattle exports

MYANMAR has held a series of negotiations with China at the Joint Border Trade Cooperation and Coordinating Committee (JBTCC) meetings on legal exports of cattle along with cross-border control of communicable diseases. While cattle exports are legal in Myanmar, livestock trade is still not permitted by China, according to the Myanmar Livestock Federation. “They are ensuring that cattle that is to be traded is free from foot and mouth disease.

Discussions between China and Myanmar are under way,” the federation stated. Myanmar has officially permitted the export of cattle. Therefore, the Myanmar government is planning to enter into a Government-to-Government pact with China so that Myanmar traders have a legal trade channel with China and do not suffer losses by indulging in illegal trade. In a bid to encourage legal trade, increase income, and create more jobs for local residents,

Myanmar had in late 2017 granted permission for livestock trade, along with decentralized cattle exports from regional and state governments. But, this power was transferred from regional governments to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, as they faced certain difficulties in the movement of cattle, according to an announcement from the Ministry of Commerce on 22 May. Traders mainly export cattle to China through the Muse border gate, as well as to Thailand.

Normally, a large cow is valued at over K1.6-2.3 million, but early this year, the suspension of trade led to Chinese traders resorting to price manipulation and offering a lower price of about K1 million. Between the 2017-2018FY and October in the current FY, over 460,000 heads of cattle, with an estimated value of over US\$581 million, were exported to China through Muse, according to trade figures. At present, cattle that are over five years old are being ex-

ported, along with the required vaccination certificates, health certificates, and farming registration certificates. According to the 2018 cattle census, there are 11.5 million heads of cattle in the country. The authorities have issued cattle export licenses to more than 300 companies in the Magway Region. There are around 5,000 companies holding cattle export licenses across the country. —GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar Buddha statue donated to disaster-hit northeast Japan



A Buddha statue donated by a company in Myanmar to Minamisanriku, Miyagi Prefecture, as pictured on Nov. 25, 2019. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

SENDAI — A consecration ceremony was held on recently for a Buddha statue donated by Myanmar for victims of the devastating 2011 earthquake and tsunami that hit northeastern Japan.

Monks from the Southeast Asian country, which also suffered damage from the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, offered prayers in front of the 5-meter-high marble statue on 25 November.

It was placed last month on a hill overlooking Shizugawa Bay in the town of Minamisanriku, Miyagi Prefecture. The hill is in a forest park created by the operator of Minami Sanriku Hotel Kanyo to commemorate the disaster that left more than 15,000 people dead.

A Myanmar trading house gave the statue to the hotel op-

erator, which had shown officials of the company around the disaster-hit area.

“While this may be minuscule for the rebuilding, I hope it will be a tourism resource to bring about exchanges between people,” said Maung Htet Myat Oo, the 52-year-old co-head of Tomosada International Trading Co.

“I’m full of emotion, seeing the Buddha statue installed in a place that looks over our community,” said Yasuhiro Abe, 56, president of the hotel operator Abecho Shoten Co.

Abe’s company is known for hosting bus tours around the disaster-stricken coastal area and keeping the remains of a tsunami-hit wedding center, where more than 300 people took refuge. — Kyodo News ■

Union Minister, UN agencies discuss resettlement of IDPs

FROM PAGE-1

The drafting of the strategy began in 2018, and it was officially introduced on 19 November this year. The strategy will adopt action programs for the systematic closure of IDP camps.

The Union Minister said as the strategy has been drawn in accordance with international norms, the adoption of work programs in line with the policies, laws, and rules of the country in closing IDP camps is an important matter.

As stated in the strategy, region-wise work programs will be implemented after forming Union-, region-, and state-level committees. There are some

other tasks in connection with the resettlement of IDPs and closure of IDP camps that the ministry will carry out before and during the adoption of the strategy. Those tasks will be integrated into the strategy.

“Connections is under way with UN agencies and the Red Cross, apart from the ongoing coordination between Kachin State government and KHCC, a Kachin social organization, in closing IDP camps in Kachin State. We are collecting a list of villages where the IDP camps will be closed and which are included in the resettlement program. In addition, we are coordinating with the Tatmadaw and the ethnic armed organi-

zations for mine-clearance and raising public awareness about mines,” said the minister.

“As regards the dangers posed by mines, Myanmar representatives attended the Oslo Review Conference on a Mine-Free World in Oslo, Norway on 25 and 26 November for the first time, and discussed resettlement programs, the importance of humanitarian mine-clearing activities, and the different stages of the mine-clearing program. The discussions will be supportive of the strategy. There will be continued coordinated efforts as the task of the Work Committee on Resettlement of IDPs in Kachin State is in conformity with the national IDP

resettlement and camp closure strategy. Pilot projects will be implemented in Kachin and Rakhine states. UN agencies and international bodies are urged to render their cooperation in implementing the Union-led state-wise work programs,” said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

In their discussions, the UN resident coordinator and resident representatives said it was an honor for everyone as the UN and international organizations were able to offer advice on and disseminate the strategy, which is being carried out under the leadership of the government after it was adopted with the involvement of a UN and international expert, Prof. Walter

Kaelin. They said they were ready to partake in adopting and implementing work programs of the strategy, which are suitable for local needs in the future.

They, then, welcomed the marking of areas for pilot projects for adopting and implementing the work programs. They expressed the belief that the difficulties faced in the initial tasks can be turned into opportunities, and suggested the authorities listen to the voices of women and children IDPs while drawing work programs. Afterwards, they discussed the roles of the UN agencies, INGOs, and the Red Cross. — MNA ■

(Translated by TMT)



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye, officials and representatives from UN agencies pose for a group photo at the Yangon Region Branch of Social Welfare Department yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Campaigners occupy German coal mines in climate protest



Campaigners say the government's plans to phase out coal by 2038 announced this year do not go far enough.
PHOTO: AFP

SPREMBERG — Thousands of activists on Saturday occupied several opencast coal mines in eastern Germany, seeking to put pressure on the government to phase out the fossil fuel -- a divisive issue in the country's rust belt.

Wearing masks and dressed in white, hundreds of campaigners stormed into the Jaenschwalde Ost mine while another 450 sat down on a railroad connected to the site.

Similar action hit the Welzow-Sued mine, also in the Lausitz basin.

Meanwhile, MIBRAG which operates another mine -- the Vereinigtes Schleenhain site -- south of Leipzig said about 1,200 protesters blocked a coal-excavator, forcing the group to halt operations.

"We have nothing against peaceful protests and the exercise of democratic rights, but we reject all forms of breach of laws and violence," MIBRAG chairman Armin Eichholz said in a statement.

Both MIBRAG and Czech-controlled LEAG which operates the two Lausitz mines said they were filing legal action against the protesters.

Police were able to clear the mines only after several hours.

In these mining regions, thousands of jobs depend on coal. But some residents are also threatened with the loss of their homes over a planned expansion of mining.

Underlining the division over the coal industry, dozens of pro-coal militants also gathered in the Lausitz basin. —AFP

Researchers use largest radar in Antarctica for first measures of Earth's ionosphere

WASHINGTON — Ionosphere is the chaos in the night sky, about 60 to 600 miles above Earth's surface. This layer of Earth's atmosphere is blasted by solar radiation that breaks down the bonds of ions. Free electrons and heavy ions are left behind, constantly colliding.

This dance was previously measured through a method called incoherent scatter radar in the northern hemisphere, where researchers beam radio waves into the ionosphere. The electrons in the atmosphere scatter the radio wave "incoherently." The different ways they scatter tell researchers

about the particles populating the layer. Now, researchers have used radar in Antarctica to make the first measurements from the Antarctic region. They have published their preliminary results in the *Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*.

Taishi Hashimoto, assistant professor at the National Institute of Polar Research in Japan, said: "Incoherent scatter radar is currently the most powerful tool available to investigate the ionosphere because it covers a wide altitudinal range and it observes essential ionospheric param-

eters such as electron density, ion velocity, ion, and electron temperatures, as well as ion compositions."

While these radars are powerful, they're also rare due to their size and power demand.

Using the Program of the Antarctic Syowa Mesosphere-Stratosphere-Troposphere/Incoherent Scatter (PANSY) radar, the largest and fine-resolution atmospheric radar in the Antarctic, researchers performed the first incoherent scatter radar observations in the southern hemisphere in 2015. — ANI



The PANSY radar is an active phased array of 1045 Yagi antennas. **PHOTO: TAISHI HASHIMOTO (NIPR) / ANI**

(Almost) nothing can stop bacterium decimating Florida's oranges



"We've lost a great deal of our productive capacity," said Peter Spyke, a third-generation citrus farmer. **PHOTO: AFP**

FORT PIERCE — Peter Spyke has two types of oranges in his groves: those that are the color orange -- and those that are green, unsaleable and responsible for the collapse of Florida's orange crop over the past 15 years. Florida farmers have observed, almost powerless, the spread of the huanglongbing bacterium ("yellow dragon disease" in Chinese), known worldwide as "HLB" and native to China. It was first reported in Florida in 2005, and has been conquering groves ever since.

The bacterium causes one of the most devastating citrus diseases called "greening": the leaves of the infected trees turn pale, the fruit fails to ripen and remain green, and eventually fall to the ground. The bacterium is transmitted by a small insect called citrus psyllid.

Compared to the 2003-2004 season, Florida's orange production will be down by 80 percent this season (harvests last from November to April depending on the citrus variety). Grapefruits are the most affected. "We've lost a great deal of our productive capacity and along with that we've lost juice plants, we've lost jobs, we've lost packing houses," said Spyke, a third-generation citrus farmer. "At this point we haven't identified any way to make the trees immune to HLB," he said during a tour of his orchard.

Florida citrus farmers have generally been reluctant to destroy contaminated trees, and as a result 90 percent of their groves are infected -- compared to only 19 percent in Brazil, while Europe so far has been spared the blight. Sprays used to treat trees in Florida have been ineffective. —AFP

Inclusive participation is a key to boosting community-based tourism

IN a recent news report, Vice President U Henry Van Thio, chairman of the Ethnic and Public Affairs Management and Service Committee, was quoted highlighting the importance of inclusive participation in developing community-based tourism, which is a business friendly to both the environment and natural resources, at a conference in Kachin State.

Community-based tourism implies a business that ensures social progress and prosperity of residents through sustainable development of livelihoods and protection of traditional values, cultures, and customs, as well as natural heritage and resources. It is also a tourism enterprise, owned, operated, and managed by the local people, and where their voices and concerns are heard and addressed.

While implementing community-based tourism, locals will see an improvement in their living standards as their involvement in preserving and promoting the environment, their

We need to provide popular tourist spots with sufficient restrooms and a responsive sanitation system. We should also conduct public awareness campaigns to ensure a clean and green environment.

lifestyles, cultural traditions, and livelihoods is the core of the business, which will also generate jobs and reduce poverty. As they are the main operators and managers of the business, they will acquire skills and technological knowhow in one way or another.

Myanmar is bestowed with exotic natural landscapes and unique ethnic cultures, which are the foundations for the development of community-based tourism. Taneelalae and Panpet tours in Demoso Township in Kayah State won the ASEAN community-based tourism prize in 2017. The award is a harbinger of the development of the business in the near future as we have many promising areas which are waiting for proper and systematic utilization.

But, the principal requirement for the progress of community-based tourism is peace and stability and rule of law, which guarantee everything, including the task of protecting, preserving, and promoting traditions, and cultures along with the natural environment and resources.

However, the country has another problem, and that is weak discipline, especially in terms of discarding garbage. Many of the popular destinations are littered with trash and lack sanitation. We need to provide popular tourist spots with sufficient restrooms and a responsive sanitation system. We should also conduct public awareness campaigns to ensure a clean and green environment.

As our country already has a natural advantage for the business, we need innovative ideas and effective methods to attract more tourists through hospitality and better services and inclusive participation to ensure the development of community-based tourism.



Time to Improve Experience of Evidence-based Practice in Myanmar Traditional Medicine

(Dr. Than Lwin Tun, May Thazin & Honey Soe) (Ministry of Health and Sports)

EXPERIENCE is the knowledge or skill that we get from doing, seeing, or feeling things. Evidence is the available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid. For public health interventions, evidence typically refers to the effectiveness of an intervention in achieving an outcome that will create lasting changes in the health of the population. This evidence is usually published in scientific literature such as in professional journals, books, or government reports. There are several major types including: documentary evidence, digital evidence, demonstrative evidence, exculpatory evidence, physical evidence, prima facie evidence, scientific evidence, and testimony.

World Health Organization (WHO) defined Traditional Medicine (TM) as the skills and practices based on the health practices, approaches, knowledge and beliefs from various cultures, whether explicable or not, incorporating plant, animal and mineral-derived medicines, spiritual therapies, manual techniques and exercises, applied singularly or in combination in the maintenance of health and well-being to prevent, diagnose, improve or treat physical and mental illness.

Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) provides the health professional to be able to understand the relationships between research and strength of evidence, to access and appraise evidence and to determine its applicability with regard to a particular patient's context and wishes.

The practice of evidence-based medicine means integrating individual clinical expertise with the best available external clinical evidence from systematic research. Individual clinical expertise means the proficiency and judgment that individual clinicians acquire through clinical experience and clinical practice.

It cannot be denied that there are some limitations in TM to explain every single thing under scientific terms as some practices go beyond the scientific field. But there are still many practices needed to promote into EBP for those clinical experi-



Traditional medicine practitioners provide health care to public. PHOTO: MOHS

ences and skills acquired from clinical practices must be proved with evidence when the whole world is demanding standardization and international harmonization.

For that to happen, all-inclusive TM domain needs to work together. There is a famous quote by the 35th President of the United States of America, John F. Kennedy, "Do not ask what your country do for you; ask what you can do for your country". Likewise, please do not ask what TM domain do for you; ask what you can do for the promotion of TM domain.

EBP is much more important in the 21st Century as it provides standards that have the potential to provide the best medical care at the lowest cost. The advantage of EBP is that knowledge gained from large clinical trials is applied directly to patient care. The use of EBP promotes consistency in individual patient treatments that assume optimal clinical outcomes and improved quality of life.

Evidence based practice (EBP) is 'the integration of best research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values' which when applied by practitioners will ultimately lead to improved patient outcome.

There are 5 steps in implementing EBP; Ask, Acquire, Appraise, Apply, Audit.

1. Ask- Formulate an answerable question

One of the fundamental skills required for EBP is the asking of well-built clinical questions. By formulating an answerable question you to focus your efforts specifically on what matters. These questions are usually triggered by patient encounters which generate questions about the diagnosis, therapy, prognosis or aetiology.

2. Acquire- Find the best available evidence

The second step is to find the relevant evidence. This step involves identifying search terms which will be found in your carefully constructed question from step one; selecting resources in which to perform your search such as PubMed and Cochrane Library; and formulating an effective search strategy using a combination of MESH terms and limitations of the results.

3. Appraise- Appraise the evidence

It is important to be skilled in critical appraisal so that you can further filter out studies that may seem interesting but are weak. Use a simple critical appraisal method that will answer these questions: What question did the study address? Were the methods valid? What are the results? How do the results apply to your

practice?

4. Apply- Implement the evidence

Individual clinical decisions can then be made by combining

... it is time to promote those knowledge, skills and experiences gained from clinical experiences and practices into standardized clinical evidence to provide the most effective care to the community.

the best available evidence with your clinical expertise and your patients' values. These clinical decisions should then be implemented into your practice which can then be justified as evidence-based.

5. Audit- Evaluate the outcome

The final step in the process is to evaluate the effectiveness and efficacy of your decision in direct relation to your patient. Was the application of the new information effective? Should this new information continue to be applied to practice? How could

any of the 5 processes involved in the clinical decision-making process be improved the next time a question is asked?

EBP is important because it aims to provide the most effective care that is available, with the aim of improving patient outcomes. Patients expect to receive the most effective care based on the best available evidence. EBP promotes an attitude of inquiry in health professionals and starts us thinking about: Why am I doing this in this way? Is there evidence that can guide me to do this in a more effective way? As health professionals, part of providing a professional service are ensuring that our practice is informed by the best available evidence. EBP also plays a role in ensuring that finite health resources are used wisely and that relevant evidence is considered when decisions are made about funding health services.

In the report of WHO-CIP-IH (Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health) Study Nine on

healers and ecosystem should not be exploited during bioprospecting, WHO and bodies like Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) should work together to emphasize importance of health related issues at the backdrop of biodiversity; improved financing TM education, research, practice and a road map to strengthen its reach; strengthening existing and create new state-of-the-art-facilities for evidence-based research; human resource development; world class institutions/ colleges should be established in every country where there is strong TM presence; globally trained TM practitioners; develop more WHO Collaborating Centers of TM in countries where it has major presence; undertake or sponsor detailed studies related to TM impact on public health.

While the World is marching to the Universal Health Coverage (UHC), EBP is much more important as it becomes the global issue. So it necessitates improving experience to evidence-based traditional medicine as the world is demanding international harmonization. In the one hand, we need to think globally and locally and in the other, it should also be practical, doable and thinkable. Therefore, it is time to promote those knowledge, skills and experiences gained from clinical experiences and practices into standardized clinical evidence to provide the most effective care to the community.

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Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 1st December, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 02nd December, 2019: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-7) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (3-5) feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated light rain in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Shan and Chin States.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 02nd December, 2019: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 02nd December, 2019: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 02nd December, 2019: Partly cloudy.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nya 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

Singapore orders Facebook to correct anti-government website

SINGAPORE—The Singapore government has ordered Facebook to issue a correction notice on an anti-government website's page after the site's editor remained defiant over an article it posted to the social networking site earlier this month.

Singapore had ordered a small alternative news website, the States Times Review, to issue a correction notice on Thursday. But its 32-year-old editor, Alex Tan, now an Australian citizen working in Australia, has refused to comply.

On Friday, a government office that enforces a controversial new law to combat fake news said Home Minister K. Shanmugam has instructed Facebook to issue a correction notice to the States Times Review's official Facebook page.

The so-called Targeted Correction Direction, allows



The Singapore government has ordered Facebook to issue a correction notice on an anti-government website's page after the site's editor remained defiant over an article it posted to the social networking site earlier this month. **PHOTO: AFP**

the government to obtain the cooperation of providers of internet intermediary services, such as Facebook, in these

types of cases. If an organization such as Facebook refuses to cooperate, it can be slapped with a fine of up to S\$1 million

(\$730,000), and in the case of a continuing offense, a further fine of up to S\$100,000 daily.—Kyodo News ■

Taliban should accept US proposal for ceasefire: Afghan govt

KABUL—President Ghani's spokesperson Sediq Sediqqi on Sunday said that the Taliban should accept United States' proposal for a ceasefire agreement as that will pave way for the direct talks between the group and the Afghan government.

This statement of the Afghan government comes after US President Donald Trump advocated a peace "owned by the Afghan government" during his Thursday

visit at Bagram airfield. "Our hope is that the Taliban will work to accept their (US) ceasefire. If they (Taliban) are really committed to giving up the war - in our opinion - the best opportunity is for them to accept that opportunity," Tolo News quoted Sediqqi as saying.

During his first and a surprise meeting to Afghanistan earlier this week, US President Donald Trump had said that the

terms of the deal between Washington and the Taliban would have to include a Taliban ceasefire, adding that he thought the group would agree to it.

"The Taliban wants to make a deal and we're meeting with them and we're saying it has to be a ceasefire and they didn't want to do a ceasefire and now they do want to do a ceasefire. I believe it'll probably work out that way," he said.—ANI ■

Japan, India to conduct fighter jet drill for deeper security ties



Japan and India agreed Saturday to conduct their first-ever joint fighter aircraft exercise in Japan. **PHOTO: KYODO**

NEW DELHI—Japan and India agreed Saturday to conduct their first-ever joint fighter aircraft exercise in Japan as part of efforts to promote bilateral security cooperation in the

face of China's military buildup and regional assertiveness.

In the inaugural "two-plus-two" security talks, the foreign and defense ministers of the two Asian democracies

also welcomed the significant progress in negotiations for an acquisition and cross-servicing agreement, or ACSA, and called for an early conclusion, according to a joint statement issued after the talks in New Delhi.

The two governments are planning to sign the ACSA, which would allow the two sides to share defense capabilities and supplies including fuel and ammunition, when Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visits India for talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in mid-December, according to Japanese officials.

Tokyo and New Delhi aim to have a joint exercise involving fighter jets from Japan's

Air Self-Defense Force and the Indian Air Force next year, the officials said.

It will be the fourth such drill for Japan after ones with the United States, Britain and Australia. Speaking at the meeting, part of which was open to the media, Japanese Defense Minister Taro Kono said the launch of the talks "symbolizes a higher level of importance in Japan-India security ties in the Indo-Pacific region." The talks also brought together Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Indian Defense Minister Rajnath Singh.—Kyodo News ■

NEWS In BRIEF

All 16 leaders working to resolve India's concerns over RCEP: Japan

NEW DELHI —Commenting on India's decision to not join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a spokesperson of the Japanese Foreign Ministry on Sunday said that all the countries of the grouping are working to resolve New Delhi's concerns over RCEP. "All the 16 leaders are working to resolve issues related to India on RCEP in a satisfactory way," Atsushi Kaifu, Deputy Press Secretary in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said here. His comments came a day after India and Japan held their first foreign and defence ministerial talks to further strengthen strategic ties.—ANI ■

China introduces mandatory face scans for phone users

BEIJING—China will require telecom operators to collect face scans when registering new phone users at offline outlets starting Sunday, according to the country's information technology authority, as Beijing continues to tighten cyberspace controls. In September, China's industry and information technology ministry issued a notice on "safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of citizens online", which laid out rules for enforcing real-name registration. The notice said telecom operators should use "artificial intelligence and other technical means" to verify people's identities when they take a new phone number. A China Unicom customer service representative told AFP that the December 1 "portrait matching" requirement means customers registering for a new phone number may have to record themselves turning their head and blinking. "In next steps, our ministry will continue to...increase supervision and inspection...and strictly promote the management of real-name registration for phone users," said the September notice.—AFP ■

Saudi Arabia takes over G20 presidency from Japan

RIYADH—Saudi Arabia became the first Arab nation Sunday to take over the G20 presidency as it seeks to bounce back onto the world stage following global uproar over its human rights record.

The oil-rich kingdom has promoted a liberalisation drive, including granting greater rights to women, but faced strong criticism over a crackdown on dissent and the murder last year of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

The G20 presidency, which Saudi Arabia takes over from Japan, will see it host world leaders for a global summit in its capital next November 21-22.

“The kingdom of Saudi Arabia assumes the G20 Presidency today, leading up to the summit in Riyadh” in 2020, the official Saudi Press Agency said.

“The Saudi G20 presidency

is committed to continuing the work from Osaka and promoting multilateral consensus.”

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom’s de facto ruler, hailed it as a “unique opportunity” to shape international consensus, SPA added.

“When Saudi Arabia assumes the G20 presidency, it will become the first (Arab) nation to lead this intergovernmental body,” Dennis Snower, president of the think-tank Global Solutions Initiative, said in a statement.

“This presidency... will be challenged by a central paradox: global risks like climate change, demographic developments, such as low birth rates, rising life expectancy and aging societies... but rising populism and nationalism are preventing progress at the multilateral level.”—AFP



The G20 presidency, which Saudi Arabia takes over from Japan, will see it host world leaders for a global summit in its capital next November 21-22. **PHOTO: AFP**

News In Brief

Iraq parliament approves PM resignation, protesters mourn dead

BAGHDAD—Iraq’s parliament approved the resignation of the embattled cabinet on Sunday, after two months of violent unrest that have left more than 420 people dead and thousands mourning them in nationwide marches. Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi said Friday he would submit his resignation to parliament following a spike in the death toll among protesters who accuse the entire ruling elite of being inept, corrupt and beholden to foreign powers.—AFP ■

Japan looking into Kashmir issue carefully, hopes for peaceful resolution

NEW DELHI—Japan is carefully looking into the situation in Jammu and Kashmir and hopes that a peaceful resolution will be found on the matter through dialogue, country’s Foreign Ministry said on Sunday, a day after its Foreign Affairs and Defence Ministers held a ministerial dialogue with India.

“Regarding Kashmir, I can say it is a situation carefully looked at and we are aware of the long-standing difference in view with of this. We hope the peaceful resolution will be done,” Atsushi Kaifu, the Deputy Press Secretary in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.—ANI ■

EU commissioner says digital tax initiatives may need to be revived



European Commissioner for Economic Affairs Pierre Moscovici leaves the press conference at the headquarters of the European Commission during the two-day visit to Italy, on November 22, 2019, in Rome. Italy. **PHOTO: KYODO**

BRUSSELS—The European Commission’s outgoing finance chief has called for reviving European initiatives to introduce a digital tax for the region if attempts to find a global solution fail.

Pierre Moscovici, the com-

missioner for economic and financial affairs, said in a written interview with Kyodo News that the EU’s proposal, although rejected by some members in March, led to “unprecedented” progress at the international

level.

While a common approach to the issue could be found in 2020, the EU should play a central role in the process, said the commissioner of the EU’s executive body whose new members will take office on Dec. 1 for a five-year term.

“If we do not succeed in finding a global solution, the European Commission will relaunch its own initiatives to make it possible to tax digital activities at their fair value, because the current situation is no longer tolerated by European citizens,” the former French finance minister wrote.

The earlier proposal to apply a 3 percent tax rate to digital advertising, e-commerce and other digital activities was rejected by some member states including Ireland which granted reduced taxes for Apple Inc.’s operations.—Kyodo ■

Terror checks intensified as London attack enters election fray

LONDON—Britain’s Boris Johnson said Sunday the security services were stepping up monitoring of convicted terrorists released early from prison, as the London Bridge attack became embroiled in the election campaign. The prime minister revealed around 74 people with terrorist convictions had been released early from prison in a similar way to Usman Khan, who left jail last December and went on to stab two people to death in

Friday’s rampage. “They are being properly invigilated to make sure there is no threat,” Johnson told the BBC in an interview. “We’ve taken a lot of action as you can imagine in the last 48 hours,” he said, adding he would not provide “operation details”.

Khan, 28, was shot dead while wearing a fake explosives vest by police on London Bridge after a stabbing spree that also injured three people launched at a nearby prisoner rehabilitation

event he was attending.

Members of the public were hailed as heroes for preventing even greater loss of life by tackling him – one armed with a five-foot (1.5-metre) narwhal tusk and another with a fire extinguisher.

The incident comes two years after Islamist extremists in a van ploughed into pedestrians on the bridge before attacking people at random with knives, killing eight people and wounding 48.—AFP ■



The incident comes two years after Islamist extremists in a van ploughed into pedestrians on the bridge before attacking people at random with knives. **PHOTO: AFP**

U.S. becomes net oil exporter in Sept. for 1st time in 70 years

WASHINGTON—The United States became a net exporter of crude and petroleum products in September for the first time in 70 years on the back of increased shale oil production, government data showed Friday. U.S. monthly oil exports surpassed imports by 89,000 barrels per day, making the country a net exporter on a monthly basis for the first time since the government started compiling data in 1949.

Projecting the trend will continue, the U.S. Energy Information Administration expects the country to be a net exporter of crude and petroleum products in 2020 as well.

The growing role of the United States as a global energy supplier would exert downward pressure on oil prices. According to the data, U.S. oil exports



Drilling work is under way in the U.S. state of Texas to produce shale oil as seen in this file photo taken on March 13, 2014. **PHOTO: KYODO**

in September rose 18 percent from a year earlier to around 8.76 million barrels per day, while its imports dropped 12 percent to about 8.67 million barrels. After becoming the world's largest crude

oil producer in 2018 for the first time in 45 years on the back of increased shale production, the country's oil exports have expanded rapidly. According to the EIA's short-term energy outlook, released earlier

this month, U.S. crude oil and petroleum net exports are expected to average 750,000 barrels per day in 2020 compared with average net imports of 520,000 barrels per day in 2019.—Kyodo ■

Eurozone output 'near-stalled' in November: survey

BRUSSELS—The eurozone's economy is seen to have "near-stalled" in November after successive months of manufacturing decline, according to a closely watched survey by the firm IHS Markit.

"Expectations about future output remained well below levels seen earlier in the year, reflecting heightened geopolitical uncertainty, including Brexit, trade wars and auto tariffs, plus general concerns about slowing demand," it said.

IHS Markit said its composite eurozone PMI, a key business indicator, fell to 50.3 points in November, down from a revised 50.6 points last month.

A reading above 50 points points to an expansion. The index's decline showed business sentiment remained just over the threshold into positive territory.—AFP ■

Six European countries join barter system for Iran trade

PARIS—Paris, London and Berlin on Saturday welcomed six new European countries to the INSTEX barter mechanism, which is designed to circumvent US sanctions against trade with Iran by avoiding use of the dollar.

"As founding shareholders of the Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges (INSTEX), France, Germany and the

United Kingdom warmly welcome the decision taken by the governments of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden, to join INSTEX as shareholders," the three said in a joint statement. The Paris-based INSTEX functions as a clearing house allowing Iran to continue to sell oil and import other products or services in exchange.—AFP ■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (23/2019-2020)

1. Open tenders for 2019-2020 fiscal year are invited for supply of the following services in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	MOGE-C001/2019	Provision of 3D Seismic Data Services for Onshore Block RSF-1	US\$
(b)	DMP/L – 180 (19-20)	Maintenance, Inspection and spare requirements Services for PLC (Daw Nyein) and Ywama (GDS)	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of services with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **2 December 2019** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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 30 December 2019**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time **30-12-2019, 14:00 pm**
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. +95 67 – 411206/411214

Request for Proposal for Consultancy Services RFP No. 49/Consultancy UKT/ 2019-2020

1. Department of Hydropower Implementation is in the process of preparing the consultancy services of the Upper Kengtawng Hydropower Project (51 MW) which is located on Nam Teng River, about 14 km South-West of Kengtawng Township, Sothorn Shan State, Myanmar.
2. The Employer requests for proposals to the qualified, well experienced in hydropower projects and eligible international consulting firms on the basis of open tender announcements in order to carry out the consultancy services of the said project in **Myanmar Kyat**.
3. The RFP document can be obtained from Department of Hydropower Implementation during office hours at 2nd December, 2019 by the authorized representative of the consultant firms upon submission of a written application in the name of Department of Hydropower Implementation.
4. A consulting firm will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method and procedures as described in the RFP.
5. The proposals shall be submitted in six sets (one original and five duplicates) in two separate and sealed envelopes clearly marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" on or before the 16th January, 2020 not later than 10:00 Hours to Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee, Department of Hydropower Implementation.
6. Only technical proposal will be opened on the same day at 10:30 Hours at meeting room, Department of Hydropower Implementation, in the presence of authorized representatives of the firms who choose to be present. Absence of the representative of the firms shall not hinder the opening of the proposal.
7. A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 Hours on 11th December, 2019 at Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy.
8. Invitation letter and Request for Proposal documents with detailed information shall be available at the following address during the office hours.

Procurement Branch, Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office No. (27) Nay Pyi Taw, Phone : 067-8104189, 067-8104190, Email-dirpro.dhpi@moe.gov.mm.

Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee
Department of Hydropower Implementation
Ministry of Electricity and Energy

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY. NO. (1020 W/E)
Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY. NO. (1020 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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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Nissan, Renault, M'bishi to set up advanced tech development company

TOKYO—Nissan Motor Co., Renault SA and Mitsubishi Motors Corp. agreed to set up a new company to jointly develop advanced technologies for next-generation vehicles, as the alliance seeks to bolster their cooperation after its leader Carlos Ghosn was ousted, sources familiar with the matter said Sunday.

Engineers from the three automakers will focus on studying artificial intelligence and other key technologies at the new company, and its operation scale and other details will be announced by the end of January, the sources said.

Nissan and Renault are jointly working on development of platforms and engines and purchasing of parts under the alliance at present.

The three carmakers look to step up joint operations, as the global auto industry faces a rapid shift in customer demand to connected, autonomous, shared and electric vehicles. The shift in business environment requires automakers to boost investment in technology.— Kyodo ■

China's Trip.com chief on journey to boost working mothers

BEIJING —The head of Chinese travel giant Trip.com, Jane Sun, is on a mission to propel women through her workforce, spearheading novel approaches such as encouraging babies on business trips and free egg freezing.

As a working mother, she understands the challenges faced by many women in China, whose participation in the labour force has been falling for decades. She runs China's largest online tourism agency and is one of the country's business elite: a Silicon Valley returnee who moves in friendship circles



Jane Sun wants to drive female representation across the 45,000-strong Trip.com workforce. PHOTO: AFP

with the likes of Alibaba founder Jack Ma and has the ear of the government.

But as well as moving

the business to new markets globally, Sun is also looking closer to home for growth. She wants to drive

female representation across the 45,000-strong Trip.com workforce, including efforts to accommodate breastfeeding mothers by inviting them to take their babies along on work trips and introducing nursing rooms. Staff benefits include flexible working, free taxis for pregnant employees, and offering staff the option of freezing their eggs – funded by the company.

“I think we are really taking the leadership, and that pays off,” she said, with female representation at middle management level now 40 percent and one-third at executive level.—AFP ■

Request for Proposal for Consultancy Services RFP No. 46/Consultancy MPL/ 2019-2020

1. Department of Hydropower Implementation is in the process of preparing the consultancy services of the Middle Paunglaung Hydropower Project (152 MW) which is located on Paunglaung River, about 32 km North-East of Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.
2. The Employer requests for proposals to the qualified, well experienced in hydropower projects and eligible international consulting firms on the basis of open tender announcements in order to carry out the consultancy services of the said project in **Myanmar Kyat**.
3. The RFP document can be obtained from Department of Hydropower Implementation during office hours at 2nd December, 2019 by the authorized representative of the consultant firms upon submission of a written application in the name of Department of Hydropower Implementation.
4. A consulting firm will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method and procedures as described in the RFP.
5. The proposals shall be submitted in six sets (one original and five duplicates) in two separate and sealed envelopes clearly marked “Technical Proposal” and “Financial Proposal” on or before the 15th January, 2020 not later than 13:00 Hours to Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee, Department of Hydropower Implementation.
6. Only technical proposal will be opened on the same day at 13:30 Hours at meeting room, Department of Hydropower Implementation, in the presence of authorized representatives of the firms who choose to be present. Absence of the representative of the firms shall not hinder the opening of the proposal.
7. A pre-proposal conference will be held at 14:00 Hours on 10th December, 2019 at Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy.
8. Invitation letter and Request for Proposal documents with detailed information shall be available at the following address during the office hours.

Procurement Branch, Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office No. (27) Nay Pyi Taw, Phone : 067-8104189, 067-8104190, Email-dirpro.dhpi@ moe.gov.mm.

Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee
Department of Hydropower Implementation
Ministry of Electricity and Energy

Request for Proposal for Consultancy Services RFP No. 47/Consultancy UYY/ 2019-2020

1. Department of Hydropower Implementation is in the process of preparing the consultancy services of the Upper Yeywa Hydropower Project (280 MW) which is located on Myit Nge River, about 32 km south of Kyauk Me Township, Northern Shan State, Myanmar.
2. The Employer requests for proposals to the qualified, well experienced in hydropower projects and eligible international consulting firms on the basis of open tender announcements in order to carry out the consultancy services of the said project in **Myanmar Kyat**.
3. The RFP document can be obtained from Department of Hydropower Implementation during office hours at 2nd December, 2019 by the authorized representative of the consultant firms upon submission of a written application in the name of Department of Hydropower Implementation.
4. A consulting firm will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method and procedures as described in the RFP.
5. The proposals shall be submitted in six sets (one original and five duplicates) in two separate and sealed envelopes clearly marked “Technical Proposal” and “Financial Proposal” on or before the 15th January, 2020 not later than 10:00 Hours to Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee, Department of Hydropower Implementation.
6. Only technical proposal will be opened on the same day at 10:30 Hours at meeting room, Department of Hydropower Implementation, in the presence of authorized representatives of the firms who choose to be present. Absence of the representative of the firms shall not hinder the opening of the proposal.
7. A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 Hours on 10th December, 2019 at Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy.
8. Invitation letter and Request for Proposal documents with detailed information shall be available at the following address during the office hours.

Procurement Branch, Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office No. (27) Nay Pyi Taw, Phone : 067-8104189, 067-8104190, Email-dirpro.dhpi@ moe.gov.mm.

Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee
Department of Hydropower Implementation
Ministry of Electricity and Energy

Request for Proposal for Consultancy Services RFP No. 48/Consultancy TH/ 2019-2020

1. Department of Hydropower Implementation is in the process of preparing the consultancy services of the Tha-htay Hydropower Project (111 MW) which is located on Tha-htay Chaung River, about 19 km north-east of Thandwe Township, Rakhine State, Myanmar.
2. The Employer requests for proposals to the qualified, well experienced in hydropower projects and eligible international consulting firms on the basis of open tender announcements in order to carry out the consultancy services of the said project in **Myanmar Kyat**.
3. The RFP document can be obtained from Department of Hydropower Implementation during office hours at 2nd December, 2019 by the authorized representative of the consultant firms upon submission of a written application in the name of Department of Hydropower Implementation.
4. A consulting firm will be selected under Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method and procedures as described in the RFP.
5. The proposals shall be submitted in six sets (one original and five duplicates) in two separate and sealed envelopes clearly marked “Technical Proposal” and “Financial Proposal” on or before the 16th January, 2020 not later than 13:00 Hours to Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee, Department of Hydropower Implementation.
6. Only technical proposal will be opened on the same day at 13:30 Hours at meeting room, Department of Hydropower Implementation, in the presence of authorized representatives of the firms who choose to be present. Absence of the representative of the firms shall not hinder the opening of the proposal.
7. A pre-proposal conference will be held at 14:00 Hours on 11th December, 2019 at Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy.
8. Invitation letter and Request for Proposal documents with detailed information shall be available at the following address during the office hours.

Procurement Branch, Department of Hydropower Implementation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office No. (27) Nay Pyi Taw, Phone: 067-8104189, 067-8104190, Email-dirpro.dhpi@ moe.gov.mm.

Tender Receiving and Scrutinizing Committee
Department of Hydropower Implementation
Ministry of Electricity and Energy

A Visit to **Saddan Cave & Saddan Lake** in **Myanmar**

By Maung Thar (Archaeology)

IN Kayin and Mon States where there are plenty of natural limestone-mountains, caves such as 'Bayintnyi Cave', 'Yathaypyan Cave', 'Kawtgone Cave', 'Waepyan Cave' and 'Saddan Cave' are the famous tourist attractions for those from home and abroad. In those caves wonders of nature, Buddhist cultural heritages and antiques can be viewed. Most of the caves are the cul-de-sac ones with no exits at the ends. Some are the ones with both entrances and exits.

To the Saddan Cave

Out of the natural caves in Kayin State, the Saddan Cave has both entrance and exit. Its entrance is the widest and its length in the cave is the longest, among all the caves there. In Eastern Poe Karen Language, the Saddan Cave is called 'Htant Kamart Khamite'. 'Htant' is meant for a cave, 'Kamart' for a lake and 'Khamite' for 'Kant Eit' tree. That's why it means a lake near to the lake where 'Kant Eit' trees are growing. The Saddan Cave is situated at the southern end of Zwegabin Mountain Ranges, to be exact, in the village of 'Kawt-War-Hsu' of 'Kawt-Mu-Tar'

village tract, 20 miles far from south of Hpa-an town. As the surrounding area of the mountain is at the lower level, water usually inundates around the foot of the mountain in rainy seasons.

A study tour group comprising of post-graduate diploma trainees of Yangon University visited the Saddan Cave via 'Ein-du' village on the motorway, east of 'Zwegabin' mountain. The study group proceeded to 'Kawt-War-Hsu' village, 5 miles far from Ein-du along the red earth road. After passing the villages—'Kawt-Seinban', 'Ahtet', 'Lar-La-Mein' and 'Kawt-Thein-Khee' the study tour group reach the foot of the Saddan Cave, at the end of the wide lake.

The Saddan Cave is accessible through several routes, via 'Ein-du' village, 13 miles far from Hpa-an, or Hpa-an—Don-Yin motor way in the west of Zwegabin mountain or 'Shwe-Pyi-Taw-Kin' branch road after passing Jai (Zar-Tha-Pyin) Bridge for those who come from Mawlamyaing. In rainy seasons, we can go by road in the west of Zwegabin Ranges, and we can reach the Saddan Cave by boat, on arrival at the

village of 'Kawt-Tha-Loe' 10 miles far from 'Hpa-an'.

Now, being the rainy season, the open space where motor vehicles coming to the Saddan Cave used to park in summer is now being inundated with water. The lake covering 20 acres, which is situated at the southern part of the mountain is nearly always flooded with water. The lake is joined to 'Hsin-Hai-Taung' called 'Htant-Bai-Nart' and 'Inn-Gyi—the Lake' in the south. Local people used to say that the said Lake had been the one in which the Buddha-to-be King Saddan Elephant took pleasure by playing in this lake. So, the Saddan Lake had been named after the King Saddan Elephant.

At the threshold of the stairways at the entrance of the Saddan Cave, two white elephant statues with 12 feet each in height can be found. Those white-elephant statues were inaugurated on the full-moon day of Tabaung, 1339 ME. Two signboards which read in Myanmar/English Bilinguals 'These caves are parts of our national heritages, hence the need to preserve them,' had been erected nearby. In addition, on the signboards eco-

system of limestone, benefits which result from the limestone mountain and causes which can ruin limestone-mountains were described with color photos.

We have to climb up along the 3-tired stairways floored with enameled plates to the entrance of the Saddan Cave, which is 50 feet high above the ground. The entrance of the Cave is about 100 feet in width and it is 70-100 feet in height. The Cave faces east, so it gets light and sunshine which makes the Cave dry and clean. In rainy



Saddan Lake. **PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)**

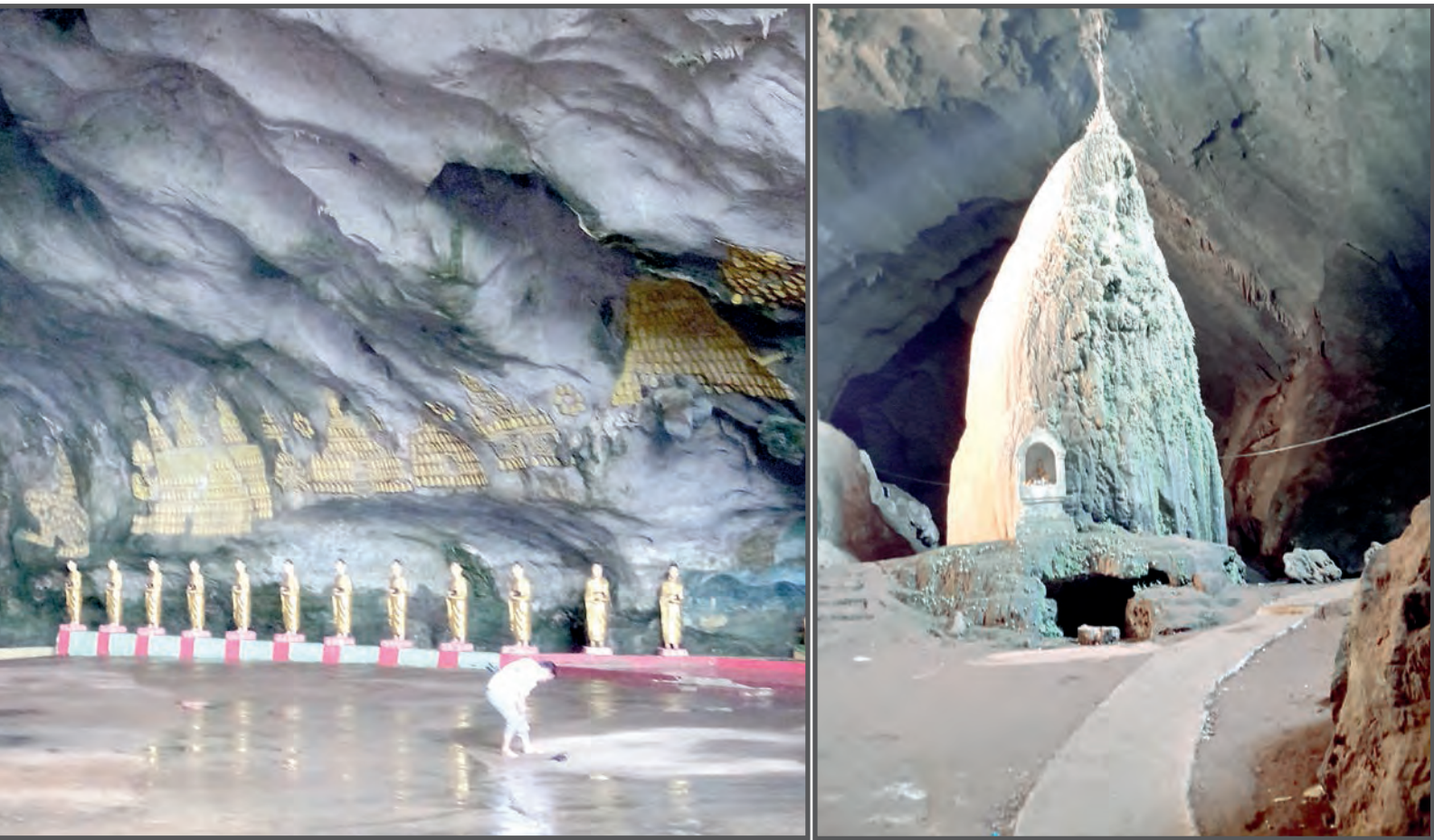
seasons, as there is leakage of some water in the Cave, it is humid in it, or otherwise in summer seasons.

Buddha Images on Clay Tablets of the Saddan Cave

At the side of the mountain and at the entrance of 'Kawtgone' and 'Yathaypyan' Caves, Buddha Images are mostly found. Likewise, in the Saddan Cave as well miniature Buddha Images on clay tablets can be found to have been donated on the interior wall of the Cave at the upper right corner of the cave entrance of width. Some Buddha Images on clay tablets of the Saddan Cave had come off to destruction. Now, two big empty spots can be seen 20 feet high from the ground, at the north of the Cave, in which clay images seem to have been

pasted on the wall. The upper spot is estimated at about 6 feet in length, and the lower one at nearly 8 feet. At a conservative estimate, there will be some 1000 of Buddha Images of 2 and half inches each in height, in those spots.

After inspecting the broad entrance of the cave around, we can enter the cave so that we can go out from the exit of the cave. At the end of 19th brick stairway at the south-west corner of the Cave, we started to get into the cave. In rainy seasons, the whole inner part of the Cave is wet with water, and the ground surface is smooth. Previously, the path in the cave was completely dark. Yet, roads had been paved newly and lights had been installed. From the entrance of the Saddan Cave to its exit, it is 4 furlong long.



Saddan Cave. PHOTOS: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)



Acid which contains in rain water erodes the limestone mountain. Over a long period of time, stalagmites and caves had been caused along the cracks. Underground current water as well caused underground springs. Limestone-mountains situated near to sea coasts caused caves due to lapping of sea waves and touching with saline water constantly. Similarly, erosion of underground water usually causes caves. Most of the natural caves are tunnels that go into sides of mountains. Depending upon situations of locations human beings in the Stone Age used to have lived in convenient Caves while animals and beasts lived in some caves.

Caves and their surrounding areas

In the natural limestone

caves in Kayin State, millions of bats live. Bats are biological species that controls the ecosystem of the surrounding areas of the caves. In the Saddan Cave, there are seven kinds of bat species and thirteen kinds of invertebrate animals living. Bats feed on crop-destroying insects in agricultural farms of the surrounding areas. Simultaneously, they help crops to pollinate and spread seeds. Feces of bats are excellent natural fertilizers and it is also the feed for some living things residing in the cave and the lake.

While going through the cave, we saw bats resting in groups whenever we looked at towards the roof of the cave with the help of the torchlight as we heard bats making high-pitched squeaks. Due to the flash light of the torchlight,

bats suddenly flew, but in a very short period of time they went back to their original places. We saw some colored images of palms on the wall somewhere in the cave. Those are not the murals drawn by people in the Stone Age which were found in the ‘Pyadarlin Cave’. In fact, they are graffiti scrawled by those who came into the cave, by coating their palms with yellow soil on the floor of the cave and pressing it onto the wall.

No evidence was found that the Saddan Cave had not been a place Stone Age people resided, though water was available easily there. ‘Pyadarlin Cave’ situated in ‘Ywa-Ngan’ township, southern Shan State could be found out to be a place where Stone Age people lived, according to the result by using half-life period method

over some pieces of char coal, ashes and left-over found in the cave. It will have yet to make research as to whether Stone Age people lived in the Saddan Cave or not.

We saw light, which comes through the roof of the cave, shining along the route while passing into the cave. In some places fluorescent tubes were found to have been installed. At the time when we arrived, we had an experience of groping in the dark for nearly one hour as there was no electric light. At the end of the Cave we saw the light coming through the roof of the cave suddenly, we could not see even the stairways.

At the exit of the Saddan Cave, we saw water drops leaking continuously from the roof. Though we cannot know how many years it has been dropping like this, we saw many pot-holes on the floor of the cave. When we walked down along the stairways from the exit of the cave, 3 boats were found to have been moored at the shoreline of the lake of great width. We can see around the Cave by boat, and we can hire the boat for the return trip.

While going across the Lake, we essentially had to pass ‘Htun-Htunt-Phan’ tunnel, in which King Saddan Elephant used to play for fun. ‘Htun-Htunt-Phan’ is situated at 300 feet far from south of the Saddan Cave, and 200 feet high above the ground. The tunnel goes straight through from entrance to exit. Being in the rainy season, water nearly

touched with the roof of the cave. If passengers are sitting in the boat, the heads will hit against the roof. So, we had to lie down close to the hull of the boat. As the water surface is only 2 and half feet far away from the cave’s roof, the ferry driver lying with face upward in the boat had to push the roof of the cave with hands, up to the other end. It has been learnt that the lower tunnel is 30 feet deep and 150 feet long. While crossing the tunnel, bats were seen clinging to the cave’s roof.

Htun-Htunt-Phan

Htun-Htunt-Phan is situated at the north of the Lake. At 450 feet far from south of the Lake is Hsin-Hai-Taung, which is called ‘Htant-Bai-Nart’ in Kayin language. It is 200 feet high. At the height of 30 feet between the two mountains, there is an entrance of the cave measuring 30 feet in width.

While crossing the wide lake after passing ‘Htun-Htunt-Phan’ Cave the boat was rowed slowly. As the water is too shallow at some places, boatmen moved their boats by pushing the lake bottom with the bamboo pole. As the lake water was so clear that duckweeds growing at the bottom of the lake were seen, as were lotus and hyacinth on the surface of the lake. Aquatic creatures are living in the lake. In 2014, it was designated as the sanctuary, and catching fishes and other creatures living in water were strictly prohibited. It is pleasant and peaceful to travel in a boat in the lake with the green Saddan Cave in the background.

As the region of the Saddan Cave with rarity of damages to the natural environment can control the ecosystem very well, it became a famous tourist attraction for travellers from home and abroad. Limestone-mountains adjust the connection of the currents of the watersheds. And, the underground currents are also filling water resources. By maintaining the favorable ecosystem of the Saddan Cave, the natural caves will last for many years, with the progress of the tourism industry. (Translated by Khin Maung Oo)

Reference:
The Holy Saddan Cave (Mahn Thint Naung, Kawkareik)
Notes on travelogue



First Nay Pyi Taw Bike Week concludes with rock concert

NAY PYI TAW hosted a rock and bike festival from 29 November to 1 December, which attracted about 3,000 motorcyclists and prominent rockers.

The first Nay Pyi Taw Bike Week 2019 ended at the Water Fountain Garden with a concert by the Great Empire Music Band and rockers.

In the evening yesterday, the last day of the festival, prominent vocalists Zaw Win Htut, R Zar Ni, Wai La, and Thar Di Lu gave performances at the Water Fountain Garden.

Among the visitors at the festival were Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman Dr. Myo Aung and wife, Hluttaw representatives, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee and their wives.

"This event is a gathering of motorcycle lovers from motorcycle clubs across the country. About 3,000 motorcyclists from over 100 motorcycle clubs participated in the festival. The



Bikers participate in the Nay Pyi Taw Bike Week 2019 event. **PHOTO: SOE WIN TUN**

profits of the festival will be donated to philanthropic schools," said Ko Paing Gyi, from Joker Biker MC based in Nay Pyi Taw.

"It would be great if the authorities invite motorcycle clubs from foreign countries to future festivals because the country can earn foreign income from the festival," he added.

The First Nay Pyi Taw Bike Week 2019 commenced on 30 November at the entrance of

the Water Fountain Garden. It was formally opened by Dr Myo Aung and members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council and the Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee. The motorcyclists rode from Zabuthiri and Ottarathiri townships and ended at the Water Fountain Garden. Motorcycle parts and souvenirs were also sold to the public during the festival. —Han Lynn Naing (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

SEA Games: Myanmar wins 2 silver, 6 bronze medals in Arnis sport

MYANMAR men and women athletes won two silver and six bronze medals in Arnis, the national sport and martial art of the Philippines, yesterday at the stadium of Angeles University Foundation, Clark City, the Philippines.

In the 55-kg men's event, Myanmar's Soe Paing won the silver medal. The Philippines won the gold medal and Viet Nam and Cambodia took the bronze medals in the event.

Meanwhile, Win Thet Paing of Myanmar took the bronze medal in the (+55-65kg) featherweight class, and Thet Naing Win secured

a bronze medal in the 60-65 kg class. Ban Hlian Kawl of Myanmar grabbed the bronze medal in +65-kg weight class.

In the women's event, Thandar Khaing (Myanmar) took the bronze medal in the 50-kg weight class and Hla Nwe Aye (Myanmar) also grabbed bronze in the 50-55 kg weight class, while Moe Moe Aye (Myanmar) won the bronze in the 50-60 kg weight class.

And, in the +60-kg weight class, Thet Wai Oo (Myanmar) took the silver medal for Myanmar after losing to her Viet Nam opponent in the final. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Myanmar's Soe Paing (left) seen after securing the silver medal in the 55-kg men's Arnis competition yesterday at the 30th SEA Games at the stadium of Angeles University, the Philippines. **PHOTO: ISPE**

30th SEA Games men's football: Myanmar, Cambodia to fight for place in semifinals today



The Myanmar U-22 men's football team sing the national anthem ahead of their match against Timor Leste on 29 November at the Rizal Memorial Stadium in Manila, the Philippines. **PHOTO: MFF**

THE U-22 men's national football teams of Myanmar and Cambodia will play a decisive Group A match in the men's football competition of the South East Asian Games today at the Binan Football Stadium in Binan, the Philippines.

The match will start at 6:30 pm (Myanmar Standard Time), according to the Myanmar Football Federation. So far, Myanmar has played three of the four matches in Group A, winning

two matches and conceding one draw.

Myanmar played to a 1-1 draw against Malaysia on 25 November, having defeated the Philippines team by 2-1. The team also prevailed over Timor Leste by 3-1. Meanwhile, Cambodia is currently placed second in the standing table, with four points from two matches played (one win and one draw).

Cambodia has been stronger this year than in the previous

edition of the SEA Games. The team played to a 1-1 draw against host Philippines in a tough first match on 25 November.

Next, the team trounced Timor Leste 5-0 in their second match on 27 November. Team Myanmar is now at the top of the standing table with 7 points, followed by Cambodia and the Philippines, who have each garnered 4 points, Malaysia has secured one point, and Timor Leste has netted no points. If the match between Myanmar and Cambodia ends in a draw, Myanmar will still have enough points to proceed to the semifinal stage, according to football experts.

Cambodia also has potential for entering the semifinals, they said. Currently, in Group A, Myanmar, Cambodia, and the Philippines are popular contenders for a spot in the semifinals of the SEA Games, and today's match promises to be a thrilling one for fans. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

SEA Games men's football: MRTV to air Myanmar vs Cambodia match

THE Group A match between the U-22 men's national football teams of Myanmar and Cambodia at the 30th SEA Games, scheduled today, will be broadcast live on MRTV

and MRTV Sports channel from 6:00 pm. The match will be also be aired live on Myanma Radio. —MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

30th SEA Games women's football: Myanmar to play Malaysia today

THE Myanmar women's national football team will play their last Group A match against the Malaysian team in the women's football event of the 30th South East Asian Games today at the Binan Football Stadium in Binan, the Philippines.

Led by head coach U Win Thu Moe, team Myanmar underwent special training on 1 December at the stadium in Binan.

The match between Myanmar and Malaysia will start at 2:30 pm. Myanmar Standard Time today. The match will be a decisive one

for Myanmar's chances of securing a place in the semifinals. There are only three teams in Group A: Myanmar, host Philippines, and Malaysia. As Myanmar played to a 0-0 draw against host Philippines in the opening match of Group A on 26 November, Myanmar needs a win today. Meanwhile, the Philippines trounced Malaysia by 5-0.

Team Myanmar need a win and more goals than the Philippines to land the first place in Group A and advance to the semifinals. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)