State Counsellor attends launch of Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge in Ayeyawady delta

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi formally opens the Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge, which connects Myaungmya and Labutta townships in Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

PHOTO: MNA

S TATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, attended the opening ceremony of the Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge, which connects Myaungmya and Labutta townships in Ayeyawady Region, and met with the locals, yesterday morning.

The State Counsellor and her entourage, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, Dr Aung Thu, U Ohn Win, Dr Myint Htwe, and Dr Win Myat Aye, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo and officials, left Yangon by special flight to Pathein, the capital of Ayeyawady Region.

They were welcomed by Labutta Township by helicopters.

At the opening ceremony of the Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge, the State Counsellor said, “We have often highlighted the fact that the most important factors for the development of our country are the supply of drinking water, road transportation and electricity supply service because these factors will, I believe, certainly help consolidate the development of our country. As we all know, drinking water is essential for our survival while it is only through efficient transportation that traveling from one place to another or trading will surely take place faster. Besides, it is important to get stable, regular power supply, which is necessary for our living standard and our production. It is only through the sufficient supply of all these services, that our people can make progress. I really wish we could build good road transportation everywhere in the whole Union, provide sufficient electricity supply and sufficient supply of drinking water. Naturally, we have tried all means to materialize all these public services.

We are glad to have an opportunity to attend this opening ceremony of a new bridge, so our visit is something to do with road transportation. In fact, road transportation doesn’t merely carry the literal meaning that you go from one place to another easily. It means more than that. Its implications are very serious. See PAGE-3

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Equality of opportunity for all

To be a genuine democracy, it is not enough to be a "government of the people, by the people, for the people". The government must uplift the economic standard of our people to the point where there is equality of opportunity for all. Then only can we go forward towards genuine democracy.

(Extract from the speech given by General Aung San at the Jubilee Hall First Preparatory Conference held on 19 May 1947)

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Japanese delegation

PYITHU HLUTTAW Speaker U T Khun Myat received Mr Yamaguchi Natsuo, the Japan's Upper House MP and the Chief Representative of Komeito party which is a partner of current Japanese coalition government, at the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed promotion of friendship relation, close cooperation in democratic reform processes of Myanmar, internal peace and reconciliation processes, human resources development, economic reforms and legislation process of the Hluttaw.

The meeting was also attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, officials from Pyithu Hluttaw office and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ichiro Maruyama.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister U Thaung Tun receives Mr Yamaguchi Natsuo, Upper House MP and Chief Representative of Komeito party, Japan

UNION MINISTER for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun received Mr Yamaguchi Natsuo, the Upper House MP and the Chief Representative of Komeito party of Japan, at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, the Union Minister and the Japanese Upper House MP discussed matters relating to further promoting the trade and investment relations between the two countries. They expressed satisfaction on the significant progress achieved in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ), a joint development undertaking between Myanmar and Japan. They also discussed matters relating to promotion of bilateral relations, future socio-economic development programs and assistance for peace, national reconciliation and democratic transition.

Mr Yamaguchi Natsuo was accompanied by the Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Ichiro Maruyama.—MNA

XTREME Media films documentary video of Chin ethnic people

SINGAPORE-BASED XTREME Media shot a documentary video of local farmers in cultivation fields and their daily activities in Shein Village of Mindat Township in Chin State yesterday.

On 23 December, the media crew also recorded gatherings of local families, their lifestyles, customary practices, scenic views, hunting, its performance, dances and traditional instruments at Kyadoe, another village of the same township.

The documentary video will be aired on MediaCorp TV Channel of Singapore.—Tin San (FDC) (Translated by Aung Khin)

XTREME Media team shooting a documentary video of ethnic people’s daily activities in Mindat, Chin State. PHOTO: MNA
State Counsellor attends launch of Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge …

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the opening speech at the Launching Ceremony of the Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge in Ayeyawaddy Region.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the opening speech at the Launching Ceremony of the Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge in Ayeyawaddy Region.

PHOTO: MNA

FROM PAGE-1

For example, if we have no good road transportation, this can affect the sectors of health and education because, you see, if the roads are so bad, the children will not be able to attend their school regularly. Besides, there occurred cases in which, because the road transportation was bad, the local people failed to make it to come to hospital to take medical treatment in a timely manner. So road transportation, as some of the people might think, is not just meant for the purpose of trading, not just for convenient travelling, but it is of crucial importance also for the sectors of health and education, which are the basic needs of the public.

Actually, I have prepared a draft for my opening speech to talk about a long list of what our government has accomplished these years. But I won’t touch upon that because, as you all know, what we have done, and what we have accomplished will be meaningful only if the public realizes this. No matter what we do, if what we have done doesn’t promote the lives of our people, it’s nothing at all. Whatever we do, if what we have done doesn’t promote the lives of our people, it’s nothing at all. Whatever we do, if what we have done doesn’t promote the lives of our people, it’s nothing at all.

Now those people have been suffering, and their suffering is also ours because we all are the offspring of this country, aren’t we? So it’s very important we should treat each other like our brothers and sisters.

In the long run, I have repeatedly said that what is the most important thing for us is Peace. Only if there is peace can our country make progress. Only if we make progress, only if our country is well developed, we’ll be able to keep peace intact. If you recall the past, there were times when the Ayeyawady Region had lacked peaceful times. Later, our young people who have grown up through the peaceful times might wonder what had happened to their regions. In those hard times, when the civil war was ravaging the Ayeyawady Region, our elderly people knew well about those dark days. I’d request our elderly people to share, to some extent, what you had suffered and how you had gone through. Only if we know where we had come from, our history, then we can decide on how we should build our future.

We learn history because we want to know what happened in the past, and what to avoid so that we don’t repeat the same mistakes again the future. As far as I know, our children do not love learning history at school. If it is true, I’d point out that there’s something wrong with our teaching methodology in teaching this subject. History is not just learning what happened in what year, and who ruled the country in so and so years, but we are taught History to seriously take into consideration and reflect over how a country was born, what issues arose in the country throughout its history and why. If we don’t know the history of our country, it’d be very hard to decide over how the future of our country should be constructed.

Here, in this Ayeyawady Region, only if our young people are informed of how this Division had suffered in the absence of peace, how your grandparents had felt so insecure, running for life, then our young people could begin to think how they should mend their ways so that the tide of our peaceful times might not ebb. Though the Ayeyawady Region is now enjoying peace, yet there remain places in many parts of our country, where peace urgently needs to be restored - this we all know. And I’d request you not to ignore this situation going on in other areas, but pay attention if as the conflicts were still happening to make the best of what we can do. In passing, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you, who gave full support and stood with us during the time when we were defending at the International Court of Justice because the support of our people serves as a strong impetus for us. With your support, we can face and overcome any challenge, any hardships for sure because we all stand united. We should always bear in mind that the strength of unity is an extraordinary thing, nothing can compare with.

When I say bear in mind, I mean we should really bear in mind that the bridge came to my mind, I began to think that a bridge helps us to cross easily from one side to the other. Many of us think a bridge is the structure spanning over a river or a creek. It helps us to travel more efficiently in the form of public service instead of crossing the current. In the same way bridges that link our minds for communications among ourselves and for better communications, so that we can march onwards towards our goal together need to be built at the same time. Just like the physical bridge. This is very important.

It goes without saying that whenever a new bridge has been successfully built, or when an old bridge has been mended, all our local people feel so much elated. Now they could come and go happily and their life goes smooth. Similarly, if we could build among ourselves the Bridge of Our Hearts, we would be able to come and go easily within our country and march towards our future goal more easily.

It is usually the government that takes the responsibility of constructing a bridge, but there are some bridges all over the country, which were built according to a joint venture project in which the government and the private sector collaborate in the sector of road transportation, some projects done only by the private sector, others by the state government. We should always bear in mind that the strength of unity is an extraordinary thing, nothing can compare with.

Now those people have been suffering, and their suffering is also ours because we all are the offspring of this country, aren’t we? So it’s very important we should treat each other like our brothers and sisters.

Therefore, when the subject of the bridge came to my mind, I began to think that a bridge helps us to cross easily from one side to the other. Many of us think a bridge is the structure spanning over a river or a creek. It helps us to travel more efficiently in the form of public service instead of crossing the current. In the same way bridges that link our minds for communications among ourselves and for better communications, so that we can march onwards towards our goal together need to be built at the same time. Just like the physical bridge. This is very important.

It goes without saying that whenever a new bridge has been successfully built, or when an old bridge has been mended, all our local people feel so much elated. Now they could come and go happily and their life goes smooth. Similarly, if we could build among ourselves the Bridge of Our Hearts, we would be able to come and go easily within our country and march towards our future goal more easily.

It is usually the government that takes the responsibility of constructing a bridge, but there are some bridges all over the country, which were built according to a joint venture project in which the government and the private sector collaborate in the sector of road transportation, some projects done only by the private sector, others by the state government. Please keep in mind that the government has undertaken the least profit making projects because the government is a kind of non-profit organization.

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State Counsellor attends launch of Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge …

On the other hand, the private enterprises have to make profit to some degrees, and we won’t blame them for that because the development of the private sector also means the development of the economy of our State.

There is one thing I’d like you to believe in. That is, everyone can do his or her bit for the good of our country. Every citizen can do good for our country. Please be confident in yourself. Please find out your strengths and value them so that you won’t abuse your strengths. As you all know, you need to adopt the right attitude: Our country should be valued more than our house, our home. We value our home, but we should value our country’s affairs. This is what we should keep in mind. Shall we say that, here, in this division, we can combine the strengths of physical infrastructures with our spiritual strengths and make developments?

On our arrival here, we were greeted with various national races. I was so glad to receive greetings of ladies wearing the traditional Cheik costumes. I’ve been saying thanks for the bridge which will be beneficial for the social, economic, educational, health, transport and regional development of the local people. May you all have good health and wellbeing.

I’d like to draw your attention to the fact that ours is a country of promises. I have been to so many countries in the world. I’ve met so many people all over the world. But I know that my citizens best. You’ve been so close to me. And I do wish you the best, I want you to outshine more than ever, achieve more than ever, outdo others spiritually, and intellectually. This is, of course, the nature of mankind. With this attitude towards my citizens, sometimes I somewhat felt frustrated. Is it all that you can do? Can you be more disciplined citizens?

I often come across the litter thrown on the roads and streets. I’d request you, no littering, please. Value your country’s kind hearted, warm and friendly, and stand united in trying times. I could see the good points and the strength. This makes me believe that our country has a very good prospect. Just by having a good prospect does not end there. To turn that good prospect into reality we need to have zeal, determination and perseverance. For this purpose, we should all strive harder. Whatever we do, whenever we build a bridge or a road or take measures for the power supply, we should adopt the attitude, and value that we are doing for the sake of the progress of our country. For the sake of a safe and secure life of our people, and for the sake of the greater unity of our people. I want you all to think big. I want you all to be broad minded and broaden your intellect for a broader outlook.

In our country, while we upgrade the lives of the individuals by utilizing the developing infrastructure beneficially, we must strive for boosting up the agro-based industries, as outlined in my speech. I said these words because the Ayeyawady Region has been a superpower in agriculture since olden times. In those days, we figuratively called this division the Granary of the World. From the bird’s eye view aboard the plane, I could see so many rivulets down there. So this division is extremely rich in water resources, but we must utilize the rich resources correctly and effectively so that the value of these resources would not get spoilt. This is what we should keep in mind. Shall we say that, here, in this division, we can combine the strengths of physical infrastructures with our spiritual strengths and make developments?

After the State Counsellor’s speech, a representative of the local people expressed thanks for the bridge which will be beneficial for the social, economic, educational, health, transport and regional development of the local people. Then, Town’s Elder U Soe Myint and Dr Maung Maung Aung and outstanding students from Labutta BEHS (1) and Myaungnya BEHS (1) cut the ceremonial ribbon and opened the bridge.

After the documentary photo had been taken, the State Counsellor unveiled a plaque to mark the official opening of Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge and sprayed scented water over it. While walking across the bridge, the State counsellor greeted the locals.

Public Works Department under the Ministry of Construction constructed a suspension bridge of Pinlal Lay in 1996 and finished it in 1998. Its load capacity 30 ton declined after 2008 Nargis cyclone, and only 20 tons of load were allowed for going over the bridge.

After the damage of Myaungnya suspension in April 2018, the strength of Labutta (Pinlal Lay) Bridge was tested with the help of Chinese engineers. Based on the results, its capacity was categorized as level 4 and the maximum load of 14 tons was permitted for passing over it. In the 2018-2019 financial year, the old bridge was removed, and the Japanese technology steel box girder was used in constructing a new bridge with 1,340 ft length, 30.5 ft width, 291 ft high from water level and 192 ft wide vessel passage, costing K7,100 million, for load capacity of 60 tons.

The Ministry of Construction is building 2,380ft No.2 Pathein Bridge, 551ft Makyzin Bridge, 1,900ft Shwe Laung Bridge, 3,020ft Wakema Bridge, 2,362ft Nyan Pyathard Bridge, 2,461ft Sawke Bridge and 788ft Kyungkone Bridge, which are scheduled to be completed in 2020.

Moreover, 870ft Daedalu Bridge, 160ft Hitapale Bridge, 60ft Yoechaung Bridge, 100ft Kanyinchaung Bridge, 240ft Mayanchaung Bridge, 120ft Sittaykwin Bridge and 866ft Chaungwpa Bridge are under construction.

The State Counsellor also held a public meeting with the locals at a religious communal building of Labutta Township.
Information received of Sr Nature of report Details on seizure and legal action taken

1 Information received of Phoe Aye (a) Aung Zea, 31, of U Kyaw Khine, who lives in Shwebo Ward, Pyinmana Township, and arrested him together with '88/1' stimulant tablets and heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Pyinmana)MaYa(pa)19/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

2 Information received of Tin San and his wife who live in Naungtau law Village, Wainmaw Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 21 December 2019, police searched the house of Tin San, 55, son of U Thar Tun, who lives in Naungtau Village, Wainmaw Township. Police found only his wife Daw Hway Nam, 32, daughter of U Saung Bawm, and mother-in-law Daw Ma Roum, 78, daughter of U Swain Lwan La Ray, and arrested them together with opium. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Wainmaw)MaYa(pa)228/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3 Information received of Kyaw Soe who lives in Kyaukse Township, KhinU Township, Sagenig Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 18 December 2019, police searched a motorcycle driven by Kyaw Soe, 44, son of U Tin Oo, who lives in Kyaukse Ward, KhinU Township, on the street of the village and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (KhinU)MaYa(pa)9/2019 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

4 Information received of Kan Win who lives in Nyaungthabyu Village, Mawlek Township, Sagenig Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 19 December 2019, police searched the house of Kan Win, 49, son of U Cho Pyone, who lives in Nyaungthabyu Village, Mawlek Township. Police found him and San Linn, 26, son of U Nyo Oo, Myo Hlaing Win, 24, son of U Maung Zaw, Hla Aung, 54, son of U Ba San and Win Ko, 43, son of U Ni Pon, who live in the Nyaungthabyu Village, and seized heroin and opium from them. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Mawlek)MaYa(pa)10/2019 under Section 16(c), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

5 Information received of Sahu Myai Soe who lives in south Kayatpyin Ward, Dawei Township, Taninthyai Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 16 December 2019, police arrested Sahu Myai Soe (a) Pau Zun, 27, of U Myat Myint Soe, who lives in Anawyahta Ward, Kawkhkon Township, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Kawkhon)MaYa(pa)140/2019 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

6 Information received of Soe Hlauk Oo who lives in No 1 Ward, Pakauk Township, Taninthyai Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 17 December 2019, police arrested Soe Hlauk Oo, 22, son of U Kyi Sein, who lives in No 1 Ward, Pakauk Township, at the back of the Pakauk creek, in the same ward, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Pakauk)MaYa(pa)18/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

7 Information received of Sihhu Myai Soe who lives in south Kayatpyin Ward, Dawei Township, Taninthyai Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 18 December 2019, police searched the house of Sihhu Myai Soe (a) Poe Zau, 27, of U Myat Myint Soe, who lives in south Kayatpyin Ward, Dawei Township, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Dawei)MaYa(pa)68/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

8 Information received of Nay Lin Oo who lives in Lapatian Village, Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs. Police have opened three cases and arrested two men together with heroin and stimulant tablets in the previous weeks. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Nay Lin Oo (a) Nay Lin Tun, 26, son of U Khin Maung Myint, who lives in Lapatian Village, Kyaukse Township, on 18 December 2019. Police found him together with Bilar (a) Kyaw Khine, 18, son of U Mohammadi Ali, who lives in No 10 Street, and seized with him 18 '88/1' stimulant tablets from him. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Kyaukse)MaYa(pa)49/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

9 Information received of Aung Myint Oo who lives in No 1 Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region, using, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 18 December 2019, police arrested Pyae Phyo Thu Lwin, 29, son of U Ngwe Thein, who lives in No 1 Ward, North Okkalapa Township, at the corner of Thamheiklar road and No 18 Thamheiklar street, in the same ward, together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. Acting on a tip-off, police searched Aung Myint Oo, 40, son of U Han Sein, who lives in the same ward. But police did not find any related drugs from him.

10 Information received of Soe Htay Oo who lives in Makya than Ward, Kyimyindaung Township, eastern Shwe pharmacies, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Kyimyindaung)MaYa(pa)204/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

11 Information received of Sai Pe who lives in Waw hot Village, Kyang Tung Township, eastern Shwe pharmacies, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs. On 15 December 2019, police arrested Dew Aye Ai, 43, daughter of U Eik Hta, who lives in Panwak Village, Namsang Township, in the Winmyinmor Co's area, in Thekwin Thatala 1 Ward, Namtu Tip, together with heroin. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Namtu)MaYa(pa)15/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

12 Information received of some people using, distributing and selling illegal drugs in Winmyintmor Co's area, in Thekwin Thatala 1 Ward, Namtu Tip, north ern Shan State. On 15 December 2019, police searched the house of Sai Pe who lives in Wawhot Village, Kyang Tung Township, eastern Shwe pharmacies, Yangon Region, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Kengtung)MaYa(pa)278/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

13 Information received of some people using, dis tributing and selling illegal drugs in Pyinmana Township, Namtu Tip, northern Shan State. On 15 December 2019, police searched the house of Sai Pe who lives in Wawhot Village, Kyang Tung Township, eastern Shwe pharmacies, Yangon Region, and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (North Okkalapa)MaYa(pa)88/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

14 Information received of Van Naing Soe who lives in Shwe Phyo Aung (a) Baw Lay, 30, son of U Than Tun Aung, who lives in Maungyeen south west Ward, Kyimyindaung Township, at the corner of U Kywe Hoe street and Kan nar Road, in the same ward, together with heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Kyimyindaung)MaYa(pa)52/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

15 Information received of Sai Soe Myint who lives in Lwam La Rayl, and arrested them together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against them with MaMaSa (Pyinmana)MaYa(pa)69/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
State Counsellor attends launch of Labutta (Pinlay Bridge) in Ayeyawady delta

FROM PAGE-4

In her speech the State Counsellor said, "My visit to Labutta is to open the bridge and to keep my promise that I gave when I attended the opening ceremony of the Myaynigyi Bridge.

I am always pleased to meet with the common people and I value the opinion of my local people. Even though I could greet the people only for a few seconds who are awaiting us for some hours. During the meetings with the people, I tried to understand their concerns. Have, I want to remind you all to have discipline.

I had passed since I joined democracy movement. Since 1988, I have always told the people to have discipline. Our people are enthusiastic and active. They fully devoted in their belief. However, all the people need to be disciplined in their actions. This is very important. That is why I keep reminding all the time.

Most people interpreted democracy as 'rights'. I will remind them that rights always come from responsibilities. Rigour should be maintained if we are not controlled by responsible attitudes. As a result it will pose dangers to the individual and the whole community. That is why I always stress the need to have discipline.

When people raised questions to me, most of them maintained discipline. We replied to the well-constructed questions ahead of the meeting. If we had extra time, we offered more questions by drawing lots among the locals as all the questions were not allowed due to time limit.

Some persons shouted furiously as they did not win the lots for questions. We never punish them even regarded as a breach of rules and principles. It also violates others' rights. Instead, they could send their questions through compliant session at the event.

Before the questions and answers session, I want to inform that the Pinlay Bridge has been built, and it will surely be beneficial to the people. All the public welfare works need their cooperation. People are responsible for maintaining the bridge to a certain extent, although the relevant state department will do its tasks for it. State property is also public property. Foreign investments have entered due to resources of the country. Human resources are more important than natural resources. I do not recommend imported flowers which may lose state revenue. I prefer home-grown flowers. Self-reliance is as important as other's impression. All must value themselves. Quality of any material will last if it is systematically used.

It is advised that we are not the sole owner of ourselves. We are also owned by our country. We will have to consider about the welfare of our nationals in addition to self-interest.

Ayeyawady Region has the highest number of population in the country. The delta area was very well-known for its agricultural sector. However, it gradually decreased amidst the time. Previous glory has proved its intrinsic value. There is no point getting upset about this for the Ayeyawady locals. We must try to develop ourselves. We must exert new efforts. You don't need to worry about the unexpected failures.

We need to understand human evolution from our origin to the present state of development.

Never say 'no' without trying for it. Senior citizens need to realize they still have capacity regardless of their age.

I am very affectionate towards two Regions which are Magway and Ayeyawady regions. The former is the native of my father and the latter is that of my mother. Although Magway region has seen lesser development, I will always provide stromurous efforts of local people in the dry zone. They are my relatives. I also want to see the Ayeyawady Region like this as they are also the relatives of my late mother. However, every corner of our country is our land. We are living on the same land. We have common expectations. Both Shan people and Ayeyawady locals need to go hand in hand in the same direction in considering wellbeing of all.

I always recommend to avoid personal questions. Most of the questions are concerned with agriculture. The Union Ministers, about the hall of cabinet ministers, will give answers responsibly and dutifully.

After the meeting, U Khin Maung Win from a civilian White Ayeyawady Rescue Group, who carried a placard that invited the State Counsellor to Labutta Township during his visit to Myaynigyi Township in April this year, expressed thank for the promise she had kept.

The local people raised issues of development programmes in the region. Union Minister Dr Aung Thu, the Chief Minister and his government ministers explained the long and short term plans for these matters. They also gave advice and suggestions to ensure coordination based on the discussions.

The State Counsellor then appraised the locals gave them her best wishes.

The State Counsellor and party left Labutta Township via Pathein Airport and arrived back in Yangon in the afternoon.

— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

FROM PAGE-5

16 Information received of Khin Maung Tun (a) Phoe hon who lives in Ottantar Ward, Yakassaw Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.

On 18 December 2019, police searched the house of Khin Maung Tun (a) Phoe hon, 46, of son of Khun Maung Ohn, and his wife Daw Tin Moe Hlaing, 38, daughter of U Than Maung Tun (a) Phoelone, 46, son of U Maung Ohn, and arrested them together with opium.

A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Yaksawk)MaYa(pa)72/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

17 Information received of Daw Than Than Oo who lives in Hisseinougyi Village, Pinlauing Town, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.

On 12 December 2019, police searched the house of Daw Than Than Oo, 35, daughter of U Tun Aung, lives in Hisseinougyi Village, Pinlauing Town, and arrested her together with opium.

A case has been opened against her with NaMaSa (Kengtung)MaYa(pa)17/2019 under Section 19(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

18 Information received of Sai Tint and Ma Nan Lan who live in No 7 Ward, Kengtung Township, southern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.

On 20 December 2019, police searched the house of Sai Tint (a) Sai Shount Tint, 29, son of U Kyaw Moe, and Ma Nan Lan, 29, daughter of U Lone Seint, 47, daughter of U Tone Seint, 70, who live in No 7 Ward, Kengtung Township, and arrested them together with ‘WV’ stimulant tablets.

A case has been opened against them with NaMaSa (Kengtung)MaYa(pa)17/2019 under Section 19(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
Over 67,000 companies register on MyCO in over one year

By Myein Myein

OVER 67,000 companies have registered through the online registry system MyCO in over one year since its launch, according to the Director of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August, 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017. More than 20,000 new companies and over 40,000 existing companies have registered and re-registered on MyCO as of 30 November, 2019, which brings the total number of registered companies to over 67,000 in more than one year. “MyCO is receiving more than 1,000 applications from new companies every month. The companies are filing applications for registration online. There are no companies making manual filings anymore,” according to the DICA.

Over 60,000 companies were previously registered in Myanmar and all of them were notified to re-register on MyCO at the time of its launch. At the end of the deadline — 31 January 2019 — 46,377 old companies had re-registered on MyCO, and more than 10,000 companies had failed to do so, prompting proceedings for their removal from their list.

Those companies which wanted to restore their corporate status were asked to pay a fine and provide sufficient reasons for failing to register, according to the DICA.

According to Section 37 of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, the registration and re-registration of companies must be done within two months from their incorporation, and thereafter, once at least every year but not later than one month after the anniversary of their incorporation, and companies must file a return of their particulars with the registrar on the prescribed form.

According to Section 266(A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, financial statements have to be submitted with Form G at the time of submitting the annual report. According to Section 53(A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, overseas corporations need to file with the registrar, within 28 days of the end of their financial year, an annual return (AR) in the prescribed form.

Although companies have to submit their AR within the due date, 5,724 companies have failed to submit their AR as of November, 2019.

Newly registered companies must submit their AR within 2 months from their inception. If they fail to submit, they will be fined K100,000. If companies fail to submit the AR form within 13 months, they may receive form I-9/A notifying their suspension. If they fail to submit their AR form within 28 days of receiving form I-9/A, the system may change the company status to suspended.

Companies with suspended status will have to pay AR fee, K10,000 as late fee, and K100,000 as I-9/D) company restoration fee.

If a company fails to submit the AR form within 6 months of receiving the suspended status, the system will strike off the company’s name, according to the DICA. (Translated by Hay Mar)

Rising demand from China pushes up watermelon prices

THE price of watermelons, one of Myanmar’s main fruit export items, rose in the second week of December because of rising demand from China, according to the Muse Fruit Commodity Association. —Aye Cho (Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar earned US$76.874 million from the export of watermelons to China in the 2016-2017 financial year, 577.46 million in the 2017-2018FY, and 664.45 million in the 2018-2019FY, according to the Myanmar Melon Producers and Exporters Association. —Aye Cho (Translated by Hay Mar)

Local farmers need to grow high-quality watermelons, which are among highly demanded fruits in China, he added.

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TRADEMARK CAUTION

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Six Continents Limited
Reg. No. 4262648/2019 (1.10.2019)

SIX SENSES
Reg. No. 4262650/2019 (1.10.2019)

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"Real estate services, namely, developing, leasing, management, rental, and brokerage of apartments, condominiums, timeshare properties, residential properties, vacation properties, and facilities and amenities relating thereto; real estate time share exchange services" in Class 36;

"Health club services, namely, providing instruction and consultation in the field of physical exercise and exercise classes, providing use of exercise equipment; providing fitness and exercise facilities; personal fitness training services; providing golf, tennis, swimming, fitness, recreational, social function and beach access facilities; providing physical fitness and exercise services, namely, indoor cycling, yoga and pilates instruction and fitness facilities therefor; operating trips and charters for recreational activities, namely, surfing, boating, sailing, snorkeling, and skin diving; Making reservations and bookings for activities provided by third parties; educational services, namely, conducting classes, seminars, conferences, workshops, retreats, camps and field trips in the field of health and wellness, nutrition, exercise, physical conditioning, physical fitness, physical training, beauty, skin care, and stress management; managing beach and recreational operations; life coaching services in the fields of diet, health, and wellness; private residence and private social club services" in Class 41;

"Hotel, resort, lodging, and temporary accommodation services; hotel, resort, lodging, and temporary accommodation information services; hotel, resort, lodging, and temporary accommodation reservation services; private residence and private social club services, namely, catering, restaurant and bar services, serving of food and beverages, child care services, bookings for restaurants and meals, banquet and social function facilities for special occasions; restaurant, bar, cocktail lounge, café, coffee shop, and snack bar services; catering services for the provision of food and drink; restaurant reservation services; provision of conference, meeting, event, convention, and exhibition facilities; rental of chairs, tables, table linen and glassware" in Class 43 and

"Health spa services; facial and body treatment services; holistic health services; meditation therapy services; aromatherapy services; providing energy healing services; providing reiki healing services; counseling and consulting services in the fields of nutrition, health, wellness, beauty, skin care, and stress management; hair and skin care salon services; manicures and pedicures services; cosmetic body care services; cosmetic diet services; cosmetic nutrition consultation services; food nutrition consultation; skin care salons; beauty salons; massage services; providing information in the fields of nutrition, wellness, prevention of disease, beauty, skin care; cosmetic hair removal by means of waxing; reservations and bookings for others for beauty treatments at health spas" in Class 44.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or collateral imitation of the said Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Le Min May, H.G.P
For Six Continents Limited, One Kelvin Asia Ltd., Level 8A, UFC Tower, Corner of Mahabandula Road & Thain Phy Phyu Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

lemin@kyayang.com

Dated 25th December 2019

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR LOCAL BUSINESS / AD
Putting timber initiative back on development track

LEARNING the “work” in the work environment or what “Apprenticeship is” about. It’s a system that evolved up to more than 2,000 years ago. The modern version of “apprenticeship” has evolved in the modern world to combine learning at work with some “book-learning” outside the work environment. But it remains more “work learning” than “book learning” as is the case of the Myanmar Forest Law. But the development of skills is dependent on what the Master taught him, together with the support of “Apprenticeship” which is not alien to Myanmar culture.

The art and craft workers through the Ministry of Labour, illustrated in the traditional “Turnery, Masonry and Lacquer Turnery, Masonry and Lacquer Turnery” that stands today as testimony to the Kings and Noblemen of the Myanmar period of the 18th to 19th centuries, under the name “Myo” (literally the ten flowers) which is still an important industry in Myanmar today. The knowledge and skills were practiced and taught under “Apprenticeship” as practiced in almost all segments of the industries.

The British Colonial Government introduced the 1850 Apprenticeship Act to British India. Burma has a network of industries including oil refining, Oil Drilling and Mining to process the products and ready them for export. They needed skilled workers to operate and maintain machinery and equipment in their industries. They trained the large Grain Mills, Cement Mills, Mineral Processing Companies, Iron Factories, Workshops, Shipyards and so on. The requirement was to develop the technical and practical work skills and expertise.

The British Colonial Government, the Government of the Union and the Governments under the former Mingaladon, the Union of Burma, and the Union of Myanmar, have many times referred to the requirements of the “Industrilization” (they required mainly in “Apprenticeship”, which was the least costly means of training both skilled workers.

The British Colonial Government, the Government of the Union and the Governments under the former Mingaladon, the Union of Burma, and the Union of Myanmar, have many times referred to the requirements of the “Industrilization” (they required mainly “Apprenticeship”, which was the least costly means of training both skilled workers. In the 1980s, many of the companies and enterprises in the country’s arid regions has seen progress.

The Ministry of Labour, in line with the fundable initiatives under the National Development Plan, brings 2.27 millions acres per cent, or 653,000 acres, bringing 2.27 millions acres under the Ministry of Labour as part of greening efforts.

The Ministry of Labour and the Environment, Water and Natural Resources Enforcement Agency (UNDP) and the technical expertise provided by the ILO took over the task under “National Vocational Training Program” from 1972. Legal and institutional modality also was promoting In-plant and Apprenticeship Training to train skilled work force for industry. The present project size under the Ministry of Labour was set up in 1972 to train instructors, trainers and supervisors required for In-plant and Apprenticeship Training.

In-plant training took hold and there were many centres and schools including existing ones mostly under the various Ministries and Departments in the country. They sent their Training Administrators, Supervisors and lecturers to the training courses conducted by the Skills Training Centre of the Ministry of Labour, or five experts sent by ILO to provide expertise for the NVT Project. Under the NVT project a draft Apprenticeship Law and Regulations were drawn up with the help of the Expert Committee, but did not see fruition because of the lukewarm support of the Ministries concerned, even though it was the socialist era and almost all large scale industries were under one Ministry or the other.

The Labour Act stipulates training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability. It also promotes training of workers to enhance their employability.

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Notice for Change of registration distributors

Notice is hereby given that the official registration distributor has been changed for the following pesticides distributed by Evogro Co., Ltd. to Wi Sar Ra International Co., Ltd.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Trade Name</th>
<th>Active Ingredient</th>
<th>Registration Type</th>
<th>Registration Number</th>
<th>Registration distributors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Evo Doctor 75SC</td>
<td>Chlorothalonil 37.5% + Propamocarb Hydrochloride 37.5%</td>
<td>Provisional</td>
<td>P2017-2678</td>
<td>Evogro Co., Ltd. Wi Sar Ra International Co., Ltd.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evogro Co., Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

Evogro Co., Ltd. No.(95-A), Kyak Wine Pagoda Road, 8th mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

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Beware of danger of electricity
* There is anti-venom for snakebite but no medication for electrocution.

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TRADEMARK CAUTION
KABUSHIKI KAISHA HITACHI SEISAKUSHO (db/a Hitachi, Ltd.), a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 6-4, Marunouchi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark,


TRADEMARK CAUTION
KABUSHIKI KAISHA HITACHI SEISAKUSHO (db/a Hitachi, Ltd.), a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 6-4, Marunouchi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark,


In respect of “Computer programs; computer software; computers; computer hardware; computer peripheral devices; smartphones; integrated circuit cards [smart cards]; telecommunication machines and apparatus; navigational instruments; Global Positioning System [GPS] apparatus; power distribution or control machines and apparatus; laboratory apparatus and instruments; measuring apparatus; automated teller machines; electronic publications, downloadable” included in International Class 09 and “Computer services, providing temporary use of non-downloadable software applications accessible via a website; providing temporary use of online non-downloadable operating software for accessing using a cloud computing network; computer services in the nature of Software as a Service (SaaS); platform as a service (PAAS) services; cloud computing services; computer design; computer programming; installation, maintenance and repair of computer software; computer software design, computer programming, installation, maintenance and repair of computer software for use in implementing the Internet of Things (IoT); computer software design, computer programming, installation, maintenance and repair of computer software for use in business analysis, business strategy development, data analysis and big data; design, development and provision of test systems, modelling systems and simulation systems and services; computer services of the nature of Software as a Service (SaaS), namely hosting computer software and software-utilising services for access by or, downloading by, or use by, others in the fields of business analysis, business strategy development, data analysis, big data, test systems, modelling systems, simulation systems and services and in the field of implementing the Internet of Things (IoT); computer services of the nature of Software as a Service (SaaS), namely the online (from websites or via the Internet) provision of software resources for use by others in the fields of business analysis, business strategy development, data analysis, big data, test systems, modelling systems, simulation systems and services and in the field of implementing the Internet of Things (IoT); rental of websevers; rental of computer software; leasing of computer software in the field of business analysis, business strategy development, data analysis, big data, test systems, modelling systems, simulation systems and services and in the field of implementing the Internet of Things (IoT); computer system analysis, computer security threat analysis for protecting data; consultancy, advisory and information services related to the aforesaid services” included in International Class 42.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, H.G.P
For KABUSHIKI KAISHA HITACHI SEISAKUSHO (db/a Hitachi, Ltd.), C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd., Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC), Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 25th December 2019
hh@koyangon.com
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV IAL 001 VOY NO. (053 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IAL 001 VOY. NO. (053 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS INTER ASIA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FEYHA

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FEYHA VOY. NO. (098-2019) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT-1 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS BEX LINE AGENCIES
SINGAPORE PTE, LTD
Phone No: 2301928

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TRADEMARK CAUTION

The above Trademarks are used in respect of "Paper and cardboard; printed matter; bookbinding material; newsletters; photographs; stationery and office requisites, except furniture; adhesives for stationery or household purposes; drawing materials and materials for artists; paintbrushes; instructional and teaching materials; plastic sheets, films and bags for wrapping and packaging; printers’ type and printing blocks" in Class 16; "Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions; business management analysis or business consultancy; marketing research; business management and operation relating to information processing and telecommunications network; management and operation of business relating to management of information processing and telecommunications networks; consultancy and operation of management or transaction of business; official filings, namely filing, in particular documents or magnetic tape [office functions]; referral of engineers relating to computers, computer software design, computer programming, or maintenance of computers and computer software; operation of computers, typewriters, telex machines and other similar office machines for others; information compilation and information construction to computer data bases; computerized file management; office functions for other relating to order, acceptance and order placement of mail-order services information retrieval services in computer files" in Class 35; "Insurance; credit card services; financial affairs; monetary affairs; real estate affairs; providing information on commodity sales; providing financial information and insurance information services" in Class 36; "Building construction; repair; installation services; electronic machinery installation; repair or maintenance of office machines and equipment; repair or maintenance of electronic machines and apparatus; repair or maintenance of electric household appliances; maintenance of computer hardware" in Class 37; "Telecommunication (other than broadcasting); transmission of sounds, images and data; message sending by computer terminals; communications by computer terminals; broadcasting; news agencies; rental of telecommunication equipment including telephones and facsimile apparatus; telecommunications routing and junction services; teleconferencing services; channel resale; consultancy for communication network system" in Class 38; "Education; providing of training; entertainment; sporting and cultural activities; educational and instruction services relating to arts, crafts, sports or general knowledge; licensing examination regarding computer software design, computer programming, and maintenance of computer software; arranging, conducting and organization of seminars; providing electronic publications; reference libraries of literature and documentary records; reproduction of sound-recorded recording media; translation through communication by computer terminals and other translation; publication of electronic books and journals on-line; electronic desktop publishing" in Class 41; and "Scientific and technological services and research and design relating thereto; industrial analysis and industrial research services; design and development of computer hardware and software; providing information relating to designing computers; computer programming services; computer rental services; server hosting; rental of web servers; optimization services for computer software; optimization services for computer networks; installation of computer software; maintenance of computer software; upgrading of computer software; software as a service (SAAS) services; computer system consulting and advisory services; information processing with computers; remote monitoring of computer systems; environmental setting, install, enhanced features, charge, addition and other optimization for computers and providing information for them; designing and planning for communication network system; consultancy for computer programs design, computer programming, or maintenance of computer software; user authentication for electronic trading; computer data encoding; fault diagnosis and virus testing for computer programs; testing or research on semiconductor; testing or research on computers and computer programs; computer programs conversion and computer data conversion [not physical conversion]; computer programs reproduction; creating or maintaining web sites for others; rental of memory area of computers; providing technical information relating to operation of computers, typewriters, telex machines and other similar office machines; Advanced product research in the field of artificial intelligence; quantum computing technology; computer service, namely, providing online non-downloadable software and online non-downloadable mobile application software in the field of information and data discovery, information and data integration, analysis, management, collaboration; providing online non-downloadable software and online non-downloadable mobile application software in the field of algorithmic, machine and human-driven exploration, viewing, modeling, exporting, visualization, organization, modification, transmission, storage, exchange, sharing, querying, auditing, collection, editing, hosting, security, tracking of data and information; cloud computing; design, research and development of software for automatically identifying contents and contextually understanding texts by leveraging machine learning, artificial intelligence and NLP based processing; design and development of computer hardware architecture; design and development of computer software architectures" in Class 42.

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

Daw Yee Mon Aung, (Advocate)
For FUJITSU LIMITED

c/o Baker & McKenzie Limited
Level 18, Unit 18-03, Sule Square, 221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kayuakiada Township, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated: 25th December 2019
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV OSLO TRADER VOY.NO. (949S)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV OSLO TRADER VOY.NO. (949S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SINAR BALI VOYNO. (133/S)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BALI VOYNO. (133/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV CAPE FLORES VOY.NO. (144 N/S)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE FLORES VOY.NO. (144 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES Phone No: 2301185
Tatmadaw (Navy) holds its 72nd Anniversary with commissioning ceremony of vessels

THE Tatmadaw (Navy) commissioned new vessels into service yesterday to mark its 72nd anniversary.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the ceremony held at the No 3 Naval Jetty in Yangon.

Chief of Staff (Navy) Vice-Admiral Moe Aung explained the salient points of the naval vessels. The Commander of Naval Dockyard Command Headquarters handed over the papers of the naval vessels to the commander of the Major War Vessel Group. Then, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) presented the scale model of the vessels to Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as gifts of honour in commemoration of the commissioning ceremony.

The phases of ceremonial procession were accordingly held in declaration of the commissioning of the naval vessels by the Chief of Staff (Navy), raising of the State Flag, the Navy Flag and commissioning flag, and ringing a bell for eight times.

The Senior General and party then inspected Vessel Mottama, Vessel Myitkyina, 27 meter patrol vessel, 26 meter sea-going tow/tug boats and 20 meter coastal patrol boats.

The Senior General took the salute of the Guard of Honour on the dais on board the Multi Purpose Vessel (MPSV), and inspected the Guard of Honour.

Frigate Aung Zeya headed the fleet of Frigate Ryan Sil Tha, Frigate Sinyu Shin, corvettes Tabin Shwe Hti and Bayint Naung and fast attack crafts saluted the Senior General in Single Line Formation. The Senior General then presented gifts of honour to the officers and other ranks of the ships that took part in the national show and the commissioned ships through the officials before delivering a speech.

In the evening, the Senior General and party left No 3 Naval Jetty for Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Headquarters by war vessel Yadanaeh. The Senior General and party unveiled the booths to mark the 72nd Anniversary of the Tatmadaw (Navy) at Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Headquarters, and looked around the booths, according to the report of the Office of Commander in Chief of Defence Services.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)
At least 25 dead in Indonesia bus plunge

JAKARTA (Indonesia) — At least 25 people died and 14 others were injured after a bus plunged into a ravine in Indonesia, a rescue official said on Tuesday.

The bus carrying dozens of passengers careered into a 150-metre (500-foot) ravine in South Sumatra province just before midnight (1600 GMT) on Monday and ended up in a river, police said earlier.

Originally the death toll given by police was 24, but the head of the local search and rescue team Berty Kwas said another body was found, taking the number to 25.

“Currently the evacuation is ongoing and some divers are searching (for victims) around the bus,” Kwas told Metro TV on Tuesday.

Footage shared by the rescue team showed bodies being taken out of the water on to stretchers.

Police and rescuers were scouring the river and the nearby slopes to look for victims and several passengers were feared missing.

“It crashed into the concrete road barrier before plunging into the ravine. Some people are still trapped inside the bus,” local police spokesman Dolly Gumara told AFP on Tuesday, adding no other vehicle was involved.

Search and rescue teams have been deployed to look for victims, Gumara said, adding injured survivors were taken to hospital.

The accident happened in a remote and steep area near the town of Pagar Alam, hampering the efforts to rescue the victims.

According to a passenger manifest, the regional bus left Bengkulu province for Pagar Alam with 27 on board but some survivors told police there were around 50 people inside when the accident happened.

“Some passengers were probably added along the way so there’s a possibility some more people are still missing in the river,” Gumara said, adding the cause was being investigated.

Traffic accidents are common in the Southeast Asian archipelago, where vehicles are often old and poorly maintained and road rules regularly flouted.

In September, at least 21 people died when a bus plunged into a ravine in West Java’s Sukabumi region.

Several months earlier, 12 people were killed and dozens more injured when a passenger tried to wrest control of a bus steering wheel following an argument with the driver on the same toll road in West Java as Thursday’s accident. The bus smashed into two cars, causing a truck to roll.

Argentina approves economic measures aimed at ending crisis

BUENOS AIRES (Argentina) — Argentina’s center-left government approved on Monday a package of emergency measures aimed at lifting the South American country out of its worst economic crisis in years.

Argentina is in a recession caused by a currency collapse that struck 18 months ago.

Poverty levels in the country of 44 million still top 40 per cent — in a country that was among the world’s wealthiest in the early 20th century.

The emergency economic package was announced by new President Alberto Fernandez, who took office two weeks ago with a vow to put Argentina back on its feet.

The emergency measures were approved just after 5:00 pm in the government’s Official Bulletin — several hours after it was expected due to some last-minute changes.

Fernandez’s plan involves tax hikes on foreign currency purchases, agricultural exports and car sales.

The government says the tax hikes will only affect the upper and middle classes.

The bill passed the lower house of Congress on Friday and the Senate on Saturday.

Fernandez has described this crisis as almost as bad as that of 2001 — when Argentina defaulted on a $100 billion debt.

Its current foreign debt stands at around 90 per cent of GDP.

“Not only is the debt not amortized, but it is not paying interest,” Fernandez said in a televised address late on Saturday.

Argentina’s new President Alberto Fernandez speaks during his inauguration ceremony in Buenos Aires on 10 December 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Argentina’s fiscal and financial deficit, in a situation of recession and inflation, "is a disaster," said executive economy chief Alejandro Vanoli.

"The state is putting all its efforts into those suffering the most from the social situation." Market-friendly liberal ex-president Mauricio Macri had planned in September to negotiate a restructuring of debt repayments with the International Monetary Fund, with which he’d agreed a $57 billion bailout loan last year.

Argentina has already received $44 billion of that loan but Fernandez has said that he will refuse the remaining disbursements.

He told reporters on Monday that the IMF delegation is due in Argentina “in the next few days.”

Brazil’s Bolsonaro hospitalized for domestic accident

SAO PAULO (Brazil) — Brazilian leader Jair Bolsonaro was hospitalized Monday after an accident at his home in Brasilia, the latest health scare for the 64-year-old, his office said.

“President Jair Bolsonaro fell at the Alvorada Palace. He was treated by the medical team of the Presidency of the Republic and taken to the Armed Forces Hospital,” a presidential spokesman said in a statement published by the G1 news portal.

The Planalto Palace has yet to respond to AFP’s request for comment.

According to the statement, Bolsonaro was given a cranial CT scan, “which did not detect any changes.”

Institutional Security Minister Augusto Heleno arrived at the hospital shortly after the presidential convoy and told Globo television that Bolsonaro “is fine,” but must remain under observation.

The right-wing leader will remain at the hospital for observation for between six and 12 hours, the statement added.

Bolsonaro took office as Brazil’s president on January 1. He was seriously injured in a knife attack while campaigning for the election last year.

The government’s aim is to “attend to the needs of the most vulnerable sectors and to... spark social issues,” Fernandez said in an interview with TV Argentina last year.

"That’s what we inherited. We can’t face up to it and pay our obligations, which we’ve been landed with,” Fernandez said on Sunday, as he made comparisons with the 2001 crisis.

"We had massive unemployment, we also have that now. What we didn’t have then is inflation but now we have it.”

Economist Claudio Loser of the Washington-based Centennial Group says Fernandez wants to “make it clear to creditors that they’re going to have to negotiate a restructuring with Argentina.” — AFP
***SPORT***

**WITH the aim of developing the Myanmar National League and the Myanmar football community, the 2019 MNL Evaluation Meeting for 2020 Season was held yesterday at the meeting hall of the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.**

The meeting was attended by general secretary of Myanmar Football Federation U Ko Ko Thein, CEO of MNL U Soe Moe Kyaw, director of MFF Referee Department U Tun Hla Aung, director U Kyaw Lin Htwe, AFC match commissioner U Tun Taw Aung, MFF disciplinary committee member U Soe Myint, MNL operation and security director U Aung Thu Myint, officials from the MFF and MNL, MNL match commissioners, referees, chief executive officers of clubs, team managers, coaches, media personnel, and officials.

First, MNL CEO U Soe Moe Kyaw greeted and thanked attendees for joining the meeting. He said there were strengths as well as weaknesses in the 2019 Myanmar National League and that the 2020 season needs to be made better by overcoming the weaknesses seen in the previous season.

“Although there were some weaknesses, the competition was intense. The championships could not be predicted until the tournament concluded. The teams that failed to advance to another level could not be predicted,” he added.

U Soe Moe Kyaw also expressed thanks to the participating teams and sponsors who, he said, were important supporters of the tourney, especially the title sponsor MPT and broadcasting sponsor MySports.

The club teams are also expected to get more assistance as the AIA and AYA financial groups are providing some sponsorship, he said.

U Soe Moe Kyaw also urged the clubs to try their best to improve the league and said the executive members are trying to make the clubs stronger.

Then, MFF general secretary U Ko Ko Thein detailed the international competitions in which team Myanmar participated last year, financial matters of the MFF, and youth football leagues planned for the coming year.

Thereafter, director of the Referee Department, U Tun Hla Aung explained plans for training better referees and new football rules, and MFF medical chief Dr. Aung Kyaw Oo explained the medical check-ups for players and shared medical knowledge with clubs.

Later, AFC match commissioner U Tun Taw Aung explained the strengths and weaknesses of the last season. He was followed by MFF disciplinary committee member U Soe Myint, who outlined the actions taken by the committee and the discussions held with the clubs.

The meeting ended after MNL CEO U Soe Moe Kyaw made the concluding remarks. — Kyaw Khin

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**Week-9 of MFF Myanmar Futsal League to be held today**

THE Week-9 matches of the MFF Myanmar Futsal League 2019-2020 will be held today at the National Indoor Stadium (2) in Hlne Township, according to the Myanmar Football Federation’s Facebook page.

The opening match of Week-9 will feature On Doctor vs Winner FC and will start at 8.30 a.m. Then, Do Do Ko Ko FC will take on Dream Team FC at 10 a.m., MFF U19 Team FC will play AMM Brothers FC at 11.30 a.m., Futsal Chit Thu FC will be pitted against Let Wel Phone Nara at 1 p.m., VUC FC will face GV FC at 2:30 p.m., and MIU FC will clash with Myoma JY FC at 4 p.m.

After Week-8, VUC FC is at the top of the standing table with 24 points, followed by MIU FC with 24 points, GV FC with 24 points, and Winner FC with 18 points.

On Doctor FC is standing in the fifth place with 13 points, followed by Myoma JY FC (12 points), MFF U19 team (10 points), and Dream Team FC (6 points).

The last four teams on the standing table are Futsal Chit Thu FC with 4 points, Do Do Ko Ko FC with 3 points, Let Wel Phone Nara FC with 3 points, and AMM Brothers FC with 1 point. — Kyaw Khin

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**Liverpool’s Klopp turns cricket’s Du Plessis into fan**

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**Liverpool’s Klopp turns cricket’s Du Plessis into fan**

CENTURION (South Africa) — South African cricket captain Faf du Plessis said on Tuesday that a chance meeting with Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp had turned him into a fan.

Du Plessis was having dinner with Springbok rugby captain Siya Kolisi in a Cape Town restaurant in November when Klopp, on a private visit to South Africa, walked in.

Kolisi has been a long-time Liverpool fan and Du Plessis posted a picture on both Instagram and Twitter showing the two captains and Klopp, commenting that Kolisi had a “man-crush moment”.

Klopp recognised Kolisi after watching the Springboks win the Rugby World Cup final in Japan.

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**Pogba hailed as ‘best midfielder in the world’ by Solskjaer**

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Paul Pogba has been hailed as the “best midfielder in the world” by Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer after the Frenchman returned from a long injury lay-off.

The World Cup winner was in action for United for the first time since late September as a substitute in their chastening 2-0 defeat at Watford on Sunday.

He could be in the starting team against Newcastle on Thursday as Solskjaer desperately seeks the creativity the team needs to break down stubborn opposition defences.

“Let’s see how he reacts to this, how he feels,” said Solskjaer. “He did really well when he came on. Big, big plus and it might be that we do get him in from the start.”

Pogba, who had only played twice since the end of August due to an ankle injury, was introduced on Sunday with United already trailing by two goals and went close to scoring during a late attacking flurry from the visitors.

“He can play anywhere, he can play the whole midfield,” said Solskjaer.

“He’s a box-to-box midfielder. He can drop deep, get it, play long passes. He can get it higher up and combine like he did today.” — AFP