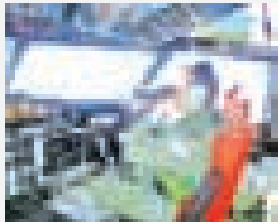


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Consumer Protection Law guarantees safe products, services to consumers

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—The Consumer Protection Law which was passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (the Union Parliament) on 14 March and signed by the President, is guaranteeing safe products and services, according to a copy obtained by the New Light of Myanmar.

The law stipulates prison sentences for those who break the law, for instance if fake goods are sold as high-quality products.

Section 6 of the Consumer Protection Law

states that consumers have the right to safe goods and services, and to exercise choices according to value. They have the right to receive guarantees given by traders, and get full and correct information on the goods or services purchased.

Consumers, in return, are to obey decisions by tribunals on disputes between consumers and businessmen, and must not make false accusations against businessmen in an attempt to damage the business-

men, according to Sub-section (b) of Section 6.

The Consumer Law states that anyone who sells unsafe and low quality goods, or expired goods to consumers will face a jail term of up to three years, or a fine of 5 million kyat. In severe cases both.

Section 24 of this law says that a consumer has the right to sue in accordance with the civil law, even if the convicted has served his or her jail sentence.

The law guarantees the

formation of a central committee for consumer protection, comprising the Union Minister for Commerce as a chairman, officials of related ministries and experts from NGOs.

The central committee will carry out 13 tasks, including settling complaints from consumers, doing surveys on consumer protection and taking necessary action to provide consumer protection and informing bodies concerned to ban unsafe products or goods.—NLM

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Consumer Rights and Myanmar

By Ba Oak Khaing

World Consumer Rights Day turns 54th on 15 March, 2014. The WCRD was first celebrated in Myanmar in 2013.

There is a few consumers in Myanmar who know the important day established by the United Nations and their rights.

Without knowing our rights, we can't protect ourselves.

The Consumer Protection Law was passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (the Union Parliament) on March 14. The law is guaranteeing safe products and services, according to a copy obtained by the New Light of Myanmar.

In fact, the people ranging from the Presi-

dent to the street vendors are consumers. If there are consumers, there are rights for them. If there are consumers' rights, there are consumer rights violations. To protect the consumer rights, there has existed, rules, associations and laws related to consumer rights.

Myanmar has seen high number of consumer rights violation in compared with other ASEAN countries and the country includes in the list of countries which have poor food safety. In Myanmar, the quality of products is decreasing, reaching dangerous level though the producers advertise the products at high costs.

In developed coun-



tries, not only producers but also models who act for advertising have to take responsibility for the quality of the products they advertised. They

do not work just for money.

Producers in Myanmar should send their products to market only when their family dare to

eat their products. If they have sympathy for consumers, all the people will not suffer life-threatening diseases in the world.

Trs: AMS

Vendors prepare vegetables at a bazaar in Tatkon as they wait customers.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw receives Ambassador of South Africa

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received South African Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Robina Patricia Marks at Hluttaw building on Wednesday morning. Also present at the call were Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Commission member Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of the Hluttaw office.—MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with South African Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Robina Patricia Marks.

MNA

Vice-Senior General Soe Win and party visit Bangkok

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met with Chief of Defence Force of the Roy-

al Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Thai Defence Minister General Yuthasak and Commander-in-Chief at Royal Thai Army General Prayut Chan-o-cha on Tuesday morning.

They exchanged views

on promotion of bilateral cooperation, peace and stability of borders, boundary measures, conducting of training courses, assistance for rescue and humanitarian tasks in natural disasters, activities of Thai Royal Armed Forces, cooperation among ASEAN Armed Forces and duty of UN peacekeeping troops.—Myawady

Union FM meets Director-General of WHO



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin meets with Dr Fu C. Margaret Chan Fung, Director-General of World Health Organization.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Director-General of World Health Organization, Dr Fu C. Margaret Chan Fung paid a courtesy call on U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs at his Ministry on Wednesday morning. Matters relating to the cooperation between Myanmar and WHO were discussed during the meeting.—MNA

tion, Dr Fu C. Margaret Chan Fung paid a courtesy call on U Wunna Maung

Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs at his Ministry on Wednesday morning. Matters relating to the cooperation between Myanmar and WHO were discussed during the meeting.—MNA

Media Law emerged, situation the same
MEIKTILA, 19 March—Our correspondent in Meiktila reported that on 17 March, reporters of private media in Meiktila were barred from entering the meeting of administrators and town's elders, which focused on prevent rumours relating to Meiktila Anniversary.

It is stipulated in the Section 3, Sub-section 4-(d) of Media Law that in accord

with the rules and regulations, reporters should get access to office of the authorities but reporters of private media have been denied to meet with District Deputy Commissioner although they have requested in advance to meet him regarding to covering news. As the reporters were upset with the situation, they planned to submit a complaint to higher authorities.—NLM-018

Newly appointed officers to uphold Our Three Main National Causes: Commander-in-Chief

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—The newly appointed officers are to uphold Our Three Main National Causes, said Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thayay Sithu Min Aung Hlaing at the commissioning ceremony for new officers of nurses/technicians at the convocation hall of Defence Services Medical Academy (DSMA) in Mingaladon Station in Yangon on Wednesday.

In his speech on the occasion the Commander-in-Chief said that the new officers have to pursue advanced nursing and medical sciences continuously to be able to join the tasks of building a modern, patriotic armed forces.



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers speech at commissioning ceremony.—MYAWADY

Similar ceremonies were held at the respective military commands.

At Mingaladon Airbase, the Commander-in-Chief stressed offi-

cial to place emphasis on the air defence, aviation control and air force capabilities after hearing the reports of the Commander of airbase.—Myawady

Workshop on international IDEA's ERM Tool held

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March —A Workshop on Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERM Tool) would help Myanmar to ensure holding a free and fair election in 2015 and tackling risks during the election, said U Tin Aye, the Chairman of the Union Election Commission on Wednesday.

In his opening speech at the workshop which is

jointly organized by the UEC and International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), U Tin Aye stressed the importance of community peace and stability during the election to become a free and fair election.

The workshop will end on 21 March.

Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERM Tool)

is designed to enhance users' capacities to understand risk factors, analyze risk data, and take action to prevent and mitigate election-related violence.

Mr. Thomas Cormier, Head of IDEA, clarified the purpose of the workshop and officials from IDEA shared their experiences and explained details about how to apply the ERM Tool.—MNA



Electoral Risk Management Tool workshop in progress.—MNA

Slight earthquake jolts inside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.0 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar about 20 miles north of Thabeikkyin, about 80 miles north of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 1 hrs 51 min 26 sec M.S.T Wednesday, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced.

MNA

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K 684,700 per tical: Selling K 685,700 per tical

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K 684,400 per tical: Selling K 685,400 per tical

Foreign Exchange Rate

USD Buying	K 960: Selling	K 965
SGD Buying	K 756: Selling	K 764
Euro Buying	K 1320: Selling	K 1340

NATIONAL

Medium-term Budget Framework to be introduced under PFM Reform Strategy: President

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Financial Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held its No.2/2014 meeting at the Presidential Palace here this morning, attended by Chairman of Financial Commission President U Thein Sein. It was also attended by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Union ministers, the Attorney-General of the Union, the Auditor-General of the Union, Region/State chief ministers and officials concerned.

In his opening speech, the President said that today's meeting is aimed at discussing and approving the Union Budget for the 2014 FY and the Union Budget Bill for 2014 FY which are adjusted in conformity with revised National Planning Bill. Due to the revised Planning Bill, there were some changes and adjustments in capital expenditures for the projects. There were no much changes in total expenditures even though some de-

partments have reductions in their revenue expenditures.

The Union Parliament has analyzed and cut unnecessary expenditures for State-run projects and made coordination with the Hluttaw Committee and the ministries concerned so as to use these expenditures in other projects in need. It means that the government is making preparations for its investments so as to effectively implement State-run projects, rural development tasks and prioritized sectors. Compared with the old figures, there was a decrease in revenue expenditures of K 8106 million; an increase in capital expenditures of K 4221 million; an increase in revenue incomes of K 8743 million; a decrease in capital incomes of K 34,992 million; and an increase in debt repayment of K 20,000 million.

There was a budget deficit of K 2364 million. There would be few changes in revenues and expenditures of the region/state

due to some changes in the revenues and expenditures ratio. Ministry of Finance of Myanmar drafted Public Financial Management (PFM) Reform Strategy in cooperation with the World Bank (WB).

According to this strategy, the government will transform its annual budget system to medium-term budget that meets the international standard, he added. A workshop on "Budget Allocation between the Union and Region/State" and "Financial Responsibility", jointly organized by the Ministry of Finance and WB, was held on February 3-4 and a workshop on reviewing the roles of State-owned enterprises, on 6 March, this year, the President said. Later, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw reported on revised 2014 National Planning Bill (draft).

U Win Shein, Union Minister for Finance and Secretary of Financial



President U Thein Sein delivers address at the meeting of Financial Commission.—MNA

Commission also submitted revised Union Budget for 2014-2015 FY and Union Budget Bill (draft).

In his conclusion speech, the President said that revised Union Budget for the 2014-2015 FY will

be sent back to the Union Parliament. The Union government is making budget reform on a step-by-step basis for ensuring systematic budget allocation.

He stressed the need for effective use of allot-

ted budget by region/State governments in accord with the financial rules and regulations. The President also pointed out that efforts are being made for emergence of a systematic tax law.

MNA

WHO to provide proficiency courses, teaching aid for midwives



NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—President U Thein Sein held talks with a delegation led by Dr. Fu C. Margaret Chan Fung, Director-General of Switzerland-based World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, both sides discussed plans of WHO to provide the trainings and teaching aid on reducing mortality and mother death rate to midwives, conducting proficiency courses for health staff on vaccination for under-5 children and expectant mother care, participation in educative programmes and enhancement of public health sector.

Union Ministers and officials also attended the meeting.—MNA

President U Thein Sein shaking hands with Dr. Fu C. Margaret Chan Fung, Director-General of Switzerland-based World Health Organization (WHO).—MNA

USDP members meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A delegation comprising town's elder and members of the Union Solidarity and Development Party from Kawhmu Township met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative from the township at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Wednesday.

Before they met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the delegation visited Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Wednesday and observed the parliamentary meeting.

The delegation also visited the headquarters of the Union Solidarity and Development Party in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 March.

At the USDP's headquarters, U Mya Nyein, the Deputy-Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, U Maung Maung Thein, General Secretary of the USDP, and U Khin Shwe, Representative of Amyotha Hluttaw, clarified the Hluttaw affairs.

Yan Soe



Daw Aung San Suu Kyi cordially meets with USDP members and town's elders of Kawhmu Township.—Yan Soe

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves increase in electricity bills

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has decided to give green light to the President's suggested plan to raise electricity rates on Wednesday.

Under the proposed increase in electricity bills, households using more than 200 units per month have to pay 50 kyats per unit while users with less than 100 units and 200

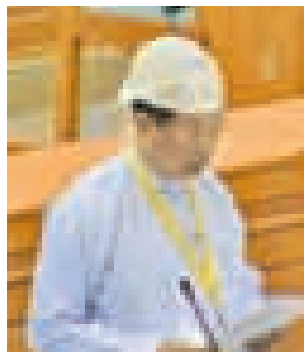
units per month have to see the rate of 35 kyats and 40 kyats per unit respectively. Industries that use more than 300,000 units are set to pay 100 kyats per unit while businesses us-

ing more than 50,000, and 200,000 units to pay 150 kyats and 125 kyats. Industries that use more than 500 units have to see 100 while enterprises using less than 300,000 units and 200,000

Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway said there was a deficit of K 3746.202 million in 2013-2014 FY as the total of income tax and the ministry's contribution to the State K 4339.542 million had been added to the budget deficit. He added that the ministry which is

income for ensuring a surplus in 2014-2015 FY and to scrutinize the proposed motion for ordinary spending and capital spending coming fiscal years.

Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung said service organizations of the ministry including the



Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe.—MNA



Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung. MNA



Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung. MNA



Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway. MNA



Deputy Minister for Cooperatives U Than Tun. MNA



Deputy Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Win Than.—MNA

Myanmar Chief Ministers tour Singapore

The Chief Ministers of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, and Bago Region U Nyan Win are in Singapore from 16 to 19 March for a joint study visit at the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam. The Chief Ministers' visit takes place under the auspices of the Singapore-Myanmar Technical Cooperation Programme (SMTCP). Through the SMTCP, Singapore shares our expertise and experience in relevant developmental areas to support Myanmar's reform and capacity-building efforts.

During their stay in Singapore, the Chief Ministers will exchange views with Singapore

government officials on Singapore's economic development, urban planning, and water management policies. They met with Minister of State for Trade and Industry Teo Ser Luck, and received a briefing by the Economic Development Board. They will also participate in a Roundtable Session organized by International Enterprise Singapore to discuss economic opportunities in their respective Regions. In addition, the Chief Ministers received briefings by the Housing Development Board, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, and the Public Utilities Board.

Last evening, Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong hosted dinner for the Chief Ministers,

together with Minister for National Development Khaw Boon Wan, Senior Minister of State for Law and Senior Minister of State for Education Indraneel Rajah, and Minister of State for Trade and Industry Teo Ser Luck. The Chief Ministers briefed ESM on the economic and developmental challenges faced by their Regions. They discussed ways to improve Myanmar's human resource capabilities, and attract more foreign investment. They also had a useful exchange of views on development in Myanmar.

This evening, Minister Shanmugam will host the Chief Ministers to dinner and at his Meet-the-People Session in Chong Pang constituency. —NLM

units are set to pay 125 kyats and 150 kyats.

Next, Union ministries concerned gave accounts of the number of work plans including State-run economic enterprises that will decrease on a yearly basis.

In his clarification,

defined as a people-centered public service organization focusing on edutainment has made a surplus of K 5701.410 million in accordance with statistics based on up to February 2014. He vowed to generate more

Central Bank of Myanmar under the Central Bank of Myanmar Law and social security boards under the Social Security Law are not related to the financial management programme for the State-owned enterprises.—MNA

Dy border affairs minister attaches importance to stability for development of Rakhine State

YANGON, 19 March—Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn met internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the relief camps in Thetkay Pyin, Khaungdotkar and Bawdupha Villages in Sittway Township on Tuesday.

The deputy minister urged IDPs of both communities to abide by laws and to actively participate in taking census nationwide.

Besides, he attached importance to stability for development of Rakhine State and stability and development of bilateral relations between the two communities.

UN Officials pledged that they would join hands with the Union government in carrying out regional development tasks in Rakhine State.

They sought ways to resolve the conflicts in the region.

Next, the deputy minister and party gave encouragement to the residents receiving medical treatment at the dispensaries of the relief camps and observed learning of the children.

In the evening, they proceeded to the relief camps in Satyonsu and Aung Mingalar Wards.

They held discussions with townsmen on the development of the state at Sittway Hotel.

MNA

Bill to protect rights of national races discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March—A work coordination meeting on seeking approval for the bill to protect the rights of national races took place at the Hluttaw Complex, here, on Wednesday.

The bill was submitted to Pyithu Hluttaw by Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs, Rural Social Development and Internal Peace-making Committee.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Nation-

al Races Affairs, Rural Social Development and Internal Peace-making Committee Secretary Daw Dwe Bu, Chairman of the Bill Committee U T Khun Myat, Secretary U Saw Hla Tun and committee members, Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members U Hsan Linn and Daw Mya Mya Win and U Khun Maung Thaung from Pinlaung Constituency, U Kha-mai Mong Kwam from

Sumprabum Constituency, U Sai Bo Aung from Muse Constituency and U Khaing Maung Yi from Ahlon Constituency.

Bill committee chairman U T Khun Myat explained the committee's report on the bill to protect the rights of national races. Those present at the meeting participated in the discussion.

The bill will be submitted to Pyithu Hluttaw for further discussions on the bill. —MNA



Work coordination meeting on seeking approval for the bill to protect the rights of national races in progress.—MNA

LOCAL NEWS

Vendors in Tatkon get CDMA SIM cards

TATKON, 19 March— About 60 vendors drew lots for 9 CDMA SIM cards in Tatkon on 18 March.

“I am from Hsinthay village to the south of Tatkon. Every day I sell flowers and I have engaged in this business for 15 years. Selling flowers to the

people who are going to offer them at the pagoda can earn money and it is doing merit. I am very happy for winning the lot as a reward to my good deeds,” said Ma Tin Moe Khine one of the winners at the drawing lots.

Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon)

Canadians show generosity

MYINGYAN, 19 March — Under Canada-based MPS (100) School Project, a school is being built in Thityon village in Myingyan Township, Mandalay Region. The school building will have 120 feet in length, 30 feet in width and

12 feet in height.

The project is aimed at supporting the motto “Build a new nation through Education”. Over 500 villagers participated in the school-building tasks.—*U Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)*



PSM course for enthusiasts in Myingyan on 24 March

MYINGYAN, 19 March —Myingyan District Information and Public Relations Department planned to organize Public Service Media course to be conducted on 24 March this year. Numerous subjects relating to print media will be included in the curricula of the five-day course. The course is open to all and

those who wish to attend the course is to register no later than 23-3-2014 at the department.

U Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Burning cigarette butt burns down inns and shop stall in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 19 March— Ten small inns and 3 shop stalls were engulfed on 15 March in Mohnyin Buddha Puja Festival due to indiscriminately discarded burning cigarette butt. The fire started about noon at the festival and within an hour it was put out by local Fire Brigade. Owner of the inns was filed lawsuit by local police station for negligence.—*NLM-001*



Bullock cart race in Pyinmana Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 19 March — Traditional bullock cart race took place in Nyaungbintha village in Pyinmana Township in

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Tuesday.

Participants from 12 villages competed in the race together with their

carts pulled by 24 oxen. The history of bullock cart race dates back to ancient Myanmar times.

Zaw Min Lwin



Wrong circulation of dailies annoys readers

MOHNYIN, 19, March — The 33-up train plying between Mandalay and Myitkyina carries bundles of Myanma Alinn, Kyemon and the New Light of Myanmar dailies everyday. Unfortunately, the bundles of dailies to be sent to Myitkyina were wrongly dropped at Mohnyin Railway Station on Tuesday and bundles to be dropped at Mohnyin station continued its journey on the train to Myit-

kyina.

Daily Agent from Mohnyin had to keep the wrongly-dropped-dailies at the Cargo Section of Myitkyina station and explain the situation to the readers for their satisfaction.

The dailies for Myitkyina readers stranded at Mohnyin Station and no one knows when the dailies for Mohnyin readers will come back to their town.—*NLM-001*

Photo shows a participant taking part in traditional bullock cart race in Nyaungbintha village of Pyinmana Township.—Zaw Min Lwin

Translation of Myanmar's newly enacted Media Law

The following is the unofficial translation of Myanmar's newly enacted Media Law.—Ed

Chapter 1

Title and Definition

1. This law shall be called Media Law.
2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:

(a) Media means getting, collecting and acquiring information, keeping them in documentation, analyzing and publishing etc. which shall be performed by Print Media, Broadcasting Media, Internet Media whose responsibilities are taken by the media or public information and communication services conducted by any other alternative ways by means of various transmission forms such as texts, voice, picture, audio and visual transmission, statistical data, and graphic designs.

(b) Media worker means a person who takes up any job related to media industry.

(c) Council means the Media Council of Myanmar which is established in accordance with this law.

(d) News broadcasting means broadcasting to the public by means of voice, text, or picture.

(e) Newspaper means publications that come out regularly encompassing local and international news which cover everyday events, and their related descriptions.

(f) Correspondent means a person who collects every bit of news and information and sends to any media.

(g) Mass Media means publications such as book, periodical, newspaper, journal, magazine in which news, stories, features, poems, cartoons, pictures, photographs, illustrations etc. are described by broadcasting or internet technologies, or by any other means while getting involved in the News Media industry either regularly or at any period which is not specified.

(h) News Agency means an industry, organization, a corporation or company which publishes local and international news and information to the media acquired either by making payment or free of charge.

(i) Censorship means the procedures of editing, removing, forbidding or prohibiting of contents to be performed before they are being printed out.

(j) Ministry means Ministry of Information of the Union Government.

Chapter 2

Objectives

3. Objectives of this law are as follows:

(a) To materialize News Media Industries which are offered freedom from censorship to express, publish, or distribute freely as part of rights and privileges granted to every citizen in compliance with regulations stated in the national constitution

(b) To ensure that News Media can stand up firmly as the fourth Estate of our nation

(c) To guarantee that News Media workers are fully provided with their entitlements and freedom

(d) To establish and develop responsibilities, ethics, rules and regulations and practices to be adopted within relevant industries and organization

(e) To make news accessible to every citizen

(f) To ensure any complaints, arguments regarding publications or broadcasting of a certain media are to be settled and negotiated in a conciliatory manner.

Chapter 3

Entitlements of Media Workers

4. The News Media workers shall have the right -

(a) to freely criticize, point out or recommend operating procedures of the legislative, the executive and judiciary in conformity with the constitution

(b) to investigate, publish, broadcast information and related opinions to which every citizen is entitled in accordance with rules and regulations

(c) to reveal issues relating to rights and privileges lost by the citizen

(d) to collect information, to be provided with accommodation and to enter into certain offices, departments and organizations in accordance with regulations of relevant departments or organizations.

5. Publications of the News Media industry shall be free from censorship.

6. A news media worker is entitled to -

(a) request to see news and information which are accessible to the public except statements, photographs, and records whose security is rated as per law or directives of a certain authority or respective organizations

(b) ask for information from non-governmental organizations, associations or enterprises which are running their operations by public funds as per the above-mentioned sub-section (a).

7. While a news media worker is trying to get news in compliance with regulations specified by relevant and responsible organizations, in the areas where wars break out, and where conflicts or riots and demonstration take place

(a) he/she shall be exempt from being detained by a certain security related authority, or his/her equipment being confiscated or destroyed.

(b) he/she shall be entitled to ask for their safety and protective measures from the security related organizations.

8. A news media worker -

(a) has to acquire news by describing his name in accordance with their ethics. However, when issues like public healthcare, concerns which generate negative impact to the public security and environmental conservation, corruptions and misconducts are found to occur in the activities of legislative, the executive and the judiciary, social and economic sector are very important to be investigated and revealed, he can perform investigation with his name hidden according to regulations after getting permission from the relevant editor and submit how you conduct these procedures.

(b) In a case for which proper actions are taken pursuant to any regulation of this law, equipment and accessories of News Media shall be exempt from being confiscated, sealed or destroyed unless the order of the court of law instructs to do so.

Chapter 4

Responsibilities and Codes of Conduct to be complied by News Media workers

9. A News Media worker is responsible to comply with the following codes of conduct -

(a) Evaluation shall be performed to ensure accuracy and reliability of every bit of information and their completeness.

(b) When incorrect news have been published and amendment/revision is necessary, and this takes place in the Print Media, this revision shall have to be printed in the eye-catching position of the page or, if in other media, this should be published immediately.

(c) While news regarding some cases for which litigation is being run is published, the person prosecuted shall be considered innocent until the court has passed its judgment and any news related criticism which means disregard to the court shall be avoided.

(d) While news photos, voices and pictures are published, improper ways of modifying them with the help of certain technologies shall have to be avoided.

(e) Apart from criticisms, opinions and features, no other views and opinions of journalist or reporter shall be comprised of.

(f) Intellectual properties which belong to others shall not be plagiarized or published without asking for their permission.

(g) Writing news which relate to the interest of the public, writing style which deliberately affects the reputation of a specific person or an organization or generates negative impact to the human right shall be avoided.

(h) Ways of writing which may inflame conflicts regarding nationality, religion and race shall be avoided.

(i) Ethics and regulations which are published by the Myanmar News Media Council shall be obeyed.

Chapter 5

Establishment of News Media Industry

10. A person who wants to participate in the News Media industry is allowed to set up an industry as per one of the following options.

(a) Establishment of public limited company or non-public limited company or partnerships in conformity with existing Companies' Act of Myanmar

(b) Establishment of industries in conformity with Myanmar Citizens' Investment Law or Foreign

Investment Law

11. A person who wants to get involved in the News Media industry shall have to apply for acknowledgment certificate or business licence according to their business types in line with relevant laws.

Chapter 6

Establishment of the council and responsibilities

12. The council is the only organization which can perform its tasks independently regarding people from mass media in keeping with regulations stated in this law.

13. The President shall have to publish declaration and establish "Myanmar's News Media Council" in order that objectives and responsibilities embraced in this law shall be realized.

(a) The members shall be one representative, which is proposed by the President, and one representative each proposed by the Speakers of Pyi Thu Hlut Taw (People's Parliament) and A Myo Thar Hlut Taw (national Parliament).

(b) Representatives proposed by News Media staff, news agencies, publishers, writers, poets, cartoonists according to the specific proportion.

(c) Representatives appointed by communities which include scholars and professionals from social, economic, literature, legal, science and technology backgrounds

(d) Number of the council members shall have to be specified from the minimum of 15 up to the maximum of 30.

14. (a) The council president, vice-presidents, secretary, joint secretaries shall be elected by the majority of votes given by the council members.

(b) The name list of the council members elected by the abovementioned sub-section (a) shall be submitted to the President so that specific responsibilities shall be assigned.

15. (a) The service life of a council member is specified as three years from the date of elected.

(b) A council member shall not be allowed to serve their relevant duties more than two service lives continuously.

16. A council member shall be terminated from his employment for one of the following factors

(a) Withdrawal from the council voluntarily

(b) Being dismissed by the President because of these factors: they deliberately infringe respective duties or ethics to which a News Media worker has to abide by; a council member fails to fulfill his duties to meet requirements; he is found to be irrelevant for the existing position as he purposely breach regulations stated by the committee; two-thirds of the council members insisted to remove from their existing designation.

(c) Being sentenced for certain offences and penalties due to their misconducts

(d) Insanity and Decease

17. Functions of the council are as follows:

(a) Monitoring and enhancing the quality of the News Media

(b) Negotiating with respective governmental bodies to smoothly handle importation of necessary materials used in the News Media industry

(c) Arranging to hold News Media related workshops and seminars

(d) Coordinating with the Mass Media organizations to offer awards to the outstanding news media workers

(e) Developing and implementing plans for the improvement of News Media

(f) Publishing news whenever necessary

(g) Appointing an officer - in charge for news publishing in government departments and entities and people-centered organizations to be executed by the council in order that accurate and reliable information will be accessible to the public

(h) Reporting their operational progress and further procedures to be implemented in the future to the President without fail on an annual basis.

18. Responsibilities to be carried out by each committee shall be stipulated according to principles and procedures.

See Page- 7

MEDIA LAW

from page 6

Chapter 7
Funds and Grants

19. The council shall raise a fund with the following income types in order to conduct their services

- (a) Grants from the Union Government
- (b) Money donated by local and international well-wishers
- (c) Supports from international and non-governmental organizations
- (d) Contributions from News Media industries.

20. The council is responsible to maintain and record funds, to get them audited by the Union Auditor General Office and to develop procedures relating to financial accounts and spending funds.

Chapter 8
Taking Actions

21. If any of responsibilities or ethics required in Article 9 are considered to be breached by a News Media worker, the aggrieved department, organization or individual shall have the right to complain to the council first.

22. When the council receives a complaint as mentioned in Article 21, it can be solved by meeting the two parties and compromising between them in accordance with principles, procedures and regulations.

23. If the two parties cannot work out a compromise agreement, or arguments cannot be settled, the complainant or aggrieved party can prosecute the other party at the relevant court under applicable laws.

24. Pursuant to sub-section (a) of Article 6, while

news and information available to the public are requested to be seen, relevant responsible person has to deal with this issue so that no refusing, procrastinating or causing hindrance to the news collector will be occurred.

Chapter 9
Offences and Penalties

25. (a) Any News Media worker who is determined to be guilty by responsibilities and ethics stated in sub-section (b) of Article 9 and offensive sentence is passed, he/she will be fined from the minimum of 100,000 kyats to the maximum of 300,000 kyats.

(b) Any News Media worker who is determined to be guilty by responsibilities and ethics stated in sub-section (d), (f) and (g) of Article 9 and offensive sentence is passed, he/she will be fined from the minimum of 300,000 kyats to the maximum of 1,000,000 kyats.

26. If any News Media worker is considered to violate restrictions specified in sub-section (h) of Article 9, he/she will be taken proper actions by applicable existing laws.

Chapter 10
Miscellaneous

27. While they are performing their duties as indicated by laws, the council members have to assume themselves as public service personnel according to Article 21 of the Penal Law.

28. While the council is performing their relevant duties, administrative team shall be established to conduct daily operations of office work and required number of staff and personnel can be appointed.

29. Search and seizure of Media related materials such as newspapers, journals, periodicals which are restricted and prohibited under certain laws shall be conducted in compliance with criminal law and rulings.

30. If prosecution is going to be brought under Article 25.

(a) Respective departments or any individual assigned by a certain governmental organization are required to prosecute directly to the court of law.

(b) If the prosecuting party is an individual, he/she can directly sue at the court of law.

31. (a) A certain Media industry which has been established under existing laws before this law comes into force shall have the right to continue their operations until the expiry of the specified period.

(b) If the industry intends to continue their business operations after its expiry, their operation period can be extended in accordance with specified principles.

32. Any of the orders, directives, notice and declarations restricting freedom of expression proclaimed under Press and Publishers Registration Law of 1962 which oppose regulations stated in this law shall be considered to be nullified.

33. While implementing regulations stated in this law,

(a) The ministry may declare necessary principles, rules and regulations with the approval of the Union government in cooperation with the council.

(b) The ministry and council may promulgate notifications, orders, directives and procedures.

BUSINESS

Hyundai fears smog tax blow to domestic sales

SEOUL, 19 March — Hyundai Motor Co (005380.KS) fears a proposed tax on vehicle carbon emissions will slash its domestic sales by up to 10 percent and is pressuring the South Korean government to reverse course, according to people familiar with the matter. While some experts say the warnings could be overblown, they are a stark reminder of one of the biggest challenges Hyundai faces — how to make greener cars to ward off competition from more fuel-efficient rivals.

Seoul plans to reward and penalise vehicle purchases based on carbon dioxide emissions starting in January next year, hoping to prod consumers to buy electric cars and small cars with greater fuel efficiency.

The scheme, already delayed by almost two years amid strong opposition from Korean and US car makers, could deal a major blow to Hyundai as mid-sized or bigger cars account for 60 percent of its domestic sales.

South Korea's biggest carmaker estimates the proposal could prompt 9 percent to 10 percent of domestic buyers to switch to imported cars, three people familiar with the matter said, quoting Hyundai's own projections. That suggests its annual vehicle sales could fall by 46,849 vehicles, dealing a 1.6 trillion won (\$1.5 billion)



Cars made by South Korea's Hyundai Motor Group are seen on a truck at the company's shipping yard at a port in Pyeongtaek in this 25 July, 2013 file photo.—REUTERS

blow to revenue, according to Reuters' calculations based on Hyundai's 2013 sales. "Hyundai was looking into the worst case scenario" when it came up with the 9-10 percent figure, said one of the sources who declined to be identified due to the sensitivity of the matter. He said the actual impact would be smaller once the government had finished revising the scheme. A Hyundai spokesman denied the company had produced any such sales projection and attributed it to the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association. The association declined to comment on its research, citing confidentiality, but said it op-

posed the tax. "We want the government to withdraw the plan ... this will only help imported cars gain more market share," a senior association official said. The current third draft of the scheme, obtained by Reuters, shows Seoul plans to levy up to 7 million won (\$6,600) of tax on vehicles that emit more than 126 grams (4.4 ounces) of carbon dioxide per kilometre.

Those emitting less than 100 grams can get subsidies of up to 7 million won, while electric vehicles will receive as much as 10 million won in subsidies. In a country where 72 percent of vehicles are mid-to large-sized vehicles, the proposal means consumers

would face a tax burden of \$1 billion. Of that amount, \$641 million would be levied on customers of Hyundai and affiliate Kia Motors (000270.KS), which together control about 70 percent of the market, industry estimates showed. Park Kwang-shik, a Hyundai executive dealing with government affairs, told a meeting with regulators last month that authorities should be careful as the industry was already struggling to cope with rising competition from Japanese car makers benefiting from a weaker yen, according to a government statement after the meeting.

The stakes are even higher for Hyundai, which

is also losing market share to imported brands that have become cheaper thanks to free trade deals between Korea and the European Union as well as the United States.

Consumers have developed a particular taste for diesel-powered vehicles made by the likes of BMW (BMW.DE) and Volkswagen (VOWG_p.DE) that have greater fuel efficiency than Hyundai's mainstay gasoline-powered vehicles.

US automakers, which have less than 1 percent market share but hope to increase sales following a trade deal, have also asked Seoul to reconsider the plan.—Reuters

Japan to consider steps to regulate bitcoin if necessary

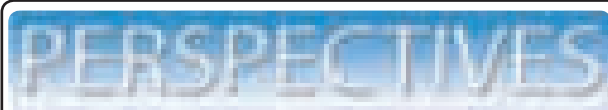
TOKYO, 18 March — The Japanese government decided on Tuesday to consider taking steps to regulate bitcoin trading, if necessary, after obtaining more information about the digital currency.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet, however, did not say whether it would immediately seek a legal system to regulate bitcoin, used as a means of payment among Internet users, indicating it is still struggling to clearly decide how to deal with the issue.

The government outlined its stance in response to a written inquiry from an upper house lawmaker. It is the second time it has taken a formal position on the virtual currency, following its decision earlier this month to treat bitcoin as a noncurrency market product such as a precious metal.

The clarification of the government's stance came amid growing worries over the bitcoin market in the wake of the recent bankruptcy of major Tokyo-based exchange Mt Gox. According to Tuesday's Cabinet decision, bitcoin exchanges such as Mt. Gox are not subject to registration and reporting obligations under current legislation.

Kyodo News



Thursday, 20 March, 2014

According to the law

We used to write and say “according to the law” these days. It makes anyone’s claim firm enough to convince the others in the dialogue. Three years in democratic transition, we are now familiar with the sense of the rule of law. Respecting the law has become the pride today. It is a welcome change. Have we, though, ever question which law is being referred?

Laws have been used as tools to restrict, rather than protect and promote, the rights of the people for years. In perception of the ordinary people, law is the text which says what you are not allowed to do or have. They would never imagine that the law is the text which says what you are allowed to do or have.

When we talk about rule of law, we used to put a great deal of emphasis on the law enforcement mechanism and the judiciary system. We all have agreed on the fact that these are not working well after years of dilapidation. But we talk less about the quality of legislations. Most legislations in action—though some not strictly enforced—are the laws promulgated by the

colonialist government and by the previous governments.

The parliament is now revamping, revising and amending old laws while making new ones. Now is time that we retort anyone who says “according to the law” with the question, “Which law do you refer to? Who made that law when? And how much is the quality of that law?”

Write for us

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

The urgent need for good education

By Hla Maung

Human resources are a nation’s most valuable resource. It is renewable, therefore sustainable, but it is valuable only if nurtured by culture, education, and training. Without culture, education and training, the potential of human resources is diminished if not lost. In fact, any country with a large population lacking adequate education and training and influenced by negative cultures will likely face problems of low productivity, slow growth, unemployment, poverty, high crime rates and social and political unrest.

A well-educated

population is an essential requirement for national development, progress and prosperity. Top priority must be given to establishing good schools, not only in the major urban areas, but throughout the whole country. With good schooling, children grow up to become scientists, engineers, doctors and professionals. Without schooling, they remain unskilled labourers unable to secure well-paid work, unable to provide for their families, and unable to contribute towards the country’s development and prosperity. There will be a large pool of unemployed youth, a potential for social unrest.

Every child must be able to attend school

There are still too many children unable to attend school because of poverty, or because no schools are available within walking distance. In many areas, monastic schools have been set up by well-intentioned monks and nuns, but many lack qualified teachers. An education, even if not fully satisfactory, is better than no education, but we must recognize that monastic schools are a stop-gap measure and does not remove the urgent need to establish more government schools in remote rural areas and to eradicate the extreme poverty

that prevents school attendance.

Improve quality of teachers

Quality of teaching can only be as good as the quality and commitment of teachers, so teachers too need regular workshops to upgrade their skills and knowledge. With too many students and too few teachers, there is no time for teacher-student discussion. Exam papers are usually marked on a word for word replication of textbook paragraphs so that there is uniformity in marking, and students aim not for understanding, but for short-term memorisation of school texts. The result is that students

pass exams without understanding. When asked what they have learned, many do not know. Asked what they think, they will remain silent, for they have never taken part in discussions where thinking is required.

What is education for ?

There needs to be a complete overhaul in our view of what education is to produce the skilled workers, managers, teachers and other professionals that our country needs. Many students attend university or

college because there is nothing better to do after high school, and parents are quite happy if they can hang a framed picture of the son or daughter in a graduate’s robe and hat somewhere in the house. It does not seem to matter that students are not learning anything that they can apply in their working life. For too many, the four years of university are four years of wasted time and money. For the country, scarce resources are being squandered to no avail.

Born on 15 November 1944 in Taunggyi, the author attended primary and high school in London. He graduated with the degree of B.Sc. Oil Technology in 1966 from London University. He joined the then Myanma Oil and Gas Corporation now known as Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise. He retired from his job as a Senior Geologist in 1988.

Under the MoU between Myanmar and Thailand, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security of Myanmar and the Ministry of Labour of Thailand have laid the policy to return to mother country after living four years in Thailand by extending a two-year Visa. The ministry prepared complete set of documents to allow three workers from Adman Seafood factory to Myanmar on 11-3-2014.

The migrant workers applying at the embassy to return to Myanmar need the following documents:-
(a) Form of CV of Myanmar migrant worker
(b) Copy of CSC card and

of household registration certificate

(c) Temporary passport
(d) List of Demand for Myanmar Worker

(e) Name List of Worker
(f) Employment Contracts
(g) Power of Attorneys

(h) The Application Form for Importation Foreign Workers Concerning with the Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and Thailand

(i) Copy of Work Permit with the name of Thai employer

(j) Updated photo two
The migrant worker applying for ordinary visa will have to pay Baht 1600 officially.

They would have to

Myanmar embassy launches programme for visa extension of migrant workers

By A Retiree

pay Baht 500 in initial programme, Baht 1030 on receipt of the ordinary visa, and Baht 70 on receipt of oversea worker at one-stop service centre. Only three workers received the ordinary visa and 26 others could extend their two-year visa out of 150 workers applying for the ordinary visa and the extension at the Labour Department of Thailand during nearly one month period as the Today Top Star Agency helped them compile documents to reduce cost, prevent frauds and ensure complete documents.

As TTS agency has collected the necessary documents from workers and encouraged them to sign employment contracts, migrant workers in



Thailand have chance to continue working there.

Today Top Star helped more than 1.7 million undocumented workers get involved

in nationality verification. The visa extension process which needs no documents as claimed by some agents would lead to frauds and cost more.

So, the official process where no one gets the privilege is highly recommended.

Trs:HKA

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear sir,

I always read your perspectives. I like that. If you don’t mind I would like to read the benefits of ASEAN region.

Thank you sir,

best regards
Khinlay

ARTICLE

MY MEETINGS WITH H.E. U THANT

By BA THAN

Sometime ago around early 2014, in the news media I read about a touching celebration, commemorating His Excellency U Thant's 105th birthday in U Thant's House in Yangon by his daughter Daw Aye Aye Thant, son-in-law Dr. Tin Myint Oo, grandson famous historian Dr. Thant Myint Oo, and immediate family members, close circle of friends, admirers from within the country and abroad.

This news has stirred long forgotten and exciting memories of the past 53 years, around June 1961 to June 1962. The author was nominated on fellowship deputation under foreign service terms of Fundamental Rules (FR), by Public Administration Department of the office of the Prime Minister to study post graduate Master's Degree programme on Development Economics to Harvard University and then to Centre for Development Economics, Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts, USA. It was a two semester one year course preceded by a two-month summer course in Harvard, followed by executive M.A programme catering to developing countries of India, Pakistan, Thailand, Singapore, Myanmar, from South-East Asia and countries from Africa and Latin America. There were 20 mid-management executives and Myanmar was represented by the author U Ba Than, and U Ba Thwin, my junior colleague from the same department.

Myanmar's post independent years were brimming with hope, promise and expectation to build a new nation from all sectors. Education was most active, with new aspiring qualified students, both graduate and post graduates sent abroad to the reputed Western universities of U.S., UK Australia etc., on diverse academic disciplines. After about 10 years many of these graduates returned to serve their motherland with newly acquired knowledge and expertise, with dazzling kudos from Harvard, MIT, Yale, Princeton, and Stanford. Others with no less symbols of elitist recognition such as Members, Fellowship programmes from accredited Royal Col-

leges of Medicine, Surgery of England and Scotland, and passed with acclaim to serve the needy in the field of medicine and Surgery. Famed liberal Arts academic institutions of UK such as Oxford, Cambridge, London etc. had their share of training students from newly independent countries of Asia. Countries under previous British Colonial domination had an added advantage of being proficient in English, and thus could follow the academic courses without much difficulty. In fact it was an exciting decade of education development in Myanmar's history.

Young U Ba Thwin in late twenties and U Ba Than, the author in early thirties, serving government executives left Yangon for New York, to begin their overseas education adventure in pursuit of mainstream of development. The Harvard Summer School programme was arranged as a preliminary induction to the post-graduate study of Development Economics, a new branch of applied Economics which emerged as a post Second World War phenomenon to address the critical problems of the developing countries of Asia, Africa which had become independent from colonial rule. Latin American countries, economically lagging behind also sent their executives to participate in the study programme of Williams College, Centre for Development Economics.

The Harvard Summer School lasted two months starting in June and ended in August 1961. It was a highly informative one, taught by eminent scholars from US and other universities of the developed world. Specifically the subject of Development Economics was taught by a Japanese scholar, Professor Shigeto Tsuru from Hitotsubashi University of Tokyo a very convincing presentation much liked by the overseas fellows like us. During weekends we went around popular tourist sights, like the Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty at Staten Island, Rockefeller Centre, the UN and many others. At the end of the summer school programme we lodged in the apartment of the Myanmar

Chancery where Chancellor U Thein Han was a willing host. There were also many colleagues beside us, making it a jovial company. The most exciting get-together meet was at the residence of Head of Myanmar Mission, representing Myanmar at the UN, His Excellency U Thant. It was indeed a warm gathering of Myanmarans who were in New York at that moment of time. He was an amiable host exuding serene kindness, courtesy and cordiality to those who were there, a cosy home away from home. It was a cross mix: students (graduates and post-graduates) officials on study tours, high level delegates, economists, administrators, business etc. H.E. U Thant went around the crowd, greeting everyone most warmly and inquired about their stay in New York. From what we had learnt about him, he hailed from Pantanaw, a teacher, writer, government official and eventually rose to the position of Secretary to the Government in the Ministry of Information. He was an astute personality, and confidant of the Prime Minister. He was thereafter appointed as H.E. Ambassador to many countries and then nominated to represent the nation in the UN. The small gathering was a focal point to talk among one another in a spirit of goodwill and casual informality. The highlight of this gathering was a treatment of delicious all-time favourite snacks like Mohingar and Myanmar sweet meats which we enjoyed immensely. We never missed such cordiality from H.E, whom we respected as our guardian father in foreign land. His disarming smile exuded from his visage, 'a moon faced Buddha' as remarked by foreign diplomats. Biting a local made cigar was his typical benchmark as was Lord Churchill, a renowned British politician, statesman, and writer.

We completed the Harvard Summer School in August 1961, and accredited with 8 units for two courses to supplement our pursuit of further post graduate courses leading to Masters and Ph.D, should we opt for one. By September we travelled to Albany, NY, and thence to Williamstown,

MA, to register at Williams College, Centre for Development Economics opened at Cluett House in forest fringed environment, not far from the main College campus. It was a small Ivy League institution standing side by side with the elder Big Ivys of Harvard, and MIT of Cambridge. During the course of studies in the scenic conservative New England State, there were news of change surrounding H.E. U Thant, the mild mannered Myanmar diplomat and the UN. The sudden death of the Second Secretary General, Dag Hammarskjöld of plane crash in 1961 led to a flurry of feverish haggles and negotiations for choosing a Secretary General to succeed him. What had ensued in this intervening transition has now become history. Suffice it to say that finally H.E. U Thant of Myanmar became the Third S.G of the world body in 1961. He served the most complex-organization for ten years till 1971. News of the little known diplomat from a small third world country of Asia spread like wild fire spurring much interest and curiosity. Even the Myanmar name was pronounced differently except the right one. The author and U Ba Thwin studying at Williams Centre were subject to many queries about the Third SG a bye-product of reflected media publicity as we two Myanmarans basked in momentary glory. The US TV interviewed the SG on many fronts, even including the allure of pay and facilities regarded as most attractive for many, but not for U Thant couched in the Buddhist philosophy of contentment and serenity. Such mundane derision was most mildly and conveniently ignored in a spirit of equanimity as he focused his attention to far complex issues demanding his decision and judgement which he executed to the satisfaction of the majority of members of the UN of the decade.

For the two executives of the Myanmar Civil Service (BCS), time passed swiftly as they participated on the issues and problems of development with 18 colleagues on round table forum. Eminent scholars, economists were invited to

talk on the pressing issues surrounding the developing world. Among them were included a top Myanmar Economist, Professor Myint of Oxford University UK and author of well-known book: 'The Economics of Under development' a much quoted textbook of the subject for the times. Finally, the Master degree for Development Economics ended in June and the Commencement ceremony (convocation by our definition) was scheduled on 10th June 1962. The highlight of the 1962 Commencement was conferring the Honorary Doctoral Degree to H.E. U Thant, the Third Secretary-General of the United Nations by the President of the College, John E. Sawyer. We watched in sublime pride as H.E. U Thant accepted the kudo and offered a stirring speech on the problems of world politics and the role of the UN represented by the SG in seeking solution. The timing was most opportune because it was attended by two members representing Myanmar, the first in the academic history of Williams College. Congratulations, greetings and conversations ensued as the SG went round smiling and talking. The author and U Ba Thwin went to the SG to pay their personal respects. Finally the Commencement ceremony came to a close as the SG and entourage left the campus for other rounds of diplomatic engagements. For us we must say: 'All's well that ends well'. Enconced in the New England region, the earliest settlement of migrants from England, with scenic Greylock mountain range and exhilarating multi-coloured natural landscape, we spent a year in study and leisure. Finally in June 1962, we left Williams and USA for home. Since then for 52 odd years up to the time of this article, the author had not ever set foot on the US soil.

The 3rd Secretary-General, an Asian and native of Myanmar, pride of the nation and its people served his full two terms of ten years and retired leaving behind a rich legacy of books, write ups, photos journals all credited to his accomplishments for the world at large. There were two



**Former UN
Secretary-General
U Thant.**

equally notable brothers, both from Myanmar Civil Service, one serving as Secretary to the government in the Prime Minister's Office, and the other brother-in the Ministry of Planning till retirement. The author had served under the elder brother, Akogyi U Thaug for a brief time. He had also served in the ASCAP, to enrich the Asian UN network with experience and expertise of nation building and civil administration on broader perspective.

During the ensuing half a century after H.E. U Thant, the World body moved on as Secretaries-General came and went. It was now the turn of an Asian, South Korean diplomat to lead the UN in the person of H.E. Mr Ban Ki-moon, the eighth Secretary-General of the UN. He was most courteous to make a first ever visit to Myanmar at the earliest opportunity, to pay respect in Asian tradition to his predecessor H.E. U Thant thus crediting symbolic honour to the foremost citizen and the nation. And the author now 84, can remember only few crucial episodes, forgetting many, most invariably names, years, places and events. But the years at New York, Williams and the meetings with H.E. U Thant and the Myanmar community remains indelibly etched in his memory. And the author was most gratified to share this timely personal episode of memorable events at New York and Williams College during the last 52 years with NLM readers.

In most sublime manner the author, with this article, hereby offers his unique contribution to H.E. U Thant on the occasion of his 105th Birthday celebrated here at Yangon.

Meals offered to monks to mark 40th Anniversary Mon State Day

MAWLAMYINE, 19 March—Mon State Day was observed in 2014 on a grand scale than that of past events.

In the time of the present government, such occasions were held in lower

Myanmar, especially in Bago and Taninthayi Regions and Mon State.

To mark the 40th Anniversary Mon State Day, a ceremony to offer meals to monks was held at the Buddhist religious build-

ing in Mawlamyine on Tuesday.

Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint, Mon State Parliament Speaker U Kyin Pe and officials offered alms to monks.

Kyemon

Retirees happy in holding mobile phones

TAIKKYI, 19 March—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications sells out WCDMA SIM cards to retirees in Taikkyi Township, in the northern part of Yangon Region.

To buy the SIM cards, the retirees must submit

application for SIM, pension book copy, citizenship scrutiny card copy, two photos and copy of household registration to the departments concerned.

The applications are accepted as of 10 March and the SIMs will be sold

on 17 March.

"I thank the President for its arrangements to sell SIM cards to retirees. Actually, we are unaffordable to buy the SIMs at street price. Now, we are so happy for holding the mobile phones," said retired personnel who got the chance to buy the SIM card.

However, the retirees waited for seniority of applications to be able to buy the SIMs since early morning at Taikkyi Auto-Telephone Exchange.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications sells SIM cards to the retirees for the first time separately.

Tun Hlaing (Myaing)



Shan State provides 19 fire trucks for its townships

TAUNGGYI, 19 March—Myanmar Fire Brigade under Ministry of Home Affairs handed over 19 fire trucks to townships in Shan State. At the town hall in Taunggyi, the capital of Chin State on Tuesday, Deputy Director-General of

Fire Services Department U Myat Thu handed over documents related to 19 fire engines to Shan State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Thu. The fire trucks that can carry 880 gallons of water each will be shared to four townships

from southern Shan State, 10 townships from northern Shan State and four townships from eastern Shan State.

Shan State organized 597 members of Fire Services Department, 18712 auxiliary fire brigade mem-

Experiences recounted for observations at Mandalay Region parliament



MANDALAY, 19 March—A first seminar on Mandalay Region parliament took place at United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Mandalay Office between 38th and 39th streets and 63rd and 64th streets in Mandalay on 17 March.

Mr Edin Elgsaether

bers and 826 separate fire fighters at 61 fire stations facilitated with 242 fire engines and supporting vehicles. In January and February 2014, outbreaks of fire caused at 38 houses for 24 times, losing property worth K 18.61 million.

Naing Tun (TGI)

and Mr Frank Feulnw of UNDP discussed cooperation of media persons from Mandalay at the region parliament, field trips of parliamentarian officials and role of media.

They explained UNDP officials has observed parliaments in seven regions and states and role of media as a bridge between the parliaments and the people.—*Kyaw Htoo (Mandalay)*

Pazundaung Tsp dwellers enjoy mobile library



YANGON, 19 March—With the aim of developing livelihoods of the people, Information and Public Relations Department serves facilities of mobile library to the people in Pazundaung Township of Yangon East District on 17 March morning. At the administrative office in Ward 3 of the township, ward administrator explained his

arrangements for reading of locals to have widening scope.

Head of Township IPRD Daw Sanda Moe explained the purpose of mobile library to disseminate knowledge to the locals. Staff of the department issued membership cards to the readers for borrowing the books.

Shwe Taing Lwin

Tiddim people to consume potable water

TIDDIM, 19 March—As a gesture of hailing the 69th Anniversary Armed Forces, a ceremony to put a well into service was held in Fartalang Village in Tiddim Township of Chin State, north-western part of the nation.

Township level departmental officials cut the ribbon to open the well.

Rural Development

Department funded K 15 million to sinking the well in 2013-14 fiscal year. Royal City Men Co Ltd laid 2 miles and four furlongs long and 2-inch diameter PVC pipeline and built one 5000-gallon-capacity water tank.

All tasks of water supply tasks have been completed on 10 March.

Zo Hay Za (Chin Hill)

Mu River Bridge, reliable transport facility in Shwebo Township

SHWEBO, 19 March—The 840 feet long Mu River Bridge linking Mukangyi Village of Dabayin Township and Yekyiwa Village in Shwebo Township becomes better transport facility for the local people.

The bridge is located on Monywa-Thazi-Naung-

gyiaing-Mukangyi-Seikhun-Shwebo Road.

Construction of the bridge started on 15 July 2010 and it has been completed on 18 March 2014.

The bridge can withstand 60 tons of loads and its clearance is 48 feet wide and nine feet high.

In the past, the local people transported paddy, bean, maize and sesame to Monywa via Shwebo and Ayadaw by car. In flooding period of Mu River, local people faced many difficulties in health and social sector, said a local of Mukangyi Village.

Thanks to the bridge, locals from Shwebo Township have easy access to Myitkyina of Kachin State, Ayadaw of Sagaing Region, Kalay and Tamu of Monywa District and townships from Mandalay Region.

Myo Wni Tun (Monywa)



WORLD

Investigations into missing Malaysian jet appear deadlocked

KUALA LUMPUR, 19 March — Investigations into the mystery of a missing Malaysian jet appeared to be at a deadlock on Wednesday, with no conclusive evidence of foul play and doubts whether nations would share military tracking data that could show where the plane may have headed.

Eleven days have passed since Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 went missing, and 26 nations are struggling to search for the airliner over an area more than two-thirds the size of the continental United States.

Malaysian and US officials believe the aircraft was deliberately diverted but an exhaustive background search of the 239 passengers and crew aboard has not yielded any possible motive or link to terrorism.

Malaysia's top official in charge of the unprecedented operation said it was



A Royal Australian Air Force pilot of an AP-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft scans the surface of the sea near the west of Peninsula Malaysia in this handout picture by the Royal Australian Air Force, released via the Australian government's Department of Defence website on 17 March, 2014.—REUTERS

vital to reduce the scale of the search and renewed appeals for sensitive military data from its neighbours that Malaysia believes may

shed light on where the airliner flew.

"All the efforts must be used to actually narrow the corridors that we

have announced — I think that is the best approach to do it. Otherwise we are in the realm of speculation again," Malaysia's

Acting Transport Minister Hishammuddin Hussein told reporters late on Tuesday.

The US Navy said it had switched mainly to using P-8A Poseidon and P-3 Orion aircraft to search for the missing plane instead of ships and helicopters.

"The maritime patrol aircraft are much more suited for this type of operation since the search field is growing," said Navy Lieutenant David Levy, who is on board the USS Blue Ridge, the US Navy ship that is coordinating the search effort.

"It's just a much more efficient way to search," he said.

Flight MH370 vanished from civilian air traffic control screens off Malaysia's east coast at 1:21 am local time on 8 March (1721 GMT 7 March), less than an hour after taking off from Kuala Lumpur for Beijing.

Reuters

Summit among S Korea, Japan, US highly likely

SEOUL, 20 March—A summit among South Korea, Japan and the United States is highly likely on the sidelines of a nuclear security summit in the Netherlands later this month, Yonhap News Agency reported on Wednesday.

"It may be difficult at the moment for a bilateral meeting between South Korea and Japan, a trilateral among South Korea, the US and Japan is possible, considering (the) US request for reconciliation (between Japan and South Korea) and Japan's expression of sincerity," an unidentified South Korean official was quoted as saying.

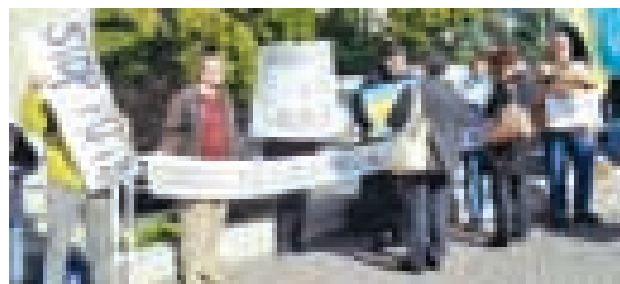
The official said work to set agenda items to be discussed at the trilateral meeting will be made after South Korea finalizes its position.

The report surfaced amid mounting speculation South Korea and Japan may seek a summit during the Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague scheduled for 24 and 25 March.

President Park Geun Hye reacted positively over the weekend to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's promise to honour Japan's past statements of apology for its 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea.

Kyodo News

Japan eyes additional sanctions on Russia over Ukraine crisis: Abe



Ukrainians living in Japan gather near a hotel in Tokyo, where a Japan-Russian investment forum is held, to protest Russia's plan to annex Ukraine's southern Crimea region and the city of Sevastopol into Russia.—Kyodo News

TOKYO, 19 March — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe indicated on Wednesday that Japan could impose additional sanctions on Russia following Moscow's declaration that it would absorb the Crimea region of Ukraine despite a chorus of criticism from Western nations led by the United States.

"We will examine further steps against Russia," Abe told a Diet session. "We criticize (Russia's annexation of Crimea) for breaching Ukraine's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Japan announced Tuesday a set of measures to punish Russia for intervening in Ukraine, including suspension of talks for easing visa issuance conditions, in a move that fell in line with steps taken by the United States and European countries.

Abe did not clearly

mention what steps Japan could take as additional sanctions but government officials suggested they may involve travel bans or asset freezes targeting some Russians.

The premier said he expects to join other Group of Seven leaders in a meeting next week in the Netherlands to discuss the crisis in Ukraine.

The G-7 countries of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States are planning to hold informal talks on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit on Monday and Tuesday in The Hague.

The seven plus Russia comprise another major forum, the Group of Eight, which recently suspended preparations for this year's summit, scheduled for June in Sochi, Russia, in response to the Ukraine crisis.—Kyodo News

Indian PM stresses territorial integrity in phone talk with Putin

NEW DELHI, 19 March —Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh underlined this country's position on "unity" and "territorial integrity" when Russian President Vladimir Putin telephoned him late Tuesday evening, the Indian External Affairs Ministry has said.

During the telephone conversation hours after Putin took the initial steps to absorb Crimea into Russia, the Indian prime

minister made it clear that New Delhi hoped for a diplomatic solution to the issue.

Prime Minister Singh "emphasized the consistent position India had on the issues of unity and territorial integrity of countries," the ministry said.

The Indian prime minister also stressed the need "to find political and diplomatic solutions that protect the legitimate interests of all countries in the region

and ensured long-term peace and stability in Europe and beyond," the ministry said.

The two leaders also discussed the close relationship and mutually beneficial partnership between the two countries, it said, adding that Singh thanked Putin for his personal leadership in further deepening and strengthening the India-Russia strategic partnership in recent years.—Xinhua

Thai justice minister questions latest court case threatening PM

BANGKOK, 19 March—Thailand's justice minister on Wednesday questioned the validity of a court case that could lead to the scrapping of a 2 February election the ruling party looked set to win, one of many pending cases that could bring down the beleaguered government.

The election was disrupted by anti-government protesters and any decision by the Constitutional Court to scrap it would add to the political chaos after 4-1/2 months of street rallies aimed at ousting Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Government supporters accuse the courts of bias and say many judges are aligned with the conservative establishment, prompting several to deny they are

politicized.

Justice Minister Pongthep Thepkanjana said he failed to see how the election could be unconstitutional.

"The petition is not clear on how the election violates the constitution ... This (case) might not even fall under the jurisdiction of the court," he told reporters at the court.

The court will hand down its ruling on Friday.

The petition was brought by Kittipong Kamolthamwong, a law professor at Bangkok's Thammasat University, and forwarded by the state ombudsman's office. The Constitutional Court rejected a similar petition from the Democrat Party last month.

Yingluck heads a care-



Anti-government protesters travel on a pick-up truck near the Interior Ministry building, which is being surrounded by fellow protesters, in Bangkok on 15 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

taker administration with limited powers and scrapping the vote would further delay the formation of a new government.

In a strongly worded statement on Tuesday, her Puea Thai Party said such a verdict would have disas-

trous implications.

"If the Constitutional Court rules the election void, this would be a dangerous precedent for Thailand ... because if a party knows it is going to lose, it will move to block elections," it said.—Reuters

UNSG's message on The International Day of Happiness 20 March 2014

The twin concepts of happiness and well-being increasingly feature in international discussions of sustainable development and the future we want.

Many countries are going beyond the rhetoric of quality of life to incorporate practical measures to promote these concepts in their legislation and policy-making. These good practices can inspire other countries so that measuring and accounting for broader well-being, and not simply national income, becomes a universal practice.

Happiness may have different meanings for different people. But we can all agree that it means working to end conflict, poverty and other unfortunate conditions in which so many of our fellow human beings live.

Happiness is neither a frivolity nor a luxury. It is a deep-seated yearning shared by all members of the human family. It should be denied to no-one and available to all. This aspiration is implicit in the pledge of the United Nations Charter to promote peace, justice, human rights, social progress and improved standards of life.

Now is the time to convert this promise into concrete international and national action to eradicate poverty, promote social inclusion and inter-cultural harmony, ensure decent livelihoods, protect the environment and build institutions for good governance. These are the foundations for human happiness and well-being.

UNIC/Yangon

Health, Wealth and Happiness

By Dr Aung Soe (a) Aung Kyaw Moe

team-work.

Nevertheless, life-style modification is one of the key points in building Health, Wealth and Happiness. Suitable daily exercise is recommended to high-blood pressure, cardio-vascular events, stroke, etc. Social drinking, if not controlled, could lead to severe alcoholism ends up in socio-economical crisis.

You need to take an adequate rest, sleep and average vocational trips for relaxation. Be contented with your earnings! Healthy, nutritious and balanced diet should be consumed. Carbohydrates, proteins, fats, vitamins, minerals and water should be in balanced proportion. Unhealthy choices of food may lead to obesity i.e. a challenge for health and happiness.

Health, wealth and happiness do not come itself; they are to be created.

Dr. Aung Soe is Retired Medical Superintendent now living in Yangon.

WORLD

UN General Assembly president to visit India

NEW DELHI, 19 March — The President of the United Nations General Assembly John Ashe, is to visit India, starting on Wednesday, sources said.

During his three-day visit, he is likely to meet Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid in the national capital and may take up the issue of two Italian marines facing trial in this country for killing two Indian fishermen in February 2012, the sources said. Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Angelino Alfano had reportedly met Ashe at the United Nations in New York Monday and sought his help in the release of the two marines.

"In response, President Ashe informed the minister that in the course of his imminent visit to India, he will be alert for whatever opportunity presents itself to raise the issue," said a statement issued by Ashe's spokesperson. The two Italian marines — Massimiliano Latorre and Salvatore Grieco — had shot dead two Indian fishermen from on board an Italian oil tanker, which they were guarding at the time, allegedly mistaking them as pirates. The incident sparked diplomatic tensions between India and Italy. While Rome claims that the duo should be tried in a global court as the firing took place in international waters, New Delhi insists it took place in its territorial waters. —Xinhua

Afghan president picks new VP, bomb kills 15

KABUL, 19 March — Afghan President Hamid Karzai nominated a new vice president on Tuesday, a moderate politician from the same ethnic group as an opposition candidate contesting next month's presidential election.

Mohammad Younus Qanuni replaces Marshal Mohammad Fahim Qasim, who died following an illness last week. Both men are Tajiks, Afghanistan's second largest ethnic group.

Many Tajiks fought fiercely against the Taliban in the run-up to the US invasion in 2001. They are an important constituency in presidential polls scheduled for 5 April, which should mark the first time in Afghanistan's history that one elected govern-

ment has handed power to another.

Karzai has not officially backed any of the nine candidates currently campaigning, but his two

brothers have endorsed former Foreign Minister Zalmay Rassoul, cementing the official's reputation as a palace favourite. The other two front-run-

ners are Abdullah Abdullah, an eye surgeon and senior aide to a slain anti-Taliban Tajik militia leader, and Ashraf Ghani, a former World Bank official who has teamed up with another militia leader blamed for human rights abuses.

Some will see Qanuni's appointment as an attempt to keep Tajik votes on Rassoul's side.

But others argue the president is simply maintaining an ethnic balance in the government and say Qanuni has publicly supported Abdullah in the past.

All the presidential candidates are Pashtun, Afghanistan's largest ethnic group, except for Abdullah, whose mother is Tajik and whose father is Pashtun.

Xinhua



Afghan policemen inspect the site of suicide bombing in Maimana, Afghanistan, on 18 March, 2014. Fifteen people were killed and 20 others injured on Tuesday morning in a suicide bomb attack in Maimana, the provincial capital of northern Afghan province 425 km northwest of Kabul, provincial governor Mohammad Allah Baktash said. —XINHUA

War crimes evidence in Syria solid enough for indictment



A man inspects the damage at a site hit by what activists said were barrel bombs dropped by forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad in Aleppo's District of al-Sukari on 16 March, 2014. — REUTERS

GENEVA, 19 March — UN investigators said on Tuesday they had expanded their list of suspected war criminals from both sides in Syria's civil war and the evidence was solid enough to prepare any indictment.

The UN inquiry has identified individuals, military units and security agencies as well as insurgent groups suspected of committing abuses such as torture and bombing civilian areas, it said in its report to the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Some 20 investigators have carried out 2,700 interviews with victims, witnesses and defectors in the region and by Skype in

Syria, but have never been allowed to enter the country now in its fourth year of an increasingly sectarian conflict.

However, despite the accumulation of evidence, diplomats say it is unlikely Syria would be referred to the International Criminal Court (ICC) that tries war crimes suspects in The Hague any time soon.

As Syria has not signed the Rome statutes setting up the ICC, the UN Security Council would need to make the referral. Russia, supported by China, has shielded its ally Syria throughout the war, vetoing three UN resolutions that would have condemned President Bashar

al-Assad's government and threatened it with possible sanctions.

"We do not lack information on crimes or even on perpetrators. What we lack is a means by which to achieve justice and accountability but this is not in our powers," Paulo Pinheiro, the chairman of the UN commission of inquiry on Syria, told a news conference.

The commission said the period of 20 January to 10 March was characterized by escalating hostilities between insurgent groups throughout northern and northeastern provinces as Islamist rebel strongholds came under attack.

Reuters

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

Invitation to Open Tender for IP Transit Services 2014-I for Myanma Posts and Telecommunications

1. Myanma Posts and Telecommunications(MPT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology invite open tender for IP Transit Services that to be used for Internet Backbone and this services should be provided via the links those are described in the below table. MPT will pay in foreign currency for those services.

Sr	Link	Capacity
1	Myanmar-Thailand Cross Border (MyaWaDi)	1 x STM 4
2	Sea-Me-We 3 cable	1 x STM 16

2. Bidder should submit the open tender (Technical and requirement Proposal) on March 28, 2014 during 09:30 to 16:30 at Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KaBaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and MPT will deny the tender that is submitted over the assigned period as above.
3. Bidder should submit the price proposal when we call you the day of price bargaining.
4. Tender documents are available from Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KaBaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and detail can be asked to telephone number + 95 1 650118 during office hours.

Tender Evaluation & Selection Committee

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Opened Tenders are invited by Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, for lease of Extended C - Band Bandwidth 80 MHz for the existing services (IPStar System) of Domestic Satellite System and 10 MHz of Standard C Band for the existing VSAT services of Domestic Satellite System which will be paid in Foreign Currency.
2. Tender shall be submitted on date (10-4-2014) (09:30 to 16:30HR) and Tender documents are available at the Head Office Building of Overseas Communications Department, Kabaraye Pagoda Road, Near 8th Miles Junction, Mayangone Township, during Office hours.
3. Please get price quotation when we call you the day for Price Bargaining.
4. For further details, please call 01-650118 during office hour.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (847)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (847) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.3.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Yangon Film School (Management Vacancy)

Active in Myanmar since 2005, the non-profit Organisation Yangon Film School has gained a unique reputation for providing solid filmmaking skills to a new generation of media workers.

We have a vacancy in our management team for the position of **School Manager**

This position will commence immediately with a three-month probation period from followed by evaluation by the School's Director and Committee, and if positive, an annual contract.

Duties Include:

Assisting the School's Director in grant-writing and fund management, course devising and scheduling; overall management and supervision of training programmes including communication with student body, coordination of tutors, trainers, fee agreements, time sheets, translators, workshop venue; ensuring observance of YFS regulations, cooperation with the school's partners, presentation of the school to clients, donors and partners, attendance of events to improve the school's visibility, and lobbying/liaising with government departments in order to further the school's long-term vision in consultation with the YFS Committee.

Have you got what we're looking for?

We believe that the position of School Manager at YFS represents a great opportunity for a talented manager and communicator at an exciting time in the School's and the country's development. We are looking for someone willing to share in the School's vision as a premiere training and media resource. Our ideal candidate will relish this opportunity to be a part of a team at the spearhead of a growing community of film professionals in Myanmar.

Candidates must:

- Be permanent residents of Myanmar or returning to Myanmar having completed a course of study and/or term of related employment abroad
- Be fluent in written and spoken Myanmar and English
- Hold a university degree or higher
- Have at least three years of management experience in either middle management or at directorial level
- Be IT-literate (Word, Excel, DTP skills an advantage)
- Excellent communicators with some knowledge of film and/or media
- Be driven, dynamic, creative and a good team player
- Be able to take on an international standard management role

Applications:

Applications should be please submitted to Win Naing at the YFS house, 51 E, U Po Tet Lane, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Mayangone Tsp., Yangon or via email to yfs.yfs@googlemail.com by 21 April, 2014. Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview.

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

(TENDER NO. 1 (T) MPE/CONDENSATE(1) /2014-2015)

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the Conveyance of Yetagun Condensate 1.75 Mbbls(±5%) from Yetagun Marine Terminal Offshore to No.(1) Refinery (Thanlyin).
2. Tender Closing Date : 8-4-2014 at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : 8-4-2014 at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time : 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015
5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 20-3-2014 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Three died in mafia murder in Italy: media

ROME, 19 March — Three people including a two-year-old child were shot dead as part of mafia revenges in Italy's southern Puglia region, local reports quoted investigators as saying Tuesday.

Cosimo Orlando, 43, was traveling on a highway with his partner and her small child, when a gang fired several shots from a passing car at close-range killing the three of them, police said. Orlando, a convicted killer, had recently been paroled after serving 13 years in jail for participating in a double murder years ago.

Two more sons of Orlando's partner, aged six and seven, were reportedly sitting in the backseat and remained unharmed. Their father had been also killed in a drug-dealing mafia dispute in 2011, police said.

Following the shooting, Italian Interior Minister Angelino Alfano ordered the deployment of dozens of police officers to hunt the murderers, according to ANSA news agency.

Xinhua

UN military vehicles reportedly enter Mozambican capital amid tensions

MAPUTO, 19 March — Armored vehicles bearing a UN logo have entered the Mozambican capital Maputo amid tensions between the ruling party and the opposition, according to the news bulletin released by Mozambique's official television station on Tuesday.

The official TVM counted six armored cars, but said some witnesses claimed that there were about 20 cars entering Maputo, with no further details provided.

The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Defence Ministry refused to talk about the matter apart from advising the journalists to contact the government and Renamo teams that are negotiating a ceasefire.

The Mozambican government and the main opposition party Renamo agreed Monday on the terms of reference a ceasefire between the two sides in parts of the central province of Sofala, where ambushes against vehicles on the main north-south highway, and attacks against other civilians and military targets, particularly in Gorongosa district, have been reported since last year.—Xinhua

Australia reduces red tape for supporting economy

CANBERRA, 19 March — The Australian Coalition government has introduced legislation and tabled documents to repeal over 10,000 "unnecessary and counter-productive" pieces of legislation and regulations for supporting its economy, Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced on Wednesday.

According to him, more than 50,000 pages of unnecessary and costly legislation and regulations that are a dead weight on Australian businesses, community groups and households will be removed.

Abbott confirmed that this will reduce red tape across the economy by more than 700 million AU dollars (636.7 million US dollars) a year, every year.

Xinhua

Fitch Ratings has confidence in Australian iron ore outlook

SYDNEY, 19 March —Global rating agency Fitch Ratings has few concerns on the Australian iron ore outlook, saying the recent fall in iron ore prices does not threaten the country's big three miners, local media reported on Wednesday. Fitch said Australia's big three mining companies BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto and Fortescue are all still very profitable at current iron ore prices, according to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC).

Fitch believed that China's steel demand would continue to grow out to 2020, despite iron ore inventory at China's major ports reaching a two-year high. It said the seasonal slowdown over the Lunar New Year period has contributed to the inventory overhang, and fueled the negative sentiment, but Chinese demand for Australian commodities was not about to decline drastically.

Fitch's head of Asia-Pacific corporate research Matt Jamieson told ABC News Online that the typical seasonal slowdown was extended by a government move to lower pollution in many Chinese cities.—Xinhua

Jennifer Aniston's tell-all book makes Angelina Jolie nervous



LOS ANGELES, 19 March — Actress Jennifer Aniston has got an offer to release a tell-all book with details of the past and the news is reportedly making Angelina Jolie nervous.

Aniston's ex-husband Brad Pitt and Jolie are now partners.

Jolie and Pitt grew close to each other while filming the 2005 film *Mr & Mrs Smith*, during which time the latter was married to Aniston.

"Angelina's worked hard to build up her image as a humanitarian and separate herself from the public outcry when she got together with Brad. She felt the whole 'Team Jen' and 'Team Ange' thing had finally died a death and that the perception of her being a husband stealer was in the past, but then she heard about the book offer," a source told *Now* magazine, reports *contactmusic.com*.

Aniston, now engaged to Justin Theroux, knows that the part where she will recount the details of her breakup with Pitt will be tough to write, said the source.

"If Jen does sign a book deal, she knows the chapter on Brad and Ange will be the hardest for her to write - but it will also be the one everyone will be after. Jen doesn't want to spark any new rows, but there's so much history involved that it's inevitable," the source added.—PTI

Rolling Stones lead singer Mick Jagger and fashion stylist L'Wren Scott arrive at the "Quinzaine des Realisateurs" at the 63rd Cannes Film Festival in this 19 May, 2010 file photo.—REUTERS

Fashion's L'Wren Scott found dead in NYC in apparent suicide

NEW YORK, 19 March — Celebrated fashion designer L'Wren Scott, the girlfriend of Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger, was found dead from an apparent suicide in her Manhattan apartment on Monday, police said.

Scott, a former model whose slim-fitting dresses were favourites among Hollywood's A-list stars such as Nicole Kidman, Amy Adams and Penelope Cruz, was found hanging from a scarf.

"We are investigating it as a suicide," said New York police Detective Kelly Ort.

Police said they had preliminary information that Scott was 49, although that had not been confirmed by her family.

Jagger, 70, said through a spokesperson that he was "completely shocked and devastated." Scott's family issued a statement asking for privacy.

The glamorous pair had been dating since 2001 and were often seen at celebrity events, with the 6-foot, 3-inch (191-cm) tall, raven-haired Scott towering over her rock-star boyfriend.

The news of Scott's death stunned friends, clients and fellow designers. Kidman, a friend of 25 years, was "heartbroken and in shock right now and unable to say anything," her spokeswoman said.—Reuters

Shah Rukh Khan: Amitabh Bachchan's Bhootnath Returns will be one of three big hits of the year

MUMBAI, 19 March — Shah Rukh Khan feels that Amitabh Bachchan's upcoming horror-comedy *Bhootnath Returns* will go on to become one of the greatest hits of the year. Amitabh Bachchan took to his blog to share how touched he was by SRK's unexpected praise about his film, which is the sequel to 2008's *Bhootnath*.

"It was really sweet of Shah Rukh to state quite unexpectedly as he arrived on the sets of *Bhootnath*, that this film would be one of the three biggest hits of the year. Aapke muh mein ghee shakkar, laddoo peda sab kuchh (May your words come true)," Big B posted.

Shah Rukh also has a guest appearance in the film. Besides Amitabh Bachchan, *Bhootnath Returns* also stars Usha Jadhav and Boman Irani, who plays the main antagonist in the film.—PTI



SRK has a guest appearance in the movie.

Kanye West placed on probation over scuffle with photographer

LOS ANGELES, 19 March — Rapper Kanye West was placed on a two-year probation on Monday and ordered to complete community service and anger management sessions after pleading no contest to misdemeanor charges stemming from an altercation with a photographer last year, a court spokeswoman said.

Grammy-winning West, 36, did not appear at the Los Angeles Superior Courthouse and the no contest plea was entered on his behalf by his attorney Blair Berk. Photographer Daniel Ramos attended the hearing with his attorney, Gloria Allred.

West was placed on probation for 24 months and will have to complete 240 hours of community service and 24 anger management sessions. The rapper will be formally booked but will not have to spend

any time in jail. He will be required back in court for a restitution hearing and progress update on 17 July.

Musician Kanye West arrives at the Ghita 2008 collection during New York Fashion Week on 11 Sept, 2007. REUTERS



West and Ramos were involved in a scuffle outside of the Los Angeles International Airport in July, which was captured in a video posted on celebrity news website TMZ. It showed the rapper appearing to lunge at Ramos.

West has become a frequent target of paparazzi after striking up a romance last year with reality TV star Kim Kardashian. The couple's first child, a baby girl named North West, was born in June, and they are now engaged to marry.

Reuters

GENERAL

Serena savours home-court advantage at Sony Open

MIAMI, 19 March — Serena Williams is a daunting opponent no matter the surface or tournament, but at the Sony Open played near the comforts of her Miami home she has practically set up a second residence in the winner's circle.

Williams, who lives an hour's drive from the Tennis Centre at Crandon Park, site of the Sony Open for the next fortnight, is a six-time winner in Miami. That is more wins than she has at any other tournament and one better than her five US Open, Wimbledon and Australian Open grand slam victories.

In the 12 years since Williams first claimed the crown in 2002 she has taken the trophy home with her 50 percent of the time and is favored to add a seventh to her collection when the final is decided on 29 March.

A relaxed Williams certainly looked right at home as she worked her way through a series of pre-tournament interviews at a posh Key Biscayne beachside resort on Tuesday stealing the spotlight

from some of the other assembled tennis glitterati, including Maria Sharapova and Australian Open champion Li Na.

"I have been waiting on this for awhile, it feels good to be back here," the defending champion and world number one told a tableside gathering of media. "It is home, it feels like home, I drive just an hour, it feels great."

"I train here so it is easier to anticipate the wind and the heat and all the extra elements."

Another title Williams can lay claim to is the Queen of South Beach.

Already part owner of the National Football League's Miami Dolphins, Williams hinted that she could add to her sporting empire saying, "anything is possible" when asked if she was open to getting involved with David Beckham and his efforts to bring a Major League Soccer franchise to Miami.

But it is on the court where Williams does most of her business and in Miami it is close to a tennis monopoly.

At 32, Williams is



Serena Williams of the US serves to Ana Ivanovic of Serbia during their women's singles match at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 19 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

one of oldest players in the women's draw yet remains the sport's dominant force with retirement nowhere in sight. Miami will be her fourth event of the season

and the 17-times grand slam winner claimed her 58th career title after opening the 2014 campaign with a victory in Brisbane.

Reuters

British mechanic wins 107.9 mln pounds on Euromillions lottery

LONDON, 19 March— A British vehicle mechanic has been revealed as the winner of about 107.9 million pounds (180 million US dollars) on the Euromillions lottery on Tuesday at a Press conference in Surrey, England, according to local media.

Camelot Group, the operator of the National Lottery of Britain, who also participates in the Euromillions, revealed that 41-year-old Neil Trotter from Coulsdon, south Lon-

don, was the winner of the fourth biggest jackpot since Euromillions' creation in 2004, according to BBC.

Mr Trotter learned that he was the single ticket-holder to scoop the massive jackpot on Friday night, BBC said.

Neil arrived at the conference wearing a grey tee-shirt and jeans with his massive cheque. "We haven't had much sleep since Friday really," he said. "I've always thought I'd win big and I'd had a good

feeling all week."

"On Friday evening we were sitting at home when I checked the time and thought the draw must have taken place by now," said he. "I took out my ticket to check the winning numbers and amazingly one by one they matched. I told Nicky, my partner, 'I've done it, I've won the lottery'. But she told me to shut up and to stop being an idiot." Neil said he turned white as a sheet and couldn't sit still, and he

kept walking around the house. "I didn't know what to do with myself. I got her to check the numbers with me and she started screaming!"

Xinhua

Argentina, Brazil to jointly fight human trafficking

BUENOS AIRES, 19 March — Argentina and Brazil agreed on Tuesday to strengthen joint coordination in fight against human trafficking, and provide assistance and protection to the victims of the crimes.

Under an agreement, signed by Argentine Secretary of Justice Julian Alvarez and his Brazilian counterpart Paulo Abrao, both countries were committed to working together on combating human trafficking by training, awareness campaigns and research making, a joint statement said.

The two countries will also boost preventative strategies and exchange information for criminal investigations, said Alvarez.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(20-3-2014, Thursday)

- 6:00 am
- 1.Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 6:25 am
- 2.Physical Exercise
- 7:00 am
- 3.News/Weather Report
- 7:20 am
- 4.People Talks
- 8:30 am
- 5.India Drama Series
- 9:00 am
- 6.News/International News
- 10:20 am
- 7.Documentary
- 11:10 am
- 8.Sing & Enjoy
- 12:00 pm
- 9.News/International News/Weather Report
- 12:25 pm
- 10. Myanmar Video
- 3:00 pm
- 11. News
- 3:45 pm
- 12. Musical Programme
- 4:00 pm
- 13. News
- 4:25 pm
- 14. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Philosophy)
- 5:00 pm
- 15. News
- 5:30 pm
- 16. India Drama Series
- 6:00 pm
- 17. News/Weather Report
- 6:40 pm
- 18. TV Drama Series
- 7:00 pm
- 19. News
- 8:00 pm
- 20. News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:35 pm
- 21. Current Affairs
- 9:00 pm
- 22. News
- 23. Documentary
- 24. Clever
- 25. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(20-3-14 07:00am~
21-3-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Hiker's Journey (Yangon City)(EP-6) (Part-1)
- * Porcelain and Glass
- * Local News
- * A Visit To Ye
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass Class "Contemporary Art"
- * Local News
- * Products Of Myanmar - Mya Setkyar Pure Silk Fabric From Inlay Lake
- * World News
- * Writer
- * Local News
- * A Highland with Peace and Charm
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Ma Myint Zu"
- * Local News
- * A Trip to Mon State
- * World News
- * The Storytellers
- * Local News
- * Those Who Never Give Up (Ep-5) Shwe Min Thar Foundation
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: My Father The Porter
- * Local News
- * Director: Kyi Phyu Shin
- * World News
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La Liga Standing Table

Pos	Clubs	P	W	D	L	Point
1	Real Madrid	28	22	4	2	70
2	Atletico Madrid	28	21	4	3	67
3	Barcelona	28	21	3	4	66
4	Athletic	28	15	7	6	52
5	Real Sociedad	28	13	7	8	46
6	Villarreal	28	13	6	9	45
7	Sevilla	28	12	8	8	44
8	Valencia	28	10	6	12	36
9	Espanyol	28	10	6	12	36
10	Levante	28	9	9	10	36
11	Celta	28	9	6	13	33
12	Granada CF	28	9	4	15	31
13	Elche	28	7	9	12	30
14	Malaga	28	7	8	13	29
15	Osasuna	28	8	5	15	29
16	Rayo Vallecano	28	9	2	17	29
17	Getafe	28	7	7	14	28
18	Valladolid	28	5	11	12	26
19	Almeria	28	7	5	16	26
20	Betis	28	4	7	17	19



A farmer picks tea leaves at a garden in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 18 March, 2014.—XINHUA

Myanmar Futsal team thumbs up in first tune-up match



In a tune-up match, Myanmar national men's Futsal team routed Jyu Jyo, a Japanese Futsal club, with a wide margin win of 6-3 result on Wednesday.

In its rebut of tune-up matches fixture, Myanmar team led by the Iranian coach met with Japan's Jyu Jyo under control of Takao Sake, former Myanmar team's coach. In the match, the Japan's Futsal team missed the chance to show off its excellent skills.

Myanmar also struggled in deploying its players in early minutes. After

15 minutes of the match, Myanmar opened the deadlock by scoring goals which two goals each came from Tin Win Ko Ko and Pyae Phyo Maung (1) and one each from Aung Aung and Kyaw Soe Moe.

Before the match, President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw and officials cordially greeted the players of both teams.

The second tune-up match will take place at the same venue on Thursday afternoon.—By Nyi Myat Thawda; Photo: Soe Nyunt

Players of Myanmar and Japanese Futsal teams trying to control the ball in tune-up match.
Soe Nyunt

Chelsea ease past Galatasaray, Real thrash Schalke

LONDON, 19 March — Chelsea reached the Champions League quarter-finals with a 3-1 aggregate win against Galatasaray on Tuesday, with Real Madrid joining them in the last eight after thrashing Schalke 04 9-2 over two legs of their last-16 tie.

Chelsea's clash with Galatasaray was finely balanced after a 1-1 draw in the first leg, but the hosts

eased the tension around Stamford Bridge when Samuel Eto'o's deflected shot crept under visiting keeper Fernando Muslera after four minutes.

England defender Gary Cahill

dou-

bled Chelsea's advantage two minutes before half-time, smashing home from close range after Muslera parried John Terry's powerful header from a cor-

ner. Schalke were playing for pride at Real Madrid, after a humiliating 6-1 home defeat in the first leg, but struggled again to contain the Spanish team's dynamic forwards.



Chelsea's John Terry (C) heads the ball clear during their Champions League soccer match against Galatasaray at Stamford Bridge in London on 18 March, 2014.
REUTERS



Galatasaray's Didier Drogba



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo (R) kicks the ball past Schalke 04's Joel Matip during their Champions League last 16 second leg soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 18 March, 2014.
REUTERS

Tim Hoogland's shot from distance took a mean deflection off Sergio Ramos and trickled into the corner with Iker Casillas wrong-footed. A remarkable reflex save from Ralf Faehrmann denied Ronaldo another when his header was kept out after the interval, but he added a second with a typically spectacular low drive after 74 minutes, his 13th in this season's competition.

The Portugal captain

missed the chance to equal Lionel Messi's record 14-goal tally for one Champions League campaign two minutes later when his shot hit the crossbar.

Yet Bale's first-time pass from the rebound set up Alvaro Morata to sweep in and complete a miserable exit for Schalke.

Chelsea and Real Madrid join Barcelona, Paris St Germain, Bayern Munich and Atletico Madrid in the quarter-finals.

Reuters

Sign Rodgers up for long term, Gerrard urges Liverpool

LONDON, 19 March — Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard has urged the club's American owners to agree a new deal with manager Brendan Rodgers as soon as possible.

High-scoring Liverpool are second in the Premier League, four points adrift of Chelsea but with a game in hand, and Gerrard said the Northern Irish manager had proved he was a 'perfect fit' since joining in 2012.

"I am absolutely delighted he is here and I hope there is a lot of movement in Boston now because they have got to get him signed up as soon as possible," the captain told reporters. "For me, I think he deserves a

very long contract here and he is perfect for this club."

Liverpool owners Fenway Sports Group signed Rodgers, 41, from Premier League rivals Swansea on a three-year contract to replace sacked Anfield great Kenny Dalglish.

Chosen ahead of bigger name candidates, he was only the 18th manager in the club's 120 year history. Liverpool finished seventh in Rodgers' first season but have been transformed into a free-flowing team challenging for their first title since 1990.

"He has been a revelation. He keeps tweaking and tinkering with the formation and making little



Liverpool's Brendan Rodgers reacts during their English Premier League soccer match against Arsenal at Anfield Stadium in Liverpool, northern England on 8 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

subtle changes to personnel and tactics and it is coming off from week to week," Gerrard said.

"I have been absolutely blown away by his sessions, his tactics and his maturity in the job. I am learning off him every single day.

"He is driving the club forward. He manages every single player differently, he knows we have different characters in the dressing room and his man-to-man, one-on-one management is the best I have known."

Liverpool humiliated champions Manchester United 3-0 at Old Trafford on Sunday with Gerrard scoring twice from the penalty spot and missing a third.—Reuters

Woods withdraws from Arnold Palmer

NEW YORK, 19 March — Tiger Woods announced on Tuesday he had withdrawn from this week's Arnold Palmer Invitational with a bad back and was unsure whether he would be ready to play at next month's Masters.

The world number one posted a statement on his website saying he told Palmer in person that he would not be able to defend the title he won last year.

"I personally called Arnold today to tell him that, sadly, I won't be able to play in his tournament this year," Woods said.

"I would like to express my regrets to the

Tiger Woods

Orlando fans, the volunteers, the tournament staff and the sponsors for having to miss the event.

"Unfortunately, my back spasms and the pain haven't subsided."

Reuters

