INDIA MULLS OIL PIPELINE TO MYANMAR

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Pope Francis greets State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi during a private audience at the Vatican yesterday.
PHOTO: REUTERS

State Counsellor's meeting with Pope leads to diplomatic ties

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Pope Francis in Rome yesterday before announcing full diplomatic relations between the Vatican and Myanmar.

The move means the Vatican and Myanmar will each appoint a full-fledged ambassador.

Following the talks with Pope Francis, the State Counsellor also held talks with the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

At the meeting, they discussed progress of the political sector in Myanmar and the government's efforts for peace and national reconciliation.

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Remarks of High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini at the joint press point following the meeting with the State Counsellor and Foreign Minister of Myanmar Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

Check against delivery!

It was really an honour, a pleasure for me to welcome the State Counsellor here to Brussels, to the EU institutions, for her first official visit after the formation of the government one year ago. I take it as a particular honour also the fact that, in her first visit to Europe, she is visiting the European institutions.

It is really a sign of recognition of our strong friendship, partnership that has deep roots and also very concrete elements in the work we do together. I started by thanking her for a very warm message she delivered on the relevance of the European Union on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome. This might not be the central point of the relations between the EU and Myanmar, but seeing how our friends and partners in the world value the partnership with the European Union is something that us Europeans should keep in mind a bit more often and hearing her words on that occasion was particularly important – for me personally and I believe for all of us.

We discussed during a very warm, useful, frank, open, interesting and lively discussion today first of all the ways in which the European Union can continue to support, in the best possible way, the democratic transition of the country, the peace and reconciliation process. The European Union is one of the few international signatories of the Peace Agreement [Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement] as a witness and so we exchanged views on how we can - even better and more - support this process, which is fully in the hands of the people of your country, but that needs to be accompanied by all those who believe in democracy, peace and reconciliation. Any reconciliation and peace process needs time, energy, determination, political leadership that Aung San Suu Kyi has shown in a remarkable manner over decades and in these last months, in very difficult conditions. This is what the European Union continues to support and will continue to support with all our means and all our strength – both politically and financially.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gives a press conference with European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini in Brussels. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

We have also discussed our humanitarian support. Commissioner Stylianides has joined us during our meeting; he will visit Myanmar next week and we took also the opportunity also to prepare his visit. We also discussed the political process; perspectives for the change in the Constitution. We also discussed the situation in Rakhine State that is for us an area of concern but also an area where we are providing key humanitarian support for all communities. This will also be part of the work the that Commissioner Stylianides will do next week.

We also exchanged views on the broader regional situation – the work that the European Union is doing with ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations], strengthening our partnership in many different fields and the fact that we will be in Myanmar in November with all the EU Foreign Ministers for the ASEM Ministerial Meeting that her excellency will host and chair. That will be another occasion for us to meet and continue our cooperation that, as I said, is for the European Union a key partnership, and if I can, also a key way to show and live in concrete ways our friendship with the people of the country - all of them - in this new era that the country as started to live.

Any new era is a challenge, is difficult, is interesting, but mainly is difficult. Friends are there to accompany difficult processes; that's what the European Union is determined to do. Sometimes we have some bumpy moments ahead of us but the determination, the sense of direction is the same: that of strengthening and supporting the democratic transition and the reconciliation process in the country, knowing all the challenges that are ahead but in a sense of respect, friendship and mutual understanding and support.

I thank you very much for the honour you gave us of being here today.

Q. I just wanted to ask both of you, actually, what exactly the High Representative has encouraged you to do with regards to the Rakhine and whether you believe that any of her suggestions might be things that you'll be putting into practice? If there's anything specific you can tell us about your discussions on that issue?

I can confirm completely what Aung San Suu Kyi just said. For us what is essential is that the living conditions of all communities are improved as a matter of urgency. Let me start by saying that we always condemn any forms of violence, including the ones that took place on 9th October [2016]. And we did it, I think, as the first international actor, condemning and publicly denouncing attacks on the security forces. We believe that all communities need to see an improvement in their lives and we discussed mainly how we can better support the authorities in the country to implement the recommendations of the Annan report. This is, for us, the roadmap. We have appreciated the determination and the endorsement that the State Counsellor made clearly about the recommendations and indications of the Annan report and we believe that is the way forward. So the fact of the matter is that we are ready to support and we discussed practical ways in which, including through humanitarian aid, the European Union can help and support the full implementation of the measures indicated in the report.

Q: This is a question for both of you. What is your position on the calls for an international investigation into the situation of the Rohingya?

The decision by the [United Nations] Human Rights Council to dispatch an independent international fact finding mission is probably one of the very few issues of disagreement between us, if I can say so. Actually, I have not detected any other. We believe that this can contribute towards establishing the facts for the past provided that, as we said before, we fully agree on the need to work together on the way forward. The fact finding mission, to our understanding, is focussed on establishing the truth on the past and we agree on the need to focus on the future and the implementation of the recommendations that are included in the Annan report as I said.

Thank you ■

Second day of 10th Union Joint Monitoring Committee meeting in Yangon

Ye Khaung Nyunt

The second day of the 10th meeting of the Union Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC-U) was held yesterday at National Peace and Reconciliation Center (NPRC) office in Shweli Road, Yangon.

Matters relating to landmine clearance in Kayin State, forming Local Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC-L) offices in June, appointment of staff in the state-level Joint Ceasefire Monitoring Committee (JMC-S) offices and people's militia, inclusive of border guard force (BGF) were discussed.

JMC-L offices in Shan, Kayin and Bago will be opened before end of June and the decision will be made by JMC-S.

The government will accept only groups that are invited to sign the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) to attend the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong (UPC).

JMC-U Secretary Colonel Wunna Aung said the Tatmadaw will take the lead to clear landmine and technological and material support will be accepted if offered from abroad. Discussions were conducted with KNU as the landmine clearance will start in Kayin.

Discussion on BGF and people's militia was made and Tatmadaw is working on a command understanding.

Appointment of staff in the JMC-S will be made in two months.

State Counsellor's meeting with Pope leads to diplomatic ties

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After the meeting with the Pope, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met for lunch with the Myanmar Ambassador and families of the staff of the Myanmar embassy, Myanmar scholars and nationals in Italy at the embassy in Rome.

In the afternoon, the State Counsellor delivered an opening address at the International Parliamentarians' Conference in Rome as a special guest.

She also met with Chairman of the Myanmar-Italy Cooperation Association Prof. Vincenzo Scotti at the Boscolo Hotel yesterday, discussing conservation and cultural heritage in Myanmar.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also held talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy Mr. Angelino Alfano at the ministry in Rome yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed promoting bilateral friendship and cooperation, Myanmar government's efforts for stability and development in Rakhine State, the peace-making process, and Italy's support for Myanmar's transition to democracy, peace and national reconciliation.

Also present at the meeting were Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Italy U Myint Naung and other officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Left to right, a senior military officer, the Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni and Myanmar State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi review the honour guards during a ceremony at Chigi Palace in Rome yesterday. **PHTO: REUTERS**

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the opening address at the International Parliamentarians' Conference in Rome yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of State Counsellor's Office
Press Release
9th Waxing of Kason 1379 ME
4th May 2017

Warning the public not to be deceived by false news and rumours deliberately disseminated to cause instability and confusion.

1. False news regarding the President and the State Counsellor have been spread on purpose by using accounts with false names, such as NLD Special News, NLD Central News, etc., and these news are being picked up and being circulated on some social media websites. Based on such false news, similar news are being spread more widely among the public.
2. It has been found that these acts are being done intentionally to cause political instability during the tenure of the incumbent government which took office in accord with the election results of the 2015 multi-party democracy election, and to create a situation among the people to live in fear and anxiety due to the spread of rumours.
3. Arrangements are being made to take action against such attempts to spread rumours based on false news with the intention of causing political instability, in accordance with existing laws. Release of news and information on a real-time basis is being made by the Union Government for the State and the general public .
4. Accordingly at this time of great importance when the Union Government has been making efforts together with the public for national reconciliation and the peace process and consolidating the democratic transformation, this Press Release has been issued so that the people would be careful and not fall easily for the fabricated news and rumours which are being circulated by destructive elements.

Press Release
Diplomatic Relations Established Between The Republic of the Union of Myanmar and The Holy See

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Holy See, desirous of promoting bonds of mutual friendship, have established diplomatic relations at the level of Embassy on the part of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and of Apostolic Nunciature on the part of the Holy See.

The Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Holy See was issued after State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's meeting with His Holiness Pope Francis in Vatican City on 4 May 2017.

Myanmar is making efforts to expand its diplomatic ties with countries around the world. The Holy See is the 118th country with which Myanmar has established diplomatic relations.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
Dated, 4th May 2017

Myanmar targets 2M tonnes of rice exports this FY

THE country is projected to export two million tonnes of rice this fiscal year, resulting in earnings of US$700 million, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation.

Myanmar has been able to export high volumes of rice in the past five consecutive years, with 1.2 million tonnes in 2013-2014 FY, 1.8 million tonnes in 2014-2015 FY, 1.4 million tonnes in 2015-2016 FY and 1.7 million tonnes in 2016-2017 FY.

China is the final destination for 60 per cent of the country's rice exports, though demand for Myanmar's rice also comes from the European Union, Sri Lanka, The Philippines and Africa. The National Export Strategy focuses on boosting seven export products: rice; peas/pulses; fisheries products; textiles; timber/forest products; rubber; and tourism in an attempt to tackle the trade deficit.

All the stakeholders in the rice supply chain are exerting sustainable efforts in order to earn up to US$1 billion from Myanmar's rice sector by 2020, said U Ye Min Aung, the secretary of Myanmar Rice Federation.

The government established a public-private partnership in order to distribute pedigree seeds to the farmers, transform from a traditional farming system into a mechanized system, upgrade local rice mills and provide agricultural loans.

Agricultural exports from 1st to 21st April fetched over US$178 million, which is up by over US$72million compared to the similar period of last FY.—Mon Mon ■

A farmer harvests paddy in a rice field in Kangyidauk, Ayeyarwady Region. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

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India mulls oil pipeline to Myanmar

INDIA is considering an oil pipeline to connect refineries in its north-eastern provinces to consumer centres in Myanmar.

According to senior government officials in the Natural Gas Ministry, several Indian oil refiner-marketers have already started marketing petroleum products in neighbouring Myanmar, with the construction of a pipeline seen as the "logical extension of India deepening its economic cooperation with countries in the region".

The officials say that plans for constructing such a pipeline would be considered when refiners come up with an estimate of export volumes, provided that such volumes could justify the cost of a pipeline. Numarligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) has been first off the block to market various petroleum products in Myanmar from its grassroot refinery located at Golaghat, in Assam. Officials said the Assam-based refinery was best placed geographically to cater to markets in Myanmar and that petroleum products would be shipped to the bordering country by road. However, NRL would benefit significantly from the proposed pipeline. As the crow flies, the distance between Assam and centre of Myanmar is about 553 km and about 938 km by road.

NRL, a government company owned by Bharat Petroleum Corporation, Oil India and the government of Assam, operates a three-million-ton-a-year refinery, which is being ramped up to nine-million tons a year.

Government-owned oil refiner-marketer Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has also submitted a proposal to the Myanmar government to set up a retail outlet to vend automobile fuel, and once retail outlets are in place, it will also benefit from transporting petrol and high-speed diesel through the pipeline.

According to the officials, an oil pipeline to Myanmar is part of India's plans to construct a network connecting neighbouring countries Nepal and Bangladesh and will expand Indian oil companies' markets.

Significantly, IOC earlier this week floated an international tender for procuring materials for construction of an India-Nepal pipeline.

The transport infrastructure will entail an investment of US$42 million, connecting the Indian border town of Raxaul to Amlekgunj, in Nepal. The pipeline will have the capacity to transport 1.3 million tons a year of petroleum products from IOC's refineries located at the port town of Haldia, in West Bengal, and Barauni, inBihar.

At the same time, India and Bangladesh have signed a non-binding agreement for the construction of a 131-km pipeline to transport diesel and natural gas from a town in the north of West Bengal to Khulna, in Bangladesh. The pipeline will link NRL's marketing and storage point in West Bengal to Bangladesh, for which NRL has already concluded a purchase-sale agreement with Bangladesh Petroleum.—GNLM ■

Myanmar to export 18 tonnes of coffee seed to US

MYANMAR will export 18 tonnes of coffee seed to the US this fiscal year. The price of Myanmar coffee seed has recently increased in Europe and US markets. The demand for Myanmar coffee seed has been on the rise this year compared with the same period last year, according to Myanmar Coffee Association.

Myanmar coffee seed is exported mainly to Japan and other Asian countries. Myanmar exported about 18 tonnes of coffee to the US twice last year. Myanmar will export 18 tonnes of coffee as a first consignment to the US this year as well.

"The European market is likely to buy the Myanmar coffee seeds. The price of coffee is between US$4,000 and US$ 6,000 per tonne. So, we are planning to export the coffee seeds. And, we are trying to ensure the stable market," said U Ye Myint, the chairman of the Myanmar Coffee Association.

In Myanmar, coffee plants are mainly cultivated in the upper regions. Currently, there are over 30,000 acres of coffee plantations across the country.—200 ■

Myanmar specialty coffee makes its debut in the United States during a private tasting with specialty industry professionals at La Colombe Coffee Roasters in Washington, DC, US in August 2016. **FILE PHOTO: REUTERS**

Unilever forms Myanmar JV for home and personal care products

CONSUMER goods maker Unilever signed a joint venture deal with Myanmar's Europe and Asia Commercial Co Ltd (EAC), combining their home and personal care businesses to accelerate sales in a newly emerging market.

The joint entity, with annual sales of more than 100 million euros ($109 million), will provide both companies with a complementary portfolio, better rural reach and economies of scale, said Unilever, which entered the Myanmar market in 2010.

The venture has a goal of tripling sales to 300 million euros by 2020, Pier Luigi Sigismondi, Unilever's president for southeast Asia and Australasia, told Reuters.

EAC, whose products include detergent and dishwashing liquid, will also help add to Unilever's manufacturing capabilities.

"We felt that maintaining organic growth alone will take us far, but not as far as joining forces with EAC," he said.

"We have a factory there that produces shampoos, haircare products, and we believe that with this joint venture, we will be able to produce the rest of our personal care range in the country," Sigismondi said in an interview at Unilever's regional headquarters in Singapore.

Global companies have lined up to take advantage of an under-penetrated market in Myanmar, buoyed by the growing middle class and a rise in spending.—Aradhana Aravindan/Reuters ■

New Investment Law to come into force soon

A new investment law will become effective soon, according to an official from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). The new investment law was enacted on 18 October 2016 and rules of the investment law were also promulgated during March 2017.

Until 31st October 2016, DICA granted permission to operate to 32 foreign investment companies and 20 local investment companies under the previous investment law. All the companies shall abide by the new law and its rules.

The DICA has uploaded the statement onto its website which mentions limited investment sectors, zone area specifications, and priority industry sectors. The new law will enhance investment activities for both foreign and local investors.—200 ■

Press conference on one year- performance held

Office of the Auditor-General, Union Civil Service Selection Board and Office of the Union Attorney-General held a joint press conference in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, clarifying the achievement of the three governmental institutions in the first one-year period.

Before the Q and A session, Union Auditor-General U Maw Than clarified reforms, and achievements of the Office of the Union Auditor-General and its cooperation with international organizations.

Following it, U Saw Valentine clarified reforms of the CSSB and its achievements including opening of the Civil Service Academy and post-graduate diploma courses and amending of the civil service law and its rules.

Daw Nu Nu Yin, Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Union Attorney-General, clarified visions of the office and works, legal advising, its efforts for fighting corruption in the institution and cooperation with international organizations. ■

Altered strategy to inspect state expenditure for 2016-2017 FY

AT the press conference for state expenditure inspections, Auditor-General U Maw Than said inspection works in terms of Lima Declaration and Mexico Declaration, Financial Audit, Compliance audit, and Performance audit (Value for Money Audit) have been practiced for the financial inspection and will be conducted independently for rationalization. Professional ethics such as integrity, competence, diligence, confidentiality and public interest were practiced for the inspection.

The three prioritized polices were the improvement of public finance management, international standard of financial report on state owned sector and private owned sector, and updating the accounting system.

As for the changes, the amendment of the Law on Accounting and Auditing and Myanmar Accountancy Council Law, the abolishing of the Public Accountants Default Act, the practicing of international standard of accounting in the private sector, transforming to accrual basis from cash basis system, extending access to CPA in which CPA course was allowed for outstanding students from B.Com, B.Act, BBA, Diploma In Account and even graduates by entrance exam system, to study.

The CPA holders of Myanmar citizen graduating from oversea was allowed for registration as CPA. MICPA is identified as a primary member in ASEAN Federation of Accountants(AFA). For that matter, Myanmar Accountancy Council has acted as Professional Regulatory Authority and National Accountancy Body. Today, according to the act of Myanmar Accountancy Council Law and AFA, MICPA was recognized as a Primary Member of AFA, after it was submitted to the Union Government.

With cooperation with associations under the agreement of Memorandum of Understanding, The Audit General office has worked together with the Office of Auditor General of Norway for a five year term, and with World Bank, Asia Development Bank and European Union.

Under the capacity building courses for the civil servants, the Auditor General Office conducted CPA course, Diploma in Accounting, skill trainings for internal, basic, intermediate and advanced training courses for accounting and office work, training courses from other ministries, management course, leadership courses and other courses.

> Financial inspection for 2015-2016 FY was not taken with broad action and it has therefore been changed the inspection strategy for the 2016-2017 FY.

Moreover, the Auditor General also attended the XXII INCOSAI Conference 2016 in United Arab Emirate, IPSAS workshop in South Africa and studied capital market and management in Japan. The Auditor General said the effort such as Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness and inspections on financial accounts, rule and regulation obedience were carried out by 5,202 staff from 386 audit offices.

With regards to the question for anti-corruption, Auditor General U Maw Than said that an auditor's attitude and morality is a major factor among the ethics, so it is necessary to be fair and clear. Corruption does not only mean taking money but includes the action of giving favors to someone. He has been admonishing those staff who committed corruption by encouraging them to work for the interest of the country.

For the question of counter inspection on financial matters, he said that eight audit teams were assigned to inspect all the Union Ministries. An audit team was assigned for four years in turn to inspect in the private sector. Therefore, the assigned audit teams to inspect the ministries are now arranging to turn back to the private sector.

The Auditor General office also submitted the financial analysis report related to expenditures of the Union Ministries for their five years term to the Union Government. It also presented the results of the inspection for the 2015-2016 financial year. According to the report, the inspected ministers' objectives and activities were excellent and attained success. "In that matters, if it is necessary to recheck, we will check in accordance with the instruction of Union Government," said U Maw Than.

The financial inspection for 2015-2016 FY was not taken with broad action and it has therefore been changed the inspection strategy for the 2016-2017 FY. In terms of strategy, a broader inspection will be undertaken for all sectors. As for the Auditor General Office, they are mainly inspecting the expenditure of state budget, said the Auditor General.

Union Minister U Maw Than. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Saw Valentine. **PHOTO: MNA**

Daw Nu Nu Yin. **PHOTO: MNA**

UCSB clarifies its one year performance and answer to media

At the press conference held yesterday on government's one-year performance, Union Civil Services Board (UCSB) member U Saw Valentine said the aim of UCSB is to select a person with the spirit to serve and fulfill the requirement of the people and to train and develop him/her into a public servant who can provide a better service delivery.

He said the teaching subjects were changed in the Central Institute of Civil Services (CICS) and out of the six subjects taught previously, military training was no longer provided and English and IT (information and technology) were added to the remaining five faculties – management, economy, political science, social science and law bringing the total faculties up to seven.

An epoch-making pillar was set in the history of UCSB on 2 January 2017 by the simultaneous opening of Civil Services Academy (CSA) in CICS (Lower Myanmar) and CICS (Upper Myanmar).

Post-Graduate Diploma in Civil Service Management (PGDCSM) courses were opened on 2 January 2017. Post-graduate diploma course for newly selected gazette officers, advance diploma course for mid-level deputy directors and assistant directors and master degree courses for high ranking officials of directors and deputy director-general will be provided and arrangements are made to provide advanced diploma and master degree courses in 2018 June.

According to article 105(a) of the Constitution of Myanmar, amendment to 20 articles of the Civil Service Law was signed by the Union President and enacted under the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law no. 42/2016 on 9 December 2016. The amendment of law results in access to promotion depending upon qualifications and capacities of staff, save earned leave up to 2 months resulting in having more opportunities to perform needs of their families concerning education, health, economy and social affairs, a male serviceman whose wife is not a service person is eligible for having 2-weeks infant care leaves.

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Press conference on one year- performance held

FROM PAGE - 6

Regional allowances entitled regions were redefined according to the budget and all ministries and departments were following it in setting the allowance.

Assessing and training guidelines for promotion were defined by UCSB notice 3/2017 dated 10 January 2017 and distributed to ministerial departments, state and region government offices.

On promoting deputy directors and directors of the union ministries and departments up to 6 September 2016, UCSB promoted 5554 deputy and 2453directors from 32 ministries, departments, 14 states and regions. 157 deputies directors were promoted to directors in 13 ministries and departments. 34 directors were promoted to deputy director generals in 11 ministries and departments. 6 special promotions were made in 3 ministries and departments.

On new gazette officers, 2066 for Ministry of Health and Sports, 112 for 4 ministries including Ministry of Planning and Finance, 50 for Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 258 for 13 ministries including Ministry of Religious Affairs & Culture totaling 2486 were selected.

Contacts and cooperation were made with international organizations in order to train the public servants on an education and competency training instead of a semi-regimental training, reform the public service system, change the curriculum and syllabus in the CICS to be in line with international level.

Afterward UCSB member U Saw Valentine answered to the media questions on the UCSB one-year performance.

During the new government, there was only a very few case of military personnel transferred to departmental positions in the departmental transfers. However, due to the requirement of the respective ministries, if there is a request, arrangements are made for qualified military personnel who meet the requirements to be transferred according to rules, regulations and the decision of the union government.

On the question of 22 transfer cases from Ministry of Defence to other departments, Director General U Kyaw Soe said this was arranged by the previous government and carried out by UCSB. The transferred personnel hold the ranks of captain and major and were made to provide moral support to them as well as to support their families.

Ministry does not set the position for transfer and were assigned post by coordinating with the union government office.

U Saw Valentine said a survey was conducted among civil servants in cooperation with international organizations to assess the people's trust on the civil servants.

A survey will also be conducted on about 2000 families in order to assess the view of the people on the civil servants.

On the matter of pension in transfers, civil servants are permitted to get pension from the former department in some cases and in some cases the service from the former department were added on to the service in the new department and pension from the new department was given.

There is no plan to open a CICS in Nay Pyi Taw Council. A training school is planned for permanent secretary and director general level where 200 trainees can attend.

There are more than 900,000 civil servants in the whole country and military training is no longer given in the CICS.

Press Conference on Performances of the Office of Union Attorney General

"Aims and objectives of Office of the Union Attorney General and legal offices at different levels are to protect by law for rule of law, to make a respectable society emerge, by protecting rights, privileges and responsibilities of every individual according to law, based on justice, good governance and reputation for the emergence modernized, developed and democratic nation, and to become the best ideal in the region," said, Daw Nu Nu Yin, permanent secretary at the press conference held on May 4.

> To develop rule of law, justice and openness, Union Attorney General Office has drawn a strategic plan (2015-2019).....

She added, "As regards the performances of the department of scrutiny of law, it scrutinized and suggested 122 bills and 158 rules and regulations, orders, notifications, instructions and procedure (bill) sent by Ministries, with 88 laws translated from Myanmar into English. In one-year period, 574 cases on international law and ASEAN affair, 745 economic documents contracted between governmental departments, private companies from home and abroad and 291 suggestions on general law were dealt with.

Moreover, concerning criminal cases, legal advices were given prior to filing a suit and in some cases, it pleaded for the State. In civil cases in which governmental organizations get involved as complainants, legal advices were given. In cases applying for formal diplomatic notes at the Union Supreme Court, it pleaded on behalf of the State, and it worked for the State in tribunal on Constitution. In suing and pleading for criminal cases, summonses were made for major witnesses to appear before court so as not to delay. In consultation with respective courts of justice and judiciary organizations, arrangements were made not to delay cases without necessity.

"To develop rule of law, justice and openness, Union Attorney General Office has drawn a strategic plan (2015-2019), signing MoUs with JICA, KOICA, IDLO and MLAW Singapore for getting techniques from abroad and cooperating with UNDP & USAID. In the tenure when the incumbent government it signed with MoU with Denmark embassy on human rights and rules of law. To be well convinced of the facts needed to become competent legal officers, trainings were conducted after making researches, and in cooperation with USAID, Case Management was conducted for setting up pilot law office. Report on the completion of first prioritized project of the Office of Union Attorney General had been compiled and its publication is now underway."

Afterward, Daw Nu Nu Yin and responsible officials replied to the questions raised by media men, regarding the performances of the Office of the Union Attorney General.

Concerning the law protecting women from being forced into sex slaves (bill), Dr Swe Swe Aung, director general replied, "Ministry of Social Welfare, Rescue and Resettlement has sent the bill to the Office of Union Attorney General for two times. In accord with rules and regulations, UAG Office had given their suggestions to the ministry. In drawing the bill, the Ministry did it according to the international standards, but it was found that the bill included some facts incompatible with Myanmar's traditions and culture.

As for our department, we suggested to the ministry about these differences. The Ministry had already known that the bill would be submitted to the Hluttaw for discussion."

As communication act section 66/d, Daw Nu Nu Yin, replied that it has been sent to the Office of Union Attorney General for revision. And, as regards the straightforwardness of the judicial panel, it was replied that instructions have been issued at the legal offices to be free from bribery and corruption. Code of practice for legal officers to abide by compiled in accord with international standards would be published and given out."

— Myanmar News Agecny ■

Post graduate diploma in civil service management graduation ceremonies

GRADUATION ceremonies for post graduate diploma in civil service management were held in Central Institute of Civil Service (CICS) (Lower Myanmar) in Phaunggyi in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region and CICS (Upper Myanmar) in Pyin Oo Lwin Township, Mandalay Region yesterday.

Sixty one graduating trainees, family members, Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) Chairman Dr. Win Thein, National Education Policy Commission Chairman Dr. Myo Myint, member of the UCSB Dr. U Pwa, Yangon Region government minister of social affairs U Naing Ngan Lin, CICS (Lower Myanmar) Rector, advisory group members, management and teaching staff of the institute, personnel from international organizations and invited guests attended the graduating ceremony in CICS (Lower Myanmar) while 58 graduating trainees, family members, member of the UCSB U Win Maw on behalf of the UCSB Chairman, member of the UCSB U Than Tun, CICS (Upper Myanmar) Rector U Nyi Nyi San and officials of the institute attended the graduating ceremony in CICS (Upper Myanmar).

UCSB Chairman Dr. Win Thein delivered a speech in CICS (Lower Myanmar) graduation ceremony and the speech was shown by video in CICS (Upper Myanmar) graduation ceremony.

In the speech, the Chairman said under the guidance of UCSB, Civil Service Academies were opened in CICS (Lower Myanmar) and CICS (Upper Myanmar) to train public servants who will effectively implement the public service reform from old public administration to new public service delivery process that supports the new public management and new public governance that are in line with the present union's practice of democratic system. In place of a semi-regimental training approach, an education and competency training approach was used to train the public servants in post graduate diploma, high level diploma and master degrees. Good public servants will bring about good governance and only with good governance can the socio-economic development could be achieved. He concluded by wishing the graduating trainees to become good public servants who will become the pride and honor of the nation.

Public Private Partnership (PPP) is implemented to develop the private sector and among the 61 graduating trainees 55 were trainees selected by UCSB for gazette officer positions while 6 were from private entities. The training course duration was 16 weeks long.

— Myanmar News Agency ■

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YBS is at the people's service!

Khin Maung Oo

These days news about YBS buses has taken the top position as Yangonians face their problems every day. In fact, it is not a new problem but an old problem inherited from the old regime. After abolishing the Ma Hta Tha's old bus line system, YBS had been substituted for it, since the middle of the month of January, reaching over 3 months. Having endured the bitter experiences of Ma Hta Tha for long, Yangon city dwellers wholeheartedly supported the new YBS. At the launching of the new system, the commuters were eager to be liberated from many sufferings such as unfriendly and rude bus-drivers, bus-conductors and passengers, careless over-speeding, treating travelers with vulgar usages and aggressive actions towards fellow drivers and passengers. Some people burst out their anger, dealing with the problems in their own ways, as the authorities concerned failed to solve them in accord with the prescribed laws, rules and regulations. Thus, it went beyond the law.

At such a time when people were greatly disappointed at the old bus line system, Ma Hta Tha, the whole populace joined the campaign of launching the new system of their own accord, as soon as it was announced that YBS would be implemented, helping to deal with problems which passengers experienced over the new system as usual. In transforming from the old system to the new one, they had already known that there would be many difficulties, getting ready to face any difficulties with great endurance. Here, we should not forget that it is of great importance to manage to control the undisciplined and reckless cases under the management of the old system, at the present time of great expectation towards the YBS.

The very basic reason people expected to have on roads is to have safety while travelling in a bus and friendly treatment from bus-drivers and bus spares and to experience disciplined driving. It will be necessary to assume that reaching our destination with ease and without facing any difficulties is our fundamental need. And, we are required to be well convinced of any problems and to get ready for these problems.

Above all, rule of law is of great importance. I assume that authorities concerned can manage to lessen the stress faced by the people by solving the problems on a timely basis. Buses should ply on sufficient routes in accord with the discipline, after real problems have been identified and assessed. It is sure that we will face challenges and difficulties in changing from the old to the new one. However, solving the problem after listening to people's basic needs will lead to a successful system. ■

Acacia conncinna (Sour Kinpun Plant), A Herbal Plant Sutiable for Hot Season

Zwe Htet Shin

Acacia conncinna (soap acacia). **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

Acacia conncinna (Kinpun Chin Pin in Myanmar/soap acacia in Western countries) is a plant, the leaf of which is used very commonly for sour soup at the dining tables of Myanmar families. Acacia is also a plant widely known for its medicinal value, hence it is famous as herbal plants. The leaves of the Acacia are easily available at all bazaars at a price affordable for all walks of life. There has been a saying in Myanmar that some kinds of food are medicine while some medicines (in this context it refers to a kind of herb) can be taken as food. This acacia leaves are more suitable to eat in warm season for the health of a man.

Acacia conncinna occurs widespread in Myanmar as natural plant or plant grown by man either for family dining table or for commercial purpose. In some regions of Myanmar Acacia are planted around a farm plot or a house as a fence. Acacia is partly climbing and shrub like plant. The stem is not so rigid and the sprigs have short hard thorns. The tender sprigs with leaves give reddish brown colour, the leaves are small and rounded at the top. The fruit is somewhat flat with slightly swollen pods bearing the seeds.

Family name of Acacia conncinna is of Mimosaceae Family and Myanmar people call it Kin Pun Chin, English-speaking people call it Soap Acacia, Mon people call it Sot Lapoot. According to the treatise of Myanmar Traditional Medicine Acacia leaves are good for diseases caused by excessive heat in the body metabolic system and it can also cure diarrhea. So, it is more suitable to take acacia in warm climate than other seasons.

Acacia is thorny shrub like plant. The stem is relatively soft and bears the flowers in clusters at the top of the branches. The colour of the flowers is yellow and usually blooms at the end of summer till the rains come. Acacia bears the fruit in cold season and the colour of fruits is black. The properties of Acacis's flower are sweet and cool and it can cure the diseases related to flatulence, phlegm and bile. The leaves of Acacia, in the respect of traditional medicine, is hot and sour and can relieve indigestion, diarrhea and the diseases due to excessive heat in the body. Fruit is bitter and cool, and has effect of laxative and can induce more urine.

SEE PAGE-9

Tourist arrivals increased by 22 per cent in the first two months of 2017

THE arrival of visitors with tourist visas to Myanmar through international entry gates has increased by 22 per cent in the first two months of 2017 when compared to the same period last year, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Although the number of tourists arriving via international entry gates was over 500,000 in January and February, 2016, the same period of this year saw 600,000 tourists arrive in Myanmar. The number of the tourists has increased in large part because the government has created new tourist destinations across the country.

A tourist couple seen at Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

"Another reason for the increased number of tourists can be attributed to a better cooperation between the tourism-related ministries and associations under the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism," said an official from the directorate of hotels and tourism.

Previously, the immigration department counted foreign visitors who visited Myanmar from border gates as part of tourist arrivals. Starting in 2016, the department has only recorded the tourists who enter the country through international entry gates with a tourist visa.—200 ■

Two killed, two injured in car crash on Ygn-Mdy Highway

A Toyota HiAce van en route from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw driven at a high rate of speed by Min Khant Kyaw crashed into four men from at a Nan Htike Taw Win Express bus, police said. The four men were repairing the vehicle when the driver of the van apparently lost control.

Two men were killed and the other two injured in the crash at mileposts between 103/0 and 103/1 on Yangon-Mandalay Highway at 10:30 pm on 3 May. The injured victims and the two bodies were taken by Myo Chaung Police to Phyu Hospital. Local police have taken action against Min Khant Kyaw for reckless driving and against the express driver Thet Aung for illegal parking on Yangon-Mandalay Highway under sections 304 (a) 338/337 of the Penal Code.—Nyi Nyi Than (Nay Pyi Taw) ■

PHOTO: MPF

3 MDG urges people to cooperate

THE Three Millennium Development Goal Fund (3 MDG) has urged people to cooperate with the authorities to reduce the risk of drugs because there is a high rate of HIV infection among drug abusers in particular, it is learnt.

Kachin state is one of the states and region actively conducting the fight against drugs. Despite such efforts, the outbreak of cases of HIV/AIDS is still on the rise, according to 3 MDG statistics.

3 MDG aims to reduce the mortality rate of children, decrease the morbidity rate of expectant mothers, and continue the fight against three deadly diseases -- AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. The 3MDG organisation is also providing special health care for newborns.

The organisation will have spent US$275 million on implementation of health care projects from the end of 2012 to the end of 2017. From these funds, 3 MDG will spend US$30 million on the prevention of HIV and eradication of TB.— 200

Acacia conncinna (Sour Kinpun Plant), A Herbal Plant Sutiable for Hot Season

FROM PAGE-8

Moreover, it has medicinal power to get rid of phlegm from bile, to cool the scalp, to blacken and strengthen the hairs, and it can kill the fleas and dandruff.

Leaves and fruits are usually used in traditional medicine. Fresh juice of Acacia leaves are used in curing the Hepatitis diseases, bile diseases, diabetes and other urine-related diseases. Boiled water with Acacia leaves is good in reducing the fat content of the body and it is used for curing dropsy, malaria and constipation.

In Thailand it is used as appetizer for people suffering from losing appetite. The mixture of fruit and leaves is also used for laxative. Fruit is used as antidote to snake's poison. Boiled fruit can cure stomach diseases, blood-related diseases, heart diseases, leprosy and help in easy child birth. The seeds are used to induce vomiting and to lessen the viscosity of phlegm. It is known Acacia conncinna contains alkaloid s and saponin.

Acacia is also an effective traditional medicine in curing liver diseases. Tender leaves of Acacia is immersed in pepper water, then grind the leaves in mixture with salt, tamarind and chilly and the product is known to be able to cure the hepatitis and bile diseases. The study on acacia showed that by applying the pounded paste of fresh tender acacia leaves on the place of enlarged liver for a sufficiently protracted time, the disease will be relieved.

Grind the tender leaves to the paste and leave it for one night, and then add small amount of sugar and take it regularly with cool water sterilized by boiling. It will cure the dropsy, inflammation of intestine due to infection, flatulence and serious ulcers. Acacia soup is good for human health. It lessens the unnecessary heat in the body, supports the function of kidney and engenders the proper urination, and it is good even for impotency. Furthermore, it can clean unwanted materials or toxin from the body and results in physical good look of the person. Persons with malaria, stomach diseases, blood-related diseases and white rashes on the skin should take regularly the soup or curry of soap acacia. Persons with heart diseases should take three times a day the boiled mixture of 5 ticals of Acacea, 10 ticals of jiggery and some salt. It gives the appetizing effect if the fried acacia with fish or meat is taken. Those people with oesophagus disease, indigestion and infected intestine should take regularly the sour soup of Acacia.

After grinding the tender leaves of Acacea to a powder stage, mix it with garlic, ginger, salt, fish paste, dried prawn powder, and some cashew nuts. Tread them all with some amount of oil and wheat flour and wrap them with Noni leaf and finally wrap it up again with banana leaf and grill it till the flavor of baked acacia comes out. It is now ready to be used as medicine as well as food for the ills and those with loss of appetite.

The mature leaf of Acacea is pounded with some salt and the liquid produced is filtered through a thin cotton cloth. The clean liquid that has passed through the thin cloth can be used as eye drop that can relieve the eye sore, ache of eye brow bone and makes the eye clearer. It is known that the powder of the fruit can cure the skin diseases if the powder is applied regularly on the infected places. If someone mistakenly takes arsenic and lime, a cup of boiled water of Acacia fruits can make him vomit and save the life. The boiled fruit mixed with the bark of Grewia polygama is widely used by Myanmar women as natural shampoo. The liquid mixture of soap acacia and bark of Grewia can wash out the dirt, cool the scalp, blacken the hair and support the healthy hair. Myanmar people, both male and female used to wash their hair with the natural shampoo, the liquid mixture of soap acacia and bark of Grewia on the very day of new year.

It is suggested to grow the Acacia conncinna (Soap Acacia) commercially as it is widely used as food and also as herbal medicine in Myanmar and it also is suitable food for the hot and arid climate. —Translated by Khin Maung Win ■

Fire breaks out in Sittway

AN over-heated solar panel caused a fire at a house in Aungmingalar Ward in Sittway yesterday.

The fire broked out at the house of Daw Nulimarhar in Minbargyi street at about 9:10 pm and then spread to another house. The fire was put out by nearby people. Local police are investigating causing the fire. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Scientific Literary Award to be awarded on 7 May

THE second Myint Myint Khin Foundation will held Scientific Literacy Award ceremony at Central Press Building in front of former Secretariat, Ministry of Information at the corner of Theinbyu Road and Anawrahtar Road in Yangon on 7th May. The award will be given to the younger generation founders and enthusiasts of Curiosity Science Maganize.—GNLM ■

Methamphetamine pills seized in Lashio, Naunghkio Townships

POLICE discovered 1,630 methamphetamine pills in a search of Yawtar Wun's house, No. (Hta/16/475), Sein Kwan Kyaung Street, Ward 12 in Lahio Township on Tuesday.

During the interrogation, the other five men were also found with Yawtar Wun together with 1,630 stimulant pills in the house.

Similarly, a combined anti-drug squad from Lashio also stopped and searched a motorbike driven by Toe Aung and seized 1,400 stimulant drugs at the mile post of 80/4 on the high way road of Naunghkio Township yesterday.

The suspects are being charged under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Myanmar Police Force ■

Public welfare activities performed honoring Fireman Day

FIREMEN and reserve firemen under the Sagaing Region Fire Service Department together cleaned the compound of the 200-bed general hospital in Sagaing Township yesterday.

U Myo Thu Aung, an officer of Fire Service Department, said educational talks on fire hazards and safety, fire prevention, and donations of blood were also performed.

The hospital treated the fireman with steamed and crispy sticky rice afterwards. —Myo Win (Sagaing) ■

Workshop in Tachileik to vanish forced labor

AN educational workshop was held yesterday at the Community Centre of District Information and Public Relations Department to wipe out forced labor. The workshop was a collaborative effort by Mawkwan Region Development Organization and Thutadana Development Organization.

U Sit Htun Khaing, Chairman of Thutadana Development Organization gave a speech explaining the reason behind holding the workshop, and then Daw Nan Oww Fatt, Project negotiator of Kengtung's Mawkwan Region Development Organization discussed about the current situation of forced labor, labor laws and the opportunities for migrant workers. Local and social youth organizations of the wards and villages attended the workshop and made group discussions, watched educational videos and were shown media photos of forced labor. —Tachileik IPRD ■

THE Fourth UN Global Road Safety Week organized by Myanmar Road Safety will be held from 8 to 14 May 2017 in downtown Yangon. The ceremony to contribute cash to the movement was held at the office of Myanmar Road Safety in People's Square at U Wisara Road, Dagon Township yesterday afternoon. At the ceremony, Schreder (Myanmar) Chairman U Soe Moe Naing presented US$ 2,800 to Myanmar Road Safety's secretaries U Aung Naing and U Ko Htay.—Saw Thein Win ■

Projects to prevent river banks failure in Mandalay

THE Regional Directorate of River Resources and Improvement of River Systems is planning to spend Ks 2969.08 million on a project to prevent river bank failure, said U Kyaw Myint Than, Joint Director from the Engineering Department of ITS.

The projects are to be carried out in Se Thal in Hninthar-phoe villages in Singu Township; Se Phyu Gone, Bagansu, Ywartanshae and Gonetangyi villages in Madaya Township; Ohhbottan and Zaycho villages in Tada-U Township; Htan Hla Sin villages in Ngazon Township; Layeaintan village in Myingyan Township and Lawkanandar bank in Nyaung-U Township.

This river bank failure prevention project and other needed projects will be continued depending on the added finance from the government, said U Kyaw Myint Than.

The projects were started at total 16 villages in Singu, Mattaya, Patheingyi, Sintgyaing, Myingyan and Tada-U Townships in early December 2016. HtoneGyi, Satkyatgyi and Inngatal villages in Singu Township; Thahtaygone, Thamingyan and Ywartanshal villages in Myittha Township; Darkyun village in Myingyan Township and Yabae Village in Tada-U Township were fully completed. Other projects are said to be completed before the end of May 2017.—Min Htet Aung(Man Sub Printing House) ■

Invitation to young writers for new Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is now accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its new weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform starting in May.

Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150 NgarHtatGyiPayar Street, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information:

(1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.),
(2) Real name and (if different) your penname,
(3) Your level of education,
(4) Name of your School/College/University,
(5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses,
(6) A color photo of the submitter,
(7) Copy of your NRC card,
(8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).

- Editorial Department
- The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

Outstanding students end making camps in Bagan, Inle, Ngwehsaung

OUTSTANDING students ended their camping in Bagan, Inle and Ngawhsaung beach, following their excursions in respective areas.

Before the closing of the camp in Bagan, the outstanding students visited Thiho Shin Pagoda, Shwemawdaw Pagoda, Sithu Shin Tharakun Pagoda and Pakan Gyi old monastery in Pakokku Township.

On Ngwehsaung Beach, outstanding students for 2017 celebrated the end of their excursion with camp fire on the beach in Pathein township in Ayeyawady Region.

Outstanding students from Inle camp also visited interesting places of Shan State Capital, Taunggyi and its nearby townships yesterday. In the evening, a dinner in honor of the students was held with the attendance of Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut. After the dinner, outstanding students were entertained with the traditional fire-balloons at BEHS1 Taunggyi.—Hein Htet Zaw, Min Thit and Naing Lin Kyi ■

The outstanding students venture into Hten San Cave in Taunggyi. **PHOTO: MNA**

Electrical sub-stations to be built in Rakhine

ELECTRICAL sub-stations of the 66 KV capability will be built in Yathedaung, Buthidaung and Maungtaw in Rakhine State, townships that previously relied on lower-powered generators that provided power for a few hours a day, according to U Hein Moe Htet, assistant manager of the Engineering Office of Maungtaw District.

"With the acquisition of a system power supply, full electrical power can be supplied to consumers", U Hein Moe Htet said. "Now, depending on the volume of power of the generator, it has been being distributed. In all of the towns, Buthidaung, Yathedaung and Maungtaw, townspeople are being supplied with power through generators. Now, 66 KV sub-stations targeted to be built will be implemented as promptly as possible. For the time being, surveys were made for the site to build 66 KV sub-stations at the exit point of the towns. Just after the acquisition of system power supply and construction of sub-stations, electrical power will be transmitted into the 11 KV electrical current grid line for distribution to consumers." Since 1955, electrical power had been supplied to the wards in Yathedaung, Buthidaung and Maungtaw through 500 KV and 400 KV generators. Town dwellers in Buthidaung are now being supplied with power from 6:30 pm to 11:30 for now, for 5 hours daily. Upon completion of the construction of 66 KV Sub-stations, power will be supplied more than now. To do so, 11 KV Power grid lines have already been installed in wards of the town.

"Our town is less developed because of a lack of electricity", said U Kyaw Tha Maung, a resident of Buthidaung. "Other townships were less developed than ours, but they were supplied with power to the fullest. If our town acquires electrical power more than now, not to mention 24-hour power acquisition, we have great prospects for much development."

Currently, over 1,000 households in Buthidaung are being supplied with electricity from three transformers. —Maung Maung Thant (Kyemon) ■

Ks250 million each donated to two philanthropic foundations

TWO philanthropic foundations working for orphans, aged people and HIV patients were provided with cash assistance by a donor yesterday.

At the ceremony held at the Aung Foundation in North Dagon Township yesterday, KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation (BFM) presented K250 million each to Daw Than Myint Aung and Daw Phyu Phyu Thin, who founded the philanthropic homes for the HIV patients and aged people. "Philanthropies like us need to arrive at the right time to the right place. We cannot do this with goodwill alone, for we need compassion to deliver donors' assistance and charity to the target areas swiftly and effectively. I want to thank KBZ BFM for providing the much needed cash assistance and I promise to use this effectively in needed places," said Daw Than Myint Aung, who founded the Aung Foundation providing shelters for HIV infected orphans, non-infected orphans, and homeless senior citizens. The foundation also provides training for future leaders of philanthropy. The donation to Daw Phyu Phyu Thin, the head of the NLD AIDS Centre-NAC HIV/AIDS, which has been giving care to HIV patients for 15 years, was an effort to assist in the construction of the Sanctuary for the Protection and Care of HIV-infected People in East Dagon.

The donation will also assist philanthropic homes for the aged. **PHOTO: MNA**

"I feel we will be able to carry out most of the tasks we have planned," said Daw Phyu Phyu Thin, adding that the donation is the largest sum the centre has ever received. "Ks250 million is no small amount".

Daw Nan Lai Kham, the chairperson of BFM, spoke on behalf of the foundation and expressed her delight for funding the two foundations.—Thura Lwin - ECO ■

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and Chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 10th MAY 2017 (Fullmoon Day of KASON), Loading, UnLoading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV BBC CONGO VOY. NO (1109032)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BBC CONGO VOY. NO (1109032) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.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 Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV THANLWIN STAR VOY. NO ( )

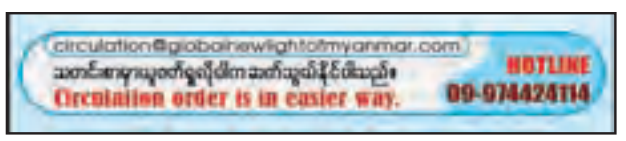
Consignees of cargo carried on MV THANLWIN STAR VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.5.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185



Plastic waste threatens Ghana's fishing industry

ACCRA — Fishermen at Teshie, like in many other fishing communities in Ghana, have been plagued by plastic waste.

Walking down any street in towns and cities or even in the villages, one can see plastics floating in rivers or blocking drains, with some of the waste ending up on the beaches.

At Teshie beach, the fishermen complained about "harvesting" more plastic waste than fish. Dead fish were occasionally found floating on the water, some of which are believed to have died of consuming the plastic.

Since plastics in Ghana are not biodegradable, it takes many years for them to decompose.

When our reporters visited the coastal community, the whole beach was covered by filth with the fishermen strategizing on how to clear them.

The chief fisherman at the community, Nii Adjei Wawadja, who supervises the work of over 2,500 fishermen, said several appeals to the authorities to help tackle the problem had not yielded positive results.

"The authorities should come and see whether this beach is a hygienic transit point for fishes that are caught because the fish that is brought from the sea is first discharged here. And the same place you have refuse and feces also being deposited here. So when you come here to buy and you see all this unhygienic surrounding, you will not feel like buying," he told Xinhua.—Xinhua ■

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Modernization of Public Finance Management
Credit No. 54020-MM/Grant No. TF017910
IFB No: MPFMp-ICB-IS2S-C2-IS218

IFB Title: Supply, Implementation and Support of a CORE Banking System (CBS) and related linkages for Myanma Economic Bank.

1. The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing in the amount of Credit for US$30 million from the World Bank and a Grant for US$25 million from UK and Australian governments towards the cost of Modernization of Public Finance Management Project (MPFMp) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the agreement(s) resulting from this IFB: **Supply, implementation and support of a CORE Banking System (CBS) and related linkages for Myanma Economic Bank.**
2. The Ministry of Planning and Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as the implementing agency for the project now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the **Supply, implementation and support of a CORE Banking System (CBS) and related linkages for Myanma Economic Bank**. Myanma Economic Bank serves as the implementing agency for the project and for the specification, customization, supply, implementation, commissioning and handover of the above system and linkages.
   The details of the scope of supply, implementation, and support for the CORE Banking System and related linkages are available in the bid document.
3. Bidding will be conducted using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Two stage Bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits* and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines that meet the minimum qualification criteria:
   (a) Bidder's Financial Capability
   The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence that it meets the following financial requirement(s): average Annual Turnover within the last three (3) years of not less than **USD 7,500,000;** and access to financial resources such as lines of credit, etc. of at least **USD 1,000,000**.
   (b) Bidder's Experience and Technical Capacity
   During the past five (5) Years, the Bidder must have completed at least two (2) successful contracts involving the supply, implementation and support of an integrated CBS and components of the system and related linkages, and preferably at least one of them was in a developing country environment similar to that of Myanmar; such contract shall have the value greater than 50% of the value of the Bid. The Bidder shall also provide the name and contact information of the user.
   More information on qualification of bidders is specified in the bidding documents.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Ministry of Planning and Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 09:30 – 12:30 and 13:30 - 16:30 hours, Monday to Friday, except pubic holidays. As an alternative, the set of bidding document may be sent to interested Bidders upon submission of a written application to Ministry of Planning and Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar by email: mmt.budget@gmail.com, cc zawnaing652011@gmail.com, sukumarshep@gmail.com.
   A pre-bid meeting will be held on 31 May 2017 at 14.00 hours at the address mentioned in the bid document.
5. First stage bids must be delivered/submitted to the address below on or before **28 June 2017 at 14:00 hours Myanmar time.** Electronic submission of bids is not allowed. **Late bids will be rejected**. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration in the format given in the Bid document.
7. **Address for bid submission:**
   Attention: Mr Zaw Naing
   Address: Ministry of Planning and Finance, Building Number (26), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Britain's Catherine, The Duchess of Cambridge visits a 'Farms for Children' farm in Gloucestershire, May 3, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

UK's Duchess Catherine joins school children down on the farm

LONDON — Britain's Duchess of Cambridge joined schoolchildren at a farm in western England on Wednesday as they learned about rural life and how food is produced. Catherine, wife of second-in-line to the throne Prince William, watched pupils tending to pigs, sheep and chickens as part of a week-long education programme. The "Farms for City Children" charity runs the courses in which kids from urban areas live and work on farms with their teachers for a week."It is an intense, 'learning through doing' experience of a different life for children who may not know where their food comes from and have limited opportunities to explore the outside world," Catherine's Kensington Palace office said.

The charity has three farms, with 3,200 children and 400 teachers visiting per year, the palace added. Catherine was joined at Wick Court Farm in the Gloucestershire village of Arlingham by children's author Michael Morpurgo, who founded the charity with his wife Clare in 1976. The visit came the day after the second birthday of the Cambridges' daughter Princess Charlotte and as the royal pair are seeking damages in a French court over the publication in celebrity magazine Closer of topless pictures of the duchess in 2012.—Reuters ■

United Air to face second congressional grilling at Senate hearing

WASHINGTON — United Airlines (UAL.N) will be back in the hot seat on Thursday when the US Congress holds its second hearing this week to examine the circumstances surrounding the forced removal of a passenger from a Chicago flight last month.

United President Scott Kirby was to join Chicago Department of Transportation Commissioner Ginger Evans at a US Senate Commerce subcommittee hearing into the state of airline travel, following the high-profile dragging of a 69-year-old passenger from a United flight on 9 April.

Amid looming threats of increased oversight of the largely deregulated industry, United hopes to impress the panel that the US sector can best regulate its own practices, including implementing enough customer service-minded changes to improve passenger satisfaction.

Also slated to testify on Thursday are Sara Nelson, the international president of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, and Sharon Pinkerton, an official at the airline trade group Airlines for America.—Reuters ■

WHO to help bring cheap biosimilar cancer drugs to poor

GENEVA — The World Health Organization (WHO) is to launch a pilot project this year to assess cheap copies of expensive biotech cancer drugs in a bid to make such medicines more widely available in poorer countries.

The UN agency said on Thursday it would invite drugmakers in September to submit applications for prequalification of so-called biosimilar versions of two such drugs on its essential medicines list, Roche's Rituxan and Herceptin. WHO also plans to explore options for prequalifying biosimilar insulin. The move is a boost for biosimilars which are expected to account for a growing proportion of treatments, particularly for cancer, as patents on the original branded products expire. The WHO plays a critical role in monitoring drug quality in poorer countries through its prequalification program, which ensures that treatments supplied by UN agencies such as UNICEF are of acceptable quality.

The programme is also used by many governments to guide the bulk purchase of medicines. "Innovator biotherapeutic products are often too expensive for many countries, so biosimilars are a good opportunity to expand access and support countries to regulate and use these medicines," said WHO Assistant Director General Marie-Paule Kieny. Roche's Rituxan, known generically as rituximab, is used principally to treat blood cancers, while Herceptin, or trastuzumab, is a treatment for breast cancer. The complex nature of biological medicines, which are made inside living cells, means copies can never be exactly the same as the original. But a growing number of such drugs have been approved as similar enough to do the job in several markets.—Reuters ■

The World Health Organisation (WHO) logo is pictured at the entrance of its headquarters in Geneva in 2015. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE
INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT
OPERATION MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE
NOTICE FOR FURNISHING COMMERCIAL TAX ANNUAL RETURNS FOR 2016-2017 FINANCIAL YEAR

1. This is to notify that any persons chargeable under the Commercial Tax Law within the financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, including the economic enterprises of the Union Government, State-owned mills and factories, trading and service enterprises, development committees, cooperative societies, individuals, organizations or associations formed by individuals, companies , partnerships and joint-ventures, carrying out the following economic activities are required to furnish their annual returns of production or services, properly filled in, signed in accordance with the instructions mentioned in the retruns to the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office in person or by registered mail. A receipt will be issued by the respective offices in the case of returns being filed in person.
   (a) Domestic Production
   (b) Import
   (c) Trading
   (d) Service
2. The total proceeds of sale or the total receipts from service, which are not charageable to commercial tax, of goods and services in the Cooperative and Private Sectors, other than exempted goods and services under the Union Taxes Law, 2016, are as follows;
   (a) The total sale proceeds of Kyat 20,000,000 for the domestic production of goods in a financial year.
   (b) The total receipt from service of Kyat 20,000,000 for the rendering of services in a financial year.
   (c) The total sale proceeds of Kyat 20,000,000 for the trading business in a financial year.
3. **Deadline for furnishing of returns -**
   30th June 2017 (Friday)
4. **Penalty for late filing and non-filing of returns -**
   A penalty of 10 % on the tax due shall be charged if there is a failure to furnish the return without a sufficient cause within the stipulated time.
5. **How to get return forms -**
   The forms are available free of charge at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or on the IRD website http//www. irdmyanmar.gov.mm.
6. **Enquiries**
   Enquiries may be made at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office(1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or Tax Service Unit , No. 59/61, Ground Floor,Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon or the Tax Service Unit, 65th Street, between 22nd and 23rd Streets Mandalay.

Director
Operation Management Directorate

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE
INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT
OPERATION MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE
NOTICE FOR FILING RETURN OF INCOME

1. All taxpayers, including companies, partnerships and joint-ventures, cooperative societies, association of collective farming, individuals (excluding salary-earners), associations formed by individuals, organizations or associations registered and formed under any existing law,chargeable under the Income Tax Law within the financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, are required to file their returns of income if they made profit or not in this financial year, properly filled in and signed in accordance with the instructions mentioned in the returns, to the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (2) and (3) in person or by registered mail. A receipt will be issued by the respective offices in the case of returns being filed in person.
2. Those taxpayers registered with the Large Taxpayer Office and Medium Taxpayer Office (1) are required to make their own tax assessments and file a return of income to the Large Taxpayer Office and Medium Taxpayer Office (1) in person or by registered mail. In filing a return of income, instructions mentioned in the return should be carefully followed and there is no need for filing annual financial statements.
3. Those taxpayers who earned income from "Salary" within the income year are not required to file a return of income. However, their employers are required to file the Annual Salary Statement to the resepective Township Revenue Office.
4. **Requirement For Attachment :**
   Taxpayers are also required to submit, together with the return, a financial report prepared in connection with taxpayers' books of account kept in accordance with the Income Tax Regulations for the relevant income year.
5. **Deadline for Filing of Returns-**
   30th June 2017 , (Friday)
6. **Penalty for late filing and non-filing of returns of income**
   A penalty not exceeding 10 % of the tax due may be charged if there is a failure to file a retrun of income.
7. **Where to get return forms-**
   The forms are available free of charge at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (1), (2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or on the IRD website http//www.ird myanmar.gov.mm.
8. **Enquiries**
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Director
Operation Management Directorate

Singer Tony Bennett's career, paintings on show in New York

NEW YORK — Legendary singer Tony Bennett may have left his heart in San Francisco, but the native New Yorker was in his hometown on Wednesday celebrating his long, prolific career as a singer and a painter.

Bennett, known for his traditional pop standards, big band, show tunes and jazz music, was thrilled with a collection of 40 of his paintings and screenings of his performances in a new exhibit titled "Tony Bennett: Celebrating 90 Years of Artistry."

"I've always done the two things that I love to do, which is sing and paint, and it's wonderful being honored about it," Bennett, who turned 90 in August, said in an interview at The Paley Center for Media.

"I can't believe that they put them up so well and put nice frames on them all, very happy about it," said the crooner whose signature 1962 song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," has become an anthem for the California city.

Paintings by Bennett, mainly in oils and watercolors, at the exhibit include a self-portrait, taxi cabs in the rain, Central Park, jazz trumpeter Miles Davis and San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

Bennett, who has racked up multiple Grammy awards in his musical career of more than 60 years, autographs his all of his paintings with "BENEDETTO," his official last name.

The free exhibition is open from 4 May to 18 June. —Reuters ■

Singer and artist Tony Bennett looks at one his paintings before an opening of his art exhibition in the Manhattan borough of New York, US, on 3 May 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Brad Pitt says he quit drinking, in therapy after split with Jolie

LOS ANGELES — Brad Pitt has opened up for the first time about his divorce from Angelina Jolie, admitting to heavy drinking and pot smoking and a lifetime of cutting himself off emotionally from others. The 53-year-old actor told GQ Style in an extensive interview released on Wednesday that he had quit drinking, was undergoing therapy, and that he and Jolie were committed to resolving matters amicably and privately. "I just started therapy," the "Moneyball" star said in the interview for the summer issue of GQ Style. "I love it. I love it. I went through two therapists to get to the right one."

Jolie's sudden announcement in September 2016 that she was filing for divorce sent shockwaves through the celebrity world. The couple known as Brangelina, who married in 2014 and have six children, embarked on a bitter child custody dispute and Pitt was investigated for possible child abuse after losing his temper in front of some of the children. The actor was cleared of the allegations and in January the pair agreed to use a private judge in their divorce case.

Pitt said the split with Jolie, 41, had been a "huge generator for change." "I can't remember a day since I got out of college when I wasn't boozing or had a spliff, or something... "I'm really, really happy to be done with all of that. I mean I stopped everything except boozing when I started my family. But even this last year, you know — things I wasn't dealing with. I was boozing too much," he said.

Pitt said he loved wine, adding "truthfully I could drink a Russian under the table with his own vodka. I was a professional. I was good."—Reuters ■

Producer Brad Pitt poses at the premiere of the movie 'The Lost City of Z' in Los Angeles, California US, on 5 April 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

China's all-girl pop band crushes hopes of besotted female fans

Members of China's all-girl 'boyband' FFC-Acrush pose for pictures before a rehearsal at a dance studio in Beijing on 27 April 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

BEIJING — Just a little under a year ago, Min Junqian was an unknown art student in China's eastern province of Shandong, dreaming of becoming a star and hitting the big time.

Fast-forward a year and the 23-year-old is a member of Acrush, China's first all-girl "boy band", which released its debut single last week, but already has hundreds of thousands of fans.

"Our fathers' generation still holds the idea that girls should dress in a feminine manner, something I was never comfortable with," Min told Reuters. "I just like to dress in a unisex way."

Min wasn't expecting to be picked when she went to the band's audition last year.

But her boyish appearance and androgynous style were exactly what entertainment startup Zhejiang Huati Culture Communication, backed by Tencent Holdings, was looking for.

Marketed as a pop band that encourages girls to pursue their own identities and shake up female conventions, Acrush has won more than 749,000 followers on Chinese social networking site Weibo.

Acrush goes against the grain in China's still-evolving music industry, where girl bands are marketed as sweet young things to appeal to a male audience.

"I left home when I was young," said the band's lead singer, 21-year-old Peng Xichen. "To comfort my parents, I told them my boyish appearance would keep me safe."

Some fans, most of them millennials born after the mid-1990s, have called the band members their "husbands". Some have sent love letters, which the band cannot answer, bound by contract.

"We are not allowed to disclose our gender preferences or have romantic relationships," said Lu Keran, the band's leader.

From day one, Zhejiang Huati has created individual identities for the women.

Min is supposed to be the band's comedian, while Peng is a "gentle romantic", and the 21-year-old Lu is portrayed as an energetic dancer with a sunny disposition.

She wears long-sleeved outfits to shield from the public eye a dragon tattoo on her arm, and is reluctant to talk about it, saying only, "I did it when I was an ignorant girl."

But she did admit to sometimes dressing in pink and behaving like a little girl.

The Chinese blogosphere is ablaze with questions about Acrush's leanings. Asked if they supported feminism and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues, the band said they had no idea what the abbreviation LGBT stood for.

"We're just 'handsome' girls," said Min.—Reuters ■

Photo taken April 12, 2017 shows ninja actors posing at the Noboribetsu Date Jidaimura theme park in Hokkaido. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Ninja wanted at Hokkaido park to greet foreign visitors

SAPPORO — A theme park in Japan's northernmost prefecture of Hokkaido is in desperate need of ninja to satisfy a growing number of foreign visitors.

The Noboribetsu Date Jidaimura, located near the famous Noboribetsu hot spring resort, holds ninja action shows that have proved so popular among tourists from abroad that it needs more actors to play the feudal mercenaries.

The park, featuring houses styled after the Edo period (1603-1868), hopes to double the number of ninja shows it puts on from the current four a day, but it is difficult to do so with just eight actors and the physical nature of the job.

"I wake up in the morning and my back and knees hurt," said 42-year-old Toshiyuki Jimbo.

In a show held inside the Ninja House in mid-April, four "ninjas" showed off their combat skills, fighting with swords while rolling on the ground to dodge attacks.

Inside the 300-seat auditorium it was standing room only and the audience, including many Chinese, threw coins to the stage in satisfaction after the 20-minute show.

The park, which attracted some 780,000 visitors in its opening year in 1992, saw the number drop to roughly 75,000 in fiscal 2005.

But the number has since bounced back and hit 315,000 in fiscal 2015 thanks to a surge in visitors from other Asian countries.

In the face of the growing demand for ninja shows, the park has taken various approaches to recruit actors, including holding bus tours targeting drama students and releasing online video clips showing ninja actors talking about the joy of their work.

The efforts have paid off to some extent, with the park succeeding in recruiting three women in the fiscal 2017 round of recruitment, although they still need to be trained for three years or longer to be considered fully fledged. —Kyodo News ■

Massachusetts man gets two years in prison for 'Kung Fu Panda' fraud

BOSTON — A Massachusetts man was sentenced on Wednesday to two years in prison after being convicted of trying to defraud DreamWorks Animation through a bogus copyright lawsuit claiming it stole the characters and story from him for its film "Kung Fu Panda."

Prosecutors in Boston said that after seeing a trailer for the yet-to-be-released animated film in 2008, Jayme Gordon fabricated and backdated drawings of characters similar to those in the film, which he used for a lawsuit against the company.

He previously created some drawings and a story about pandas that prosecutors said bore little resemblance to the movie's characters. After seeing the trailer, he revised the drawings and story and renamed it "Kung Fu Panda Power," they said.

In 2011, Gordon sued DreamWorks for copyright infringement and proposed that the company settle the lawsuit for $12 million, prosecutors said. DreamWorks rejected that proposal, they said, leading to two more years of litigation.

His scheme failed after DreamWorks discovered that some of Gordon's drawings had been traced from a coloring book featuring Walt Disney Co characters from the 1994 film "The Lion King," prosecutors said.—Reuters ■

Seiji Ozawa to conduct Berlin orchestra next January

BERLIN — Japanese conductor Seiji Ozawa will lead the Berlin Philharmonic for two concerts in the German capital next January, the orchestra said Wednesday.

Ozawa, 81, last conducted the Berlin Philharmonic in April of last year, marking his first performance there in about seven years. The upcoming concerts will be held on 19 and 21 January, in which works such as Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 will be performed.

Ozawa was music director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, a leading American orchestra, for 29 years until 2002. He also served as vice conductor at the New York Philharmonic in 1961.

He has been suffering from health problems especially since undergoing surgery for esophageal cancer in January 2010, which sometimes forces him to cancel or shorten stage performances. —Kyodo News ■

MRTV Programme Schedule (5-5-2017, Friday)

6:00 Am
- Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:00 Am
- Breakfast News

7:35 Am
- MRTV Travelogue

8:35 Am
- Current Affairs

9:10 Am
- Documentary

10:30 Am
- Documentary

11:15 Pm
- Teleplay

11:30 Am
- MRTV Worker's Programme

12:50 Pm
- Myanmar Movie (Part-2)

2:15 Pm
- TV Drama Series

3:00 Pm
- Talk on Old Film (Part-3)

4:50 Pm
- Documentary (Part-1) (Chinlone)

5:30 Pm
- Weelky Sport Info

6:15 Pm
- Teleplay

7:15 Pm
- TV Drama Series

8:00 Pm
- News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 Pm
- Documentary

9:00 Pm
- Asian Chinlone Championship 2017 Myanmar

9:15 Pm
- TV Drama Series

10:00 Pm
- Teleplay (Firebrigade Day)

mitv Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(5-5-2017 07:00am ~ 6-5-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:25	Am	Enchanting Rakhine Land
07:43	Am	A Bike Ride in pursuit of Mural Art (Episode-2)
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Those Who Never Give Up (Ep-5) Shwe Min Thar Foundation
08:45	Am	Myanmar Masterclass "Artist Chan Aye"
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Discovering Tribes: Enn (Their Life and Customs)
09:52	Am	Welcome to Saga Prefecture
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	The Green Corner (Epi-1) Jellyfish
10:35	Am	Ko Phoe Shan & His Craft
10:51	Am	A Precious gift from waste

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm)-Thursday Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm)-Today Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	New
07:25	Pm	Travelogue: A Tour in Korea (Part-3)
07:36	Pm	A Photographer's Life at Shwedagon Pagoda
07:42	Pm	Jade Pagoda: Weirawsana
08:03	Pm	New
08:26	Pm	The Great Po Sein
08:51	Pm	Culture Shows: Composer Ma Mya Lay

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) -Today Repeat(09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am)-Thursday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am)-Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

Maha United FC trounces University FC 7-1 in Aung San Shield knock-out match

AS the last day knock-out match of Aung San Shield, Maha United FC played against University FC at the Thuwanna Stadium yesterday evening.

After the competition, the Maha United FC beat University FC 7-1 incredibly. Maha United FC made penetration and counter crossing throughout the match.

The striker Samuel from Maha FC twisted a starter at 8 min and University FC player Aung Thant Zaw equalized the goal at 19 min.The match became pretty cutthroat just after the equalized goal but another goal scored at 26 min by Maha FC player Friedei made University FC players depressed.

Maha FC got an additional five consecutive goals at 38, 45, and 49 min by striker Samuel , 41 min by Toe Sat Naing and 54 min by Friedei respectively.

University FC seems to have lost their ability to play starting from the second goal gained by the opponent. Since Maha United won the match, they got a chance to step up to the 16 teams play-off games and will be playing against Yadanabon FC next week. —Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Maha United FC player scores a goal in their 7-1 win against University FC. **PHOTO: PHOE THAW ZIN**

No fluffed lines this time as Higuain rises to occasion

MONACO — Gonzalo Higuain rose to the big occasion with his two goals against AS Monaco on Wednesday -- something critics say the Juventus has forward often failed to do.

The Argentine forward, who gave Juventus a 2-0 away win in their Champions League semi-final first leg to put them on the brink of a place in the final, has a prolific scoring record overall.

He hit a Serie A record of 36 goals Napoli in the 2015-16 season, inspiring Juventus to pay the world's third highest transfer fee of 90 million euros (76.1 million pounds) for him last July.

Yet, there has always been a sneaking suspicion that he can go missing during the bigger matches.

He had not scored in his previous seven Champions League knockout ties before Wednesday, a run that included last month's quarter-final against Barcelona in which he missed three presentable chances over the two legs.

Overall, his scoring record in the Champions League is 18 in 63 games — well below the ratio of 94 goals in his 138 Serie A appearances for Napoli and Juventus.

One of his most crucial misses came three seasons ago when he squandered a penalty against Lazio which could have taken Napoli into the Champions League.

Needing to win their last game of the season to finish third, Napoli were level at 2-2 when Higuain, who had scored both goals, undid his good work by firing a spot kick over the crossbar.

His failure to score in three successive finals for Argentina has also not helped his cause.

Juventus' Gonzalo Higuain scores their second goal during UEFA Champions League Semi Final First Leg at Stade Louis II, Monaco, on 3 May 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Millions of viewers witnessed him squander a golden chance in the 2014 World Cup final against Germany when he was clean through on goal but sent an unconvincing shot wide. Germany went on to win 1-0.

The following year, he missed in the shootout, sending a wild effort over the bar, as Argentina lost to Chile on penalties in the Copa America final.

Last year, there was another glaring miss with only the goalkeeper to beat as Argentina drew with Chile in the Copa Centenario final and again lost on penalties.

On Wednesday, another frustrating night appeared to be on the cards when he slipped in trying to reach a Paulo Dybala pass, but after that gave a typical performance of selfless running and ruthless finishing.

He capped it with two goals, one with each foot, taking his tally for the season to 31 in all competitions.

"I work for the team. It would have been ok even if I hadn't scored tonight, as long as Juve won," he said.

Asked about Higuain's work rate, coach Massimiliano Allegri replied: "He always plays like that.—Reuters ■

Wimbledon organisers unveil prize hike for 2017 championships

LONDON — This year's Wimbledon singles tennis champions will receive 2.2 million pounds each – a hike of 200,000 pounds for both the men's and women's winner, organisers said on Wednesday.

Tournament chiefs unveiled the increased winners' cheques among a larger total prize pot of 31.6 million pounds, up from 28.1 million pounds last year.

The bigger pot benefits players throughout the draw, with first round singles losers set to walk away from the All England Club with 35,000 pounds.

In percentage terms, first round losers benefit the most -- their prize being almost 17 percent higher than last year, reflecting the club's commitment to the lower reaches of tennis.

"We are proud of the important leadership role that Wimbledon plays locally, nationally, and internationally, and are committed to continuing to invest to secure the future of The Championships, and of our sport, for the years to come," club chairman Philip Brook said.

The winners' cheques for the men's and women's singles has doubled since 2011.

Brook said the club had "taken into account" exchange rates, but that the "Brexit effect" had not been instrumental in their calculations.

"Exchange rates go up and go down over time," he said. "In my time with the club I think all four grand slam tournaments have led on prize money, and now the U.S. dollar is particularly strong." The pound has fallen 14 percent against the dollar since Britain's vote to leave the European Union last June. —Reuters ■