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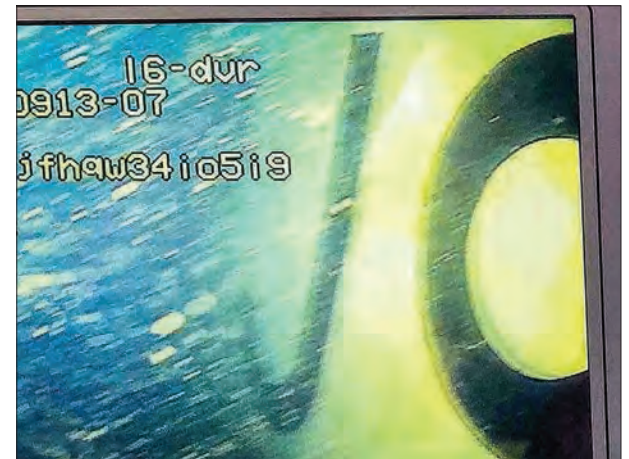
Deadly dengue fever on the rise

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Above left, the military transport plane that took off from southern Myanmar and disappeared shortly after takeoff on 7 June. Upper right, an underwater photo taken by military divers of the tail section of the missing plane found near Dawei. Lower right, personal belongings found yesterday, including identification cards, bank cards, currency and jewelry. **PHOTO: MNA**

Three more bodies, tail section of missing Y-8 plane found

THREE more bodies believed to have been on board the military transport plane that crashed on 7 June were found yesterday, but after over a week in the sea, their condition made them unidentifiable, authorities said.

Also retrieved yesterday was

the tail piece of the airplane bearing the serial code 5820.

The three bodies were found yesterday by search parties along the Maungmakan-Mayingyi coast in the Taninthayi Region yesterday morning, bringing the total number of bodies found to 90.

The Chinese-made Y-8-200F transport plane disappeared early in the afternoon on 7 June while flying at 18,000 feet on a weekly flight from several southern coastal towns to Yangon. The cause of the crash has yet to be determined.

There were 122 people on board including crew, families and military personnel.

Military forces on land, air and sea and local volunteers in fishing boats continued their search for possible survivors and remains of victims of the crash.

Also found yesterday by a search party of local residents was a travelling bag, one official-level identification card, two national registration cards, clothes, jewelry and money notes in an area 10 miles south of Laung Lone Bote Island.

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်

Pyithu Hluttaw

English matriculation exam discussed by Hluttaw

Kyaw Thu Htet (MNA)

THE current English examination required for matriculation by Myanmar students will be reviewed by language experts and professors in an effort to change it into a questionnaire that measures language skills, including grammar, by the end of the 2017-2018 academic year, said Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting yesterday.

The deputy minister was responding to a question by U Min Thine of Bogale constituency on plans to change the matriculation English examination.

Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun also said a new curriculum for KG in a new education setup (KG+12) that is in accord with National Education Law and a bill to amend the National Education Law was implemented starting in academic year 2016-2017. Drawing up the new curriculum will start from academic year 2017-2018 to 2021-2022 for primary level grade one to grade five, from academic year 2019-2020 to 2022-2023 for middle level grade six to grade nine and from education year 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 for high level grade 10 to grade 12 added the deputy minister.

Outcomes from drawing up a new curriculum – the new curriculum, curriculum frame, teaching method, questions based on testing and assessing method – will also be modified to be in line with



Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun. **PHOTO: MNA**

the new curriculum. Implementing to achieve the aim of a subject requires systematic preparation of the essentials, explained the deputy minister.

Responding to a question by U Moe Shwe of Putao constituency on providing new buildings for Mamein Basic Education Middle School (sub), Lemewakyi Post Primary School and Mamein Shidi Basic Education Primary School, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun said Ks46.8 million was allocated in FY 2017-2018 to construct a 120 ft x 30 ft single-storey brick building with zinc roofing for Mamein Basic Education Middle School (sub) in Putao Township, Kachin State.

Post Primary School in Lemewakyi village, Basic Education Primary School in Mamein Shidi village and Basic Education Primary School in Doattan village were not on the priority list compared with other schools when last year's budget was pre-



Pyithu Hluttaw is been convened in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

pared. When the 2018-2019 budget is prepared, priority will be given to make major renovations or determine which school buildings as dangerous, then demolish and construct new building based on the situation of these three schools, answered the deputy minister.

The deputy minister also responded to a question by Dr. Oo Lin Lin Kyaw of Myittha constituency and U Aung Soe of Yinmabin constituency on displaying the name of the original poet and original words of the poem "Aung San zarni" in the third-grade Myanmar reader.

Sixteen hluttaw representatives – Dr. U Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency, Dr. Daw Khin Soe Soe Kyi of Pyay constituency, U Myint Lwin of Twante constituency, Dr. U Sein Mya Aye of Dala constituency, U Kyaw Aung Lwin of Sedoktara constituency, U Sai Oo Kham of Hsenwi constituency, U Nan Mon

Htin of Machanbaw constituency, U Myint Oo of Magway constituency, U Shwe Hla @ U Shwe Hla Win of Thingangyun constituency, U Myo Naing of Chanayethazan constituency, U Saw Victor Clyde of Thandaunggyi constituency, U Saw Kyaw Win Maung of Kyaikmaraw constituency, U Oo Tun Maung of Ponnagyun constituency, U Maung Maung of Htigyaing constituency, Dr. Daw A Zin Lat of Shwebo constituency and Daw Wint Wa Tun of Shadaw constituency debated a motion by U Yan Lin of Kyaiklat constituency to include consumer education subject to middle school grades 6, 7 and 8 that will increase consumers' knowledge enabling to selectively avoid dangerous food, fake medicines and poor services resulting in such goods and services automatically disappearing.

With regards to the motion, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun said the Ministry of Education is disseminating information about

the Food and Drugs Administration's official announcements on foods, drugs and cosmetics that are not fit for consumption to schools through the state and region education offices in order for students and their parents to avoid them.

The new curriculum that is being drawn up includes the subject of consumer education that will be understandable and appropriate for the students' age, knowledge and understanding level as well as teachings about foods, drugs and services that are not fit for consumption, and selecting healthy and appropriate foods and drugs. The subject will be taught after obtaining confirmation from National Curriculum Committee through the National Education Policy Commission.

At the basic education level, there is no subject titled Consumer Education, but in the present Experiences for Life subject as well as subjects in the new curriculum being drawn up will include knowledge on this matter and the Deputy Minister support to put the motion on record.

The Hluttaw then decided to put the motion on record. In yesterday's meeting, the annual report of the Pyithu Hluttaw health and sports development committee was read, a notification of the receipt of the bill to repeal the oversight of the people's auditor act confirmed without amendment by Amyotha Hluttaw and a report was read. ■

Amyotha Hluttaw

Global organisations aid Myanmar wild elephant conservation

Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

EFFECTIVE protection and conservation of the Myanmar wild elephant is being implemented with the help of international organisations, said Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Soe.

The deputy minister was responding to a question raised by U Nawn Naja Htan of Kachin State constituency in the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session 14th day meeting yesterday about determining grazing grounds for domesticated elephants, buffalo and cows in Tanai Township, Kachin State.

The deputy minister said for

long-term conservation of the bio-diverse species and its natural habitat, a Myanmar Elephant Conservation Action Plan workshop consisting of departmental organisations, international experts, NGOs, INGOs and locals was held. Underway is the drawing up of a final work plan for protection and conservation of Myanmar wild elephants.

He said domesticated animals in Tanai Township currently numbers 145 elephants, 1,928 buffalo and 1,909 cows, and as per the tradition in Tanai Township, these animals were allowed to roam freely and found to have sufficient area of grazing ground. The proposed grazing ground north of Ledo Road, the upper



Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Soe. **PHOTO: MNA**

reaches of Tabi Creek, Lamon Creek and Pyinya Creek, Tanai town is within the designated area of Hukawng Valley Wildlife Sanctuary and thus could not be

permitted as grazing ground, the deputy minister said.

On a question raised by U Tet Tun Aung of Rakhine State constituency 2 on a plan to determine the area for Pauktaw Town designated by the union, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Soe said Pauktaw currently utilizes 420.41 acres and to demarcate and determine a town area a request was submitted by Rakhine State government on 18 May to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation for appointment of the required boundary officers. Once these officers are appointed, boundary determination and demarcation works will be done in accordance with procedures he said.

Next, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Soe replied to questions by U Hla Myint @ U Hla Myint Than of Mon State constituency 11, U Pe Chit of Yangon Region constituency 9, U Kyaw Than of Rakine State constituency 10 and U Ko Ko Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 8 on designating an area for dwelling, taking actions on those who sold their street vending areas instead of setting up own stalls and appointing sufficient number of health care personnel. Afterward, U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5, U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2 and Daw Naw Chris Tun @ Dr. Ahkarmoe debated a bill on registering deeds. ■

VP U Henry Van Thio inspects reclamation of lands and embankments in Pyinmana

Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Chairman of the steering committee for protecting rights and enhancing the economic welfare of farmers inspected the cold storage factory for vegetables and fruits in Pyinmana, reclamation of farmlands, the Paunglaung irrigation system and the Paunglaung embankment.

Accompanied by Dr Myo Aung, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Vice President U Henry Van Thio arrived at the Myanmar Agri Foods Company Ltd nearby Kyeeinn village in Pyinmana township at 8:30 am yesterday morning. U Ye Myint Maung, chairman of the company briefed the Vice President and party about the company and plans for future investments.

The Vice President said, "Cooperation with respective departments is urgently needed for producing finished products, raw materials requirements, acquisition of test land plots for

producing seeds and farmlands. In growing crops, it is necessary to search for secure markets for agricultural produce and to consider growing crops with secure markets is important. Simultaneously, quality control is also of great importance. And, it is necessary to make concerted efforts for building a modernized laboratory needed for the country and to reclaim farming plots that meet international standards."

Afterwards, the Vice President and party inspected the packing factory where high-quality agricultural produce are processed.

It has been learnt that the company was set up with a view to promoting social life and income of individual farmers, preserving vegetables from becoming rotten, acquisition of secure profits and stable markets, creating job opportunities for the locals, helping the campaign for upgrading social lives

launched by the government in some way or other and earning foreign exchange by producing high-quality produce.

Afterwards the Vice President and party inspected the Mya Sein Yaung Myitta Paungu Bridge at the village of Nyaungbinthar in Lewei township, where he gave advice concerning the rebuilding the new bridge submitted by responsible officials.

Next, the Vice President and party visited the systematic reclamation of farmlands and crop plantations at Pauk Myaing village, in Lewei township, which was being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and Department of Irrigation and Management of Water Resources. He was briefed by responsible officials concerning the systematic reclamation of 130.84 acres of farmland in Pauk Myaing village tract with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), division of the land among farmers, acquisition of farming water and crop plantations, future plans to grow seasonal crops and systematic reclamation of agricultural land after educating and sharing knowledge among farmers.

Then, the Vice President asked questions regarding the reclaimed farmlands and the process to be carried out in the future, giving necessary instructions in consultation with



Vice President U Henry Van Thio is seen in his tour of inspection of the diversion dam. **PHOTO: MNA**



Diversion Dam in Pyinmana. **PHOTO: MNA**

respective persons for growing crops with secure markets and for farmers to earn more income.

Later the Vice President and party arrived at Pin Thaung village, and inspected the re-digging Pin Thaung lake. U Kyaw Myint Hlaing gave a briefing on the original situation of Pin Thaung Lake, re-digging by the use of heavy machineries, capacity of water storage and capacity for irrigating water. Then the Vice President went to Pin Thaung village and gave words of encouragement to villagers in a warm and friendly manner.

Pin Thaung Lake is 3700 ft long and 16 ft high. It is a type of earth embankment. Its water depth is 10 ft and its water storage acres of 190 acres can supply water to 293 acres, it is learnt.

The Vice President inspect-

ed the Paung Laung Letwe dam's main channel and Paung Laung irrigation dam, thence arriving at the hall of the Paung Laung embankment dam multi-purpose project, where Director-General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing provided a detailed briefing on the Paung Laung embankment dam, aims of the project, expected completion date of the project, the process for generating electricity.

The multi-purpose project keeps water sent after producing hydro-power from the Paung Laung Embankment dam and water which will flow into it from the water flowing area of 600 sq miles between Tatkon and Pyinmana township. It has been learnt that it aims to distribute water to 35000 acres of farmlands.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye presents social pension to elders on inaugural day

On the inaugural day of social pension program yesterday, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye went to Nay Pyi Taw council area Mingala ward, Pyinmana to present social pension for 3 months to 10 elders 90 years and above that include 101 years old U Pe Chit and 100 years old Daw Kyi Kyi.

In transparently striving for all to have basic human rights in accord with democratic norms and for emergence of a dignified society, Ministry of Social Wel-

fare, Relief and Resettlement had drawn a national strategy for social security in Myanmar with the inclusion of an 8 points program aiming for free and secure development of the people.

Beginning from FY 2017-2018, a program to provide social pension for elders, one of the 8 points program, was started to provide elders 90 years and above with a monthly assistance of Ks 10,000 in accord with the Elders Law. From June 15 to 30, elders 90 year and above throughout the country are to

be provided with a social pension of Ks. 30,000 for the month of April, May and June at the rate Ks. 10,000 a month that will be delivered to their doorsteps.

Teams consisting of village tract/ward chairman, village tract/ward elder and a basic education school teacher will present 3 months social pension within the last week of June to all elders 90 years and above in states and regions directly to their homes. In following months, arrangements are underway to present social pension



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye gives social pension to the elder. **PHOTO: MNA**

once every three months but will strive to present it monthly as well as to reduce the age limitation it is learnt. Help Age International is assisting to use

technology in the social pension process to provide the national funded social pension directly to the elders.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**EXPATRIATE CONSULTANT EDITOR**Mark Angeles
markrangeles@gmail.com**SENIOR CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSKhin Maung Oo
editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Khin Maung Win (Chief Proof Reader)
Zaw Min, zawmin.gnln@gmail.com**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor)
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor)
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Khaing Thanda Lwin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Hay Mar Tin Win,
translator@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Ei Myat Mon
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Sandar Soe
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTER**Tun Aung Kyaw,
reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team),
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
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Conservation area for Ayeyawady dolphin in Mandalay to be extended

By Aung Thant Khine

The Mandalay Regional fisheries department is making arrangements to extend the Ayeyawady dolphin conservation area, currently located in Mandalay and Kyauk Myaung, said U Hla Win, the director of Mandalay Regional fisheries department.

“Local people from Kyauk Myaung have come to understand how to conserve the dolphins. But we have to extend the dolphin area. We have to raise a capital fund without affecting the principle. We will also request them to help us with dolphin conservation”, he added.

The fisheries department will conduct a field survey in 10 villages with the assistance of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). For the local



The Ayeyawady dolphin conservation area will be extended to nautical mile 225 from nautical mile 52.

people to participate in the dolphin conservation project, the fisheries department will incorporate those villages into the Mya Sein Yaung project and provide loans without los-

ing the principle. The dolphin conservation effort will expand with the availability of wide areas. The number of dolphins will never increase as long as the rate of breeding and that

of mortality are equal, said the director of Mandalay fisheries department. According to February 2017 statistics there are 65 Ayeyawady dolphins from Mandalay up to Bamo. It needs to avoid catching the dolphins with the fishing net and using electric short circuiting.

The Ayeyawady dolphins are mostly found in shallow waters, in the wide area of the river where there is low traffic, said U Kyaw Hla Thein, the project manager from WCS.

Currently, the Ayeyawady dolphins are being conserved at nautical mile 52 in the Mandalay – Kyauk Myaung area. The Ayeyawady dolphin conservation area has been planned to extend to Kyauk Myaung and then to Bamo (nautical mile 225). Most of the villages are from Sagaing region. ■

FDI reaches over US\$920 million

Foreign direct investment (FDI) reached US\$920 million in April and May, according to Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The total of foreign direct investment to the country reached US\$71 billion as of April 2017, up by over \$656.27 million compared with the last three months of 2016. Foreign direct

investment has reached US\$ 70.35 billion in the first three months of 2017.

Myanmar acquired US\$923.59 million of FDI in April and May.

Foreign direct investment of over US\$71 billion was granted in Myanmar between fiscal 1988-1989 and May of fiscal year 2017-2018. The oil and gas sec-

tor was ranked first in foreign investment, followed by the power sector, with most of the foreigner investors from China and Singapore.

The five-year, short-term national development project will be implemented to promote the export sector, the private sector, and to commercialize regional development projects

and benefit private entrepreneurs.

DICA will review the rules which restrict foreign investment and reduce the obstacles in running businesses such as exorbitant property prices. It also said that electricity will be made available and transportation will be made more convenient.—GNLM ■

13,000 workers took overseas jobs in May

MORE than 13,000 Myanmar workers officially accepted overseas jobs in seven countries last month, according to figures released by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

In May, 12,877 workers out of 13,768 went to neighbouring

Thailand, while 332 others were legally sent to Korea, followed by 296 individuals to Japan, 221 workers to Malaysia, six to Singapore, 19 to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and 17 to Qatar.

More than 12,000 local job seekers also joined appropri-

ate jobs in states and regions including remote areas last month. The commercial city of Yangon topped the chart with over 8,000 new employees, followed by Bago Region with 1,864 and Mandalay Region with more than 800.

The remaining regions and states experienced an influx of fewer than 500 new employees.

The ministry has put forth concerted efforts to create more employment opportunities for both domestic and overseas job hunters.—The Mirror ■

Three more bodies, tail section of missing Y-8 plane found

FROM PAGE-1

The state of the three bodies discovered yesterday was such that it was difficult to distinguish whether they were male or female, officials said. The bodies were sent to Dawei Military Hospital for identification. Eighteen bodies that were

previously identified were given a proper burial yesterday in the presence of family members.

Search parties also found a part of the missing plane yesterday. At about 5pm, the Aung Thuka, a civilian fishing boat manned by local residents, reported that their nets had

caught something some 7.5 miles away from Myinkwaror, Dawei.

Two navy vessels in the vicinity sent their divers to inspect the area after sonar scans verified the unusual item caught in the net at a depth of 35 meters.

The item turned out to be the tail piece of the missing Y-8 plane with its serial code 5820 on it. The search for the remaining bodies and the rest of the plane continues amid heavy rain and high seas during Myanmar's monsoon season.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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Real estate market remains cool, expert says

By May Thet Hnin

Interview on 9 June with U Khin Maung Than, chair of the Myanmar Real Estate Services Association by May Thet Hnin, a reporter for the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Q: What is the current condition of real estate market?

A: First of all, let me give you a brief history of the real estate market in recent years. The Yangon market is the main player in the Myanmar real estate market. We witnessed high prices for real property between 1989 and 1997. It is said that those eight years were the golden age of the real estate market in Yangon. The establishment of new townships, East, South and North Dagon Myothit, Dagon Seikkan, Shwepyitha, Hlaingthaya, Shwepaukkan, etc, drove the real estate market to develop. The market fell between 1997 and 1998, and then it returned to normal thereafter. The unfavourable declined real property market was seen in 2004-2005. When the market hit the highest point, the buyers could not reach it. Therefore, the price slowly started to decrease, resulting in a cool market. Again, the price was seen to be on the rise in July 2007. A levy of a 15 per cent tax, comprised of 8 per cent of income tax and 7 per cent of stamp duty, shook down the real estate sales market. The market

was dramatically strong due to the decrease of income tax. And the year between 2012 and 2014 could be marked as second golden age of the real estate market. The previous government hiked the tax rate up to 35 per cent in maximum, making buyers mull it over before purchase, which cooled the market in late 2014. To make a tax revision, the associate members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and officials were allowed to submit a report. The previous government reduced the income tax in 2015. However, the previous government increased the rate of income tax before the 2015 General Election. The rate remained unchanged during the incumbent government and the market has been cool since 2015. Only those who need to buy houses made a deal. The real property market across the nation has been cool.

Q: May I know the prevailing market price of the houses in different places and how much does the price drop?

A: Previously, a 20 to 40 feet wide plot of land on the main road of Dagon Myothit Township sold quite well. The real property with an estimated worth of Ks550million plunged down to Ks170million in Dagon Seikkan Township. Despite the drop, the market was still cool. The price of the houses in small lanes of those



U Khin Maung Than, chair of the Myanmar Real Estate Services Association

townships dropped from Ks50million to Ks15million. The price of the houses on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road decreased by Ks200,000 per square foot. The houses on the main road slumped by 20 per cent. Selling of apartments and condominiums is harder. Starting from 2015, a mortgage market has become strong.

Q: How about the condition of the rental market? How is the

rental market for foreigners?

A: The rental market fell by about 25 per cent in late June 2015. The apartments which rent for Ks100,000-200,000 are seen well.

There are high numbers of foreign investors entering Myanmar but there is no profound increase of the rental market for them.

Q: How does the cool real

property market affect the businessmen engaged in this industry?

A: Previously, people had a keen interest in the real estate deal. Agents were forced to change jobs as some companies were shut down. They were not able to survive from nearly three-year cool market. At present, there is a wide range of markets to put investments — stock market, gold market, banking business.

Q: What you would like to request of the officials concerning the cool market, which was battered by the tax rate?

A: Myanmar Real Estate Services Association, as associate member of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), will submit a report at a meeting of Vice President (1) U Myint Swe and UMFCCI. We will submit a report to set the price of the house per square feet across the country every year; reduce the income tax, pass by-laws of condominium law and formulate real estate service law submitted by Myanmar Real Estate Services Association on 8th September 2016 as soon as possible. If the tax rate is reduced, it can encourage the dealers to make legal transactions and increase tax payers. I wish the state to help support for real property market to raise its head. ■

Vietjet shareholders to receive dividend payments of 60 per cent

VIETJET's shareholders will receive a 20 per cent cash dividend and a 40 per cent bonus share dividend, totaling 60 per cent, according to Vietjet's announcement of business results for the first quarter of 2017.

According to the plan approved at the company's annual shareholders meeting in 2016 and the KPMG audited capital report for the first quarter of 2017, Vietjet agrees to offer bonus share dividends to shareholders at a rate of 100:40. Those who owned 100 shares will attain 40 bonus shares. The confirmed shareholder list will be announced in July 2017, followed by the approval of the State Securities Commission of Vietnam. On 10 May,

Vietjet finalised the shareholder list for cash dividends for 2016. After the 40 per cent bonus share dividend, those shareholders who have already received shares and cash dividends of 119 per cent for 2016 will continue to receive dividend in advance for 2017, according to Vietjet's announcement.

The airline operates 60 routes covering destinations nationwide and across the region in Thailand, Singapore, South Korea, China (Taipei), Malaysia, China, Japan, Hong Kong and Myanmar. Vietjet will continue to extend its network. The company has already signed agreements with aircraft manufacturing companies to buy more planes.—GNLM ■

Myanmar's lychee to be exported to China

LOCALLY produced lychee will be shipped to the China market starting at the end of this year, according to Tuesday's edition of Myawady Daily News.

Previously, Myanmar exported tonnes of lychee to China, but demand saw a downward trend starting in late 2010.

The lychee exports to China will resume this year. Myanmar's lychee is flowing out of the Lweje border trade camp to China. Those businessmen who are engaged in the restaurant and food industry generally purchase lychee.

A tonne of lychee is offered

at US\$640 by China. Having a good price, the local growers mainly send their lychee to China, KoWunna, an exporter to China, told Myawady Daily News.

The lychee produced from Bhamo area is mostly placed on export market.—200 ■

Export demand for rice increases domestic rice price

WITH export demand of rice rising, the price of low-quality rice rose a bit in the domestic market, said rice dealers.

Rice exports through normal trade are growing this year, with over 72,000 volumes of rice in May. More than 180,000 tonnes of rice were exported to

foreign countries last month. Previously, nearly 80 per cent of rice exports were dependent on border trade. Getting access to more international markets, normal trade performs about 40 per cent of rice export while about 60 per cent of export is conducted through border trade

gates. The prices of rice from Thailand and Viet Nam are high in the ASEAN region market, resulting in increased demand of rice from Myanmar. Rice exports are targeted to earn up to US\$1billion in 2020, according to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).—Htet Myat ■

Walk for your heart healthy

By Kyaw Nyunt Yee

Generally speaking, what a man wants in his life is staying healthy with disease-free and longevity. Thus, Buddha taught about the value of health saying "Health is wealth". To be able to stay healthy all are to be endowed with correct health knowledge and their way of living should be in a healthy lifestyle. Though man is mortal, all should beware of not perishing before the ripe age. Sometimes, a condition might be asymptomatic. This leads a man to think that he is suffering from just a common illness paying not much attention to what is happening in his body.

Some people come to realize their severe disease such as hypertension only when the stroke left him paralyzed or some realize their diabetes when they suffer chronic wounds that cannot be healed in an orderly set of stages and in a predictable amount of time the way most wounds can be healed. That is to say asymptomatic disease is a cause for unexpected death.

Especially we should take care of our hearts. We use to say "heart disease" although there are different types of the disease. The most common heart diseases are damage of heart valves and artery. One of the symptoms of this condition is chest pain related to hypertension. When the heart tissue does not receive an adequate blood supply, it cannot function as it should be thereby

leading to heart decay. If there is a total loss of blood to an area of the heart, that portion of the heart muscle dies but, the heart continues to work but not normally. An infection of the endocardium causes endocarditis. The infection is normally caused by streptococcal or staphylococcal bacteria. Congenital heart disease is a general term for a range of birth defects that affect the normal workings of the heart. The term "congenital" means the condition is present at birth. At any hospitals or clinics it is usual that a pulse of every patient must be checked. Then stethoscope is used to listen to the heartbeat to approximate the condition of the heart. The line between dead and alive is marked by the heart. When someone's heart stops beating about five minutes, it is generally said that he dies. Thus the heart is a very important organ in the body. The heart is the first functional organ to develop and starts to beat and pump blood at about three weeks into embryogenesis till death.

If you use an average of 80 beats per minute, your heart beats about 4,800 times per hour. That's a whopping 115,200 times per day. Over the course of a year, your heart would beat about 42,048,000 times! If you live to be 60 years old, your heart would have beaten approximately 2,522,880,000 times. The adult heart pumps about 5 quarts of blood each minute - approximately 2,000 gallons of blood each day - throughout the

body along 12000 miles long blood vessels. The heart is divided into four chambers.

Heart is covered by double-walled sac called pericardium. Five great vessels enter and leave the heart: the superior and inferior vena cava, the pulmonary artery, the pulmonary vein, and the aorta. A normal heart has two upper and two lower chambers. The upper chambers, the right and left atria, receive incoming blood. The lower chambers, the more muscular right and left ventricles, pump blood out of your heart. The heart valves, which keep blood flowing in the right direction, are gates at the chamber openings. Heart muscle needs its own supply of blood because, like the rest of the body, it needs oxygen and other nutrients to stay healthy. For this reason, heart pumps oxygen-rich blood to its own muscle through coronary arteries. The heart normally beats in a regular rhythm and rate that is just right for the work the body is doing at any moment. The rhythm changes according to various types of heart disease.

Anxiety and excitement can cause heart disease. Moreover, studies show that smoking increases the risk of developing cardiovascular diseases in smokers compared to non-smokers.

The author of this article did not realize heart blockage due to narrowed coronary artery. He thought tiredness is due to old age. When he met with physician Dr Daw Ohnmar Tun, one of



The author Kyaw Nyunt Yee together with Alexander Grace from Canada seen in Yangon after 25 days of receiving blood vessels transplant at the same hospital. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

his Dhamma friends, at Tawwin Specialist Clinic, the latter suggested him to take ECG. As soon as she checked the result, the author was admitted to Asia Royal Hospital. With the assistance of Physician Dr Myat Thu, Heart Specialist Dr Than Hteik Aung checked his heart. They found that the arteries were blocked. Immediately, the doctors placed coronary stent and saved his life.

According to his lifestyle, the author had to lift heavy loads, climb upstairs, and walk long journey. At that time he was over 70 and placing stent in the artery is not good for him in the long run. Dr Than Hteik Aung advised him to go under heart bypass surgery. A coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) is a surgical procedure used to treat coronary heart disease. It diverts blood around narrowed or clogged parts of the major arteries to improve blood flow and oxygen supply to the heart. In April this year, the author went to Singapore to receive treatment at the National Heart Centre Singapore (NHCS).

As medical science has been advancing day after day, the artery needed to perform the surgery was taken out from the left foot and the surgery was successful. The surgical team comprising specialists and nurses was led by Heart Specialist Professor Kenny Sin and Dr Darilo De La

of NHCS. The team showed their expertise and loving-kindness to the author. After five days in the hospital I was discharged and my sincere thanks goes to Dr Daw Khin Khin Win and those who helped me alot.

Annually, Sing Heart has rewarded the physicians, nurses and staff for their performances since 2011. According to their performances, the winners receive gold or silver medals. The photos of the winners of individuals or in groups are displayed at Room No. 56 of Intensive Care Unit. The author was very much delighted to stay at Room No. 56 where physicians deal with the patients without racial or religious discrimination. Especially, Professor Kenny Sin daily visited the author and encouraged him. The professor advised the author to walk daily and before discharging from the hospital, he came to see him off at the hospital and again told him to walk daily. According to the advice of the professor the author practiced to walk daily and as a result he has been healthy.

The author in his exhortation said that as walking daily is good for health, walk to possess healthy heart.

(This article is dedicated to Heart Specialist Professor Kenny Sin and staffs from the National Heart Centre Singapore -NHCS.)



The author together with heart specialist Prof Kenny Sin and Dr Darilo De La on the fourth day after heart surgery. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Senior General attends tree planting ceremony



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife plant trees near the Yezin dam in Zeyathiri. **PHOTO: MNA**

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife planted a tree at the 1st monsoon tree-planting ceremony 2017 organised by the families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy, Air) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The ceremony took place near the Yezin dam in Zeyathiri Township, with Senior General Min Aung Hlaing planting a star flower tree and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla planting a Gangaw (iron-wood) tree. Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice

Senior General Soe Win, Union ministers, senior military officers and their wives also planted trees at designated places.

Altogether, 7,200 teak trees were planted by the families of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Office at the 1st monsoon tree-planting ceremony 2017.

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Office took place at respective military commands with the families of the commands planting 93,750 trees of various kinds during monsoon season from 2011 to 2016.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Deadly dengue fever on the rise

By May Thet Hnin

THE number of cases of dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) has dramatically increased over the last five months due to climate change, increased breeding rates of mosquitoes and improper water storage, said Dr. Zaw Lin, a dengue specialist and deputy director of the department of public health.

Between 1 January and 27 May this year, 3,304 patients were infected with the fever, 19 of whom died. Among them, around 2,000 patients were from the Yangon region and about 750 were from Rakhine State. The viral disease that is spread by the bite of infected mosquitoes used to be common only in the rainy season, but now DHF transmission occurs throughout the year, officials said.

The occurrence of DHF this year was seen to be more frequent, with less gaps between cases as in previous years. Instead of cases occurring mainly in the rainy season, for the past five years it has been happening year round. The main reasons, experts said, are climate change and a higher breeding rate of the Aedes mosquito. Also, with the improvement in transportation, people travel from place to place more than ever. Another reason for the more frequent occurrence of dengue is the habit of Myanmar people to store water, increasing the number of places where mosquitoes can breed, said Dr. Zaw Lin.

Experts said there must

be more of an effort to educate the public on how the disease is transmitted and how it can be prevented, especially in rural areas.

"About 745 people have been infected with dengue fever and 11 were reported dead in Rakhine State. Three quarters of the infected people are from rural areas, and so they lack knowledge to prevent the dengue fever. Therefore, we are carrying out prevention measures against DHF in Rakhine state", said Dr. San Kyawt Khine, assistant director of the Rakhine state health department.

Dr. San Kyawt Khine con-

firmed that the cases of dengue fever have increased and now occur throughout the year.

"Dengue fever occurs annually in this region. But this year, the DHF broke out a bit early. The local people also lack the awareness of the prevention of the dengue fever. Therefore, we have already discussed with the education department to provide awareness training courses to the local people to control the disease", she said.

Currently, the government is focusing on preventive measures against DHF.

"It's important that the public participate in preventive

measures against the disease. I want the local people to participate in our prevention activities by keeping the homes and environment clean every day and make sure there is no water left for the insects to breed, said Dr. Zaw Lin.

Dengue fever occurs mostly in the Yangon region and Rakhine State as well as Ayeyawady and Mandalay regions. In the Yangon region, the outbreak of DHF occurs mostly in Hlaing Thayar and South Dagon Myothit townships

"I want people to be well aware of the danger of the dengue fever. There are 32 wards in

South Dagon Township. So, the health staff cannot provide the awareness training course to all households. Our health staff called the meetings in the ward but only around 20 people attended the meetings. Therefore, I want the ward administrators to participate in our activities," said U Tun Hlaing.

The Aedes mosquito can be recognized by the white markings on its body. The Aedes mosquito can breed in water contained in as small an area as a bottle cap, and also in old tires and vases. The Aedes mosquito is active during the day. Therefore, people need to protect from mosquito bites during the day. The symptoms of dengue are high fever, headaches, joint and muscle pain, vomiting and rashes. Dengue fever patients need to seek emergency treatment if the patient is unconscious with a body that is cool to the touch.

According to the WHO, over 100 million people are infected with dengue fever across the world each year, 500,000 of whom are ill enough to require hospitalisation. The outbreak of dengue fever has increased over 30 per cent across the world between 1960 and 2010.

In 2015, there were a total of 42,913 cases of dengue fever in Myanmar, resulting in 140 deaths. But 2016 saw these figures drop to just 10,770 cases and 58 deaths, evidence that possibly eradication and educational efforts were working.

But this year, there is evidence that further work is needed. ■



A health worker fumigates a classroom to kill mosquitoes that spread dengue fever. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

Guarantee diversity and serve the best interest of the people

By Tha Sein

Members of Parliament-MPs are responsible for three main groups of people —their constituents, Parliament and their respective political parties. The duties of MPs include participating in debates and voting on legislation and other matters. It is common knowledge that the lawmakers have districts of their own that they need to visit. At the end of the day, they remain public representatives whose primary job is to be present in the Parliament and contribute to the deliberations that will affect the country. With allowances, perks and privileges thrown in, being a public representa-

tive might be one of the best jobs in the country. Despite this, and the solemn duty placed upon them as servants of the country, some of our representatives do not perform their job to the public's satisfaction. Perhaps a legislation that mandates a certain level of participation before being qualified for re-election will change this indolence.

Participation depends on the agenda and party politics, but we should expect some measure of competence or at least commitment from our public representatives to their jobs. They may also be members of committees who examine new laws or monitor the work of government departments and help their constituents by advising on

problems on the ground.

During her official trips to Canada and Sweden, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Mr Bruce Stanton, Chairman of the Canada-Myanmar Parliament Friendship Committee and Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. Their meeting focused on enhancing friendship and cooperation between the two Parliaments as well as possible avenues for the committee to assist the Government of Myanmar in overcoming challenges in its efforts to promote national reconciliation, peace and democratization.

And also, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in meeting with Mr Urban Ahlin, Speaker of the Swedish

Parliament (Riksdag) at the Parliament Building highlighted Myanmar's democratic transition, and the national reconciliation and peace process. Her efforts serve as an example to all MPs and mark a new phase in our democratization.

Since the Parliament was in session, capacity building has been initiated with a myriad of workshops for MPs to be well-versed in legislative affairs. And it is incumbent upon all our representatives to try their utmost during the year. And as they come from different backgrounds it is sure that they can guarantee diversity and serve the best interest of the people. ■

The Kra Canal: will it become a reality?

By Khin Maung Myint

The ancient dreams of constructing a canal across the Kra Isthmus had been rekindled. A few weeks ago, there was a news item in the local media in Thailand related to the revival of the idea of building a canal across the narrow strip of land, geographically known as the Malay Peninsula, in Southern Thailand. The idea is to link the Andaman Sea on the west and the Gulf of Thailand on the east. Only a few landlubbers or the non-seafarers, will be familiar with this matter.

The idea of digging a canal to connect the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Siam, as it was known in the old days, was first envisioned by King Narai of Siam as early as 1677. He approached a French engineer, one de Lamar, to survey the feasibility of building a waterway across the isthmus, but it turned out to be not practical with the technology of those days. It is very interesting that such an idea conceived by the Siamese King, preceded the building of the Suez Canal (1859-1869) by nearly two centuries. Then again in 1793, the younger brother of King Chakri (Rama I) revived that idea with the aim of gaining quick and easy access to the western shores of the country for military ships. That too never materialized.

In the 1863, during the British colonial rule in Burma (Myanmar), an exploration party conducted a survey to study the feasibility of building a canal across the narrowest part along the Malay Peninsula at a place known as the Kra Isthmus. It was close to the Victoria Point (Bayint Naung Ah Ngu), with the present day Kawthaung at the entrance on the shores of the Andaman Sea. In fact it was the British East India Company's idea to have a canal cutting



through the Malay Peninsula to save time and distance for their ships traveling to the Far East. Again it wasn't realized. In 1897, the Kingdom of Siam and the British Empire agreed to drop the idea of building a canal in favour of maintaining the regional dominance of the harbour at Singapore, which was part of the British colony.

The alignment of the canal chosen by the British straddled the Siamese and the Burmese territories, measuring about 27 miles across and the elevation of the Tenasserim (Tanintharyi) Range that it would have to cut through was 246 feet above the sea level. Though that ambitious plan wasn't implemented, the name Kra Canal still exists in the minds of most seafarers and seafaring nations until today. Since this idea of a canal was first envisaged, many later day plans were formulated by interested nations and individuals. Japan and China that stood to benefit from it were at the forefront of the interested parties.

This time around it was the residents of Trang, a province in Southern Thailand, who initiated the move. They



must have thought it would benefit them economically if that scheme should become a reality. I wonder whether those people take into considerations that the times and situations have changed and that such an ambitious project will not be economically viable anymore.

Today, in my opinion, the chances of implementing that ambition is becoming more and more remote. The reason is quite apparent, because if that canal should come into existence some countries in the region stand to be affected. The hardest hit will be Singapore, which is the shipping hub of the world, as its dominance in that field would be undermined. Malaysia will be affected to a certain extent and it will also have adverse impacts on the Dawei Deep Seaport. Thus it will definitely be faced with strong oppositions.

Also, given the restive situations in Southern Thailand, the Thai government may not want to divide the country with a canal that will separate those restive provinces in the deep south from the rest of the country. It will be quite convincing to the rational-mind-

ed observers that the cons outweigh the pros of building a canal there. The expenses to implement such an ambitious project will be very exorbitant and Thailand alone will not be capable, but will need to seek foreign investments. In the past, as far as I can remember, Japan was interested to undertake the construction of the canal to by-pass Singapore and the notorious Malacca Straits, where the pirates frequently terrorize the ships navigating through those confined waters. The canal would also shorten the routes for their ships bound to and from Europe and the Middle East by about 648 nautical miles, which is quite a significant distance. For the same reasons China too was at one time interested to invest in the canal. However, their interests seemed to have waned due to various reasons and recent developments.

In support of my above analysis, I will endeavour to explain it. Lately Japan had committed to establish an economic corridor through Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar to India, which will form part of the Asian Highway. At first glance this move can be viewed as a direct response to compete with the New Silk Road or the One Belt, One Road initiative of the Chinese. However, on closer observation it can be deduced as an indication of Japan's loss of interest in a Thai canal. Also, Japan's interest to invest in the Dawei Deep Seaport project is another important point to take into consideration. Based on these facts it's quite evident that Japan is more interested in an overland corridor rather than a shorter shipping route that will cost too much to invest in.

The Kra Canal: will it become a reality?

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As recently as 2015, China had an interest to finance the building of that canal, which they might have intended to include it in their ambitious New Silk Road route. However, the fact that they do not include Bangkok or any other Thai sea port in their planned New Silk Road route and also the fact that they didn't even invite the Thai head of state to their One Belt, One Road forum held in Beijing, can be viewed as a loss of interest in the idea of building the Thai Canal. Apart from that, the fact that China is now enjoy-

ing the benefits of the Kyaukpyu Deep Seaport, the fuel pipeline, the fuel storage facilities and the terminal there, which had started to deliver the much needed fuel right to their doorsteps is another reason to divert their interests away from the Thai Canal.

If Thailand should go ahead with their dreams on their own, they are bound to be faced with much difficulties. The reasons? Firstly, the expenses will be exorbitant. Secondly, it will certainly be met with opposition at home and from some fellow member countries of the ASEAN. Thirdly, due

to the presence of the mountain range running athwart the canal alignment, it cannot be a sea-level canal like the Suez Canal that was dug through flat and level terrain.

It must be constructed like the Panama Canal, which requires locks to lift the ships and move them through the canal from a certain elevation above the sea level. Such a construction will be very complicated. Last but not least, a canal cutting across the land bridge will divide the country in two and with the unrest in the deep south it will not be advisable from the

security point of view.

Thus for these reasons my belief is that the idea of a Thai canal is not viable and hope that the Thai authorities concerned will view it from the same perspective as mine and should abandon it. To sum up, I doubt that the Thai Canal, as it is referred to because the latest proposed location had been shifted farther south and doesn't pass through the Kra Isthmus anymore, will ever become a reality. ■

Reference: Dates, data and maps obtained from Wikipedia.

This article was received by the Editor BEFORE the President's nomination of four persons to be Supreme Court Judges. Dr. Myint Zan still feels that with the pending retirement around October 2017 of a current Supreme Court Judge, the President could still nominate two Supreme Court Judges one –or both- of which- should be a qualified woman/women.—Editor

The President Should Appoint Up to Six New Supreme Court Judges

By Dr. Myint Zan

With the passing, in early 2017, of a Judge of the Union Supreme Court (to whose family I convey my belated condolences) in mid- 2017 the Myanmar Supreme Court now has only six instead of the minimum of seven Judges. It is also learnt that one of the Supreme Court judges on reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70 will have to retire perhaps in a few months time. Hence in this scenario there may be only five instead of the minimum seven Judges in the Myanmar Supreme Court. As I write in the first week of June 2017 the President has not yet appointed any judges to the Supreme Court.

Appointees to the Myanmar Supreme Court under the 2008 Constitution (in addition to other requisite qualifications) have to be between the ages of 50 to 70 years. And whereas the Union Constitutional Tribunal has to be formed with nine members, the 2008 Constitution gives a 'range' of the number of Supreme Court Judges from a minimum of seven to a maximum of 11 Judges.

Supreme Court judges nominated by the President have to be approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Legislature) but a constitutional provision also states that 'the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has no right to refuse a nominee by the President unless it can clearly be shown that the nominee does not meet the stated

qualifications'. There is also a provision that persons whom the President considers to be eminent jurists (even if they do not meet other qualifications) can be nominated and appointed as Supreme Court judges.

In more than five years (from 30 March 2011 to early June 2017) the Union Constitutional Tribunal has given its opinions or decisions in (I think) only eleven or twelve cases. Cases decided by the Union Supreme Court during that five year period would be much more than that. In the past seven years instead of the eleven or twelve (as of May 2017) 'cases' so to speak which reached the Constitutional Tribunal there could be more than ten thousand cases which reached the Union Supreme Court.

The large number of cases before the Union Supreme Court is only one reason for this writer to humbly propose that the President should make five (or six) additional Supreme Court appointments.

Another equally important point is that the Union Supreme Court should have diversity of qualified individuals. The President could make history by nominating a suitably qualified female of non-military background to the Supreme Court.

Should the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves the President's appointment of a female, the first female Supreme Court judge in 69 years of post-independence Burmese history would be a landmark. In fact since colonial times

Burma has had a few distinguished female legal luminaries. One of the most prominent would be the late Daw Phwar Mee, the first Burmese female Barrister (in the year 1925). Daw Phwar Mee passed away on 26 June 1962 while her husband the late 3rd Chief Justice of the Union U Myint Thein (22 February 1900-3 October 1994) (Chief Justice from 22 July 1957 to 31 March 1962 when then Revolutionary Council Chairman General Ne Win terminated his services by decree 'effective noon on 31 March 1962') was in detention. Daw Phwar Mee never joined the then judicial service. Fifty-five years after Daw Phwar Mee's passing away President U Htin Kyaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has a chance to make history by appointing and approving a female whether from legal practice, the judiciary or academia to the Union Supreme Court.

I did write with considerable anxiousness in fact almost with 'trepidation' (not being really being 'free(dom) from fear' that the female nominee (or for that matter other nominees) should be from non-military backgrounds. I understand that four out of the seven Supreme Court judges appointed by former President U Thein Sein and approved by the then Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in 2011, were in their earlier parts of their careers, from the Judge Advocate-General (JAG) office.

In recent years on more than one occasion I have noticed the claim

made by certain legal personnel almost with pride that 'Myanmar belongs to the Common Law (legal system)'. (See for example The New Light of Myanmar 10 February 2013 issue front page with the headline 'Myanmar belongs to the Common Law system ...').

I am not aware (and again dare I say it?) that in countries whose legal systems, in part, 'belong' to the common law system (or at least were former British colonies) in Asia, from Pakistan in the west to Hong Kong Administrative Region in the east that the majority of judges in the apex courts (that excludes the court-martial) came from the Judge-Advocate general backgrounds or from the military.

Perhaps even in countries (in part) with a British legal heritage as far flung as Australia and Bahamas to Zambia and Zimbabwe are concerned I doubt whether the majority of judges in the apex courts (excluding court martials) are from military backgrounds. (If others can point out that I am wrong I would withdraw the above statement and rectify it.)

Appointing up to five or perhaps six- should the pending retirement of a Supreme Court Judge takes place- Supreme Court judges with diverse backgrounds including at least one or more female jurists from the judiciary, legal practice and from academia would be a significant step in the right direction. ■

Bailey Bridge to be built on Ann & Sittway road after landslide



Officials inspect the site of the landslide on the Yangon-Sittway road to construct a bailey bridge. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

Min Thit (MNA)

Due to heavy rains, there occurred over-flooding on Yangon-Sittway Road, causing landslides between mileposts 28/0 and 28/1, leading to building a bailey bridge for vehicles to ply in rainy season, according to road special engineering team-16.

U Hla Shwe of the team 16 said that a bailey bridge is urgently built between milestone 28/0 and milestone 28/1 for cars to ply in rainy season, and it will be finished unless it rains in a night.

The bailey bridge is 90 ft long and it will be used temporarily. Only in open season, repair work of the road will be made.

Due to erosion nearby milestone 28, 30—10ft of the road was

ruined. It has been learnt that cars began to ply on the road again since yesterday morning due to the concerted effort of workers from the team 16 by using machineries.

Mini-cars were allowed to pass on the road whereas trucks and lorries were allowed to use the road just in the morning, said U Hla Shwe.

Due to torrents in 2015, some parts of Yangon-Sittway road were ruined by landslides. In 2016 there was no road damage.

On account of torrents in Rakhine State, there occurred over-floods on Sittway—Yangon road. According to the ministry of transport and communication, in 12 places between Ann & Kazukai village over-floods occurred. ■

Two nationals of neighboring country arrested for illegal entry

WHILE conducting a routine patrol near the mouth of Puang Za creek in Maungtaung Township, Rakhine State, around 8 p.m. on 13 June, security forces arrest-

ed two nationals of neighboring country on a boat.

The two are found to have entered into Myanmar territorial water while

fishing in Bangladesh territorial water and a case was opened while investigation was conducted. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Indawgyi Lake basin selected as biosphere reserve by UNESCO



Indawgyi Pagoda situated in the middle of Indawgyi Lake is accessible by boat. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

INDAWGYI LAKE in Kachin State was designated as a Man and Biosphere Reserve (MAB) of the UNESCO's MAB network at the 29th session of MAB International Coordination Committee (MAB-ICC), held on 12-15 June 2017, at UNESCO Headquarter in Paris, France.

Indawgyi Lake has been designated as an ASEAN Her-

itage Park of Myanmar in 2003 due to its unique ecosystem and biodiversity richness.

It was also designated as a Ramsar Site in 2nd February 2016 because of the large and diverse population of globally important bird species and other unique wetland characteristics.

Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Direc-

tor-General of Forest Department, said the designation as a MAB reserve is recognition of the value of its biodiversity.

He said it is also a promise from the government for further development efforts and cooperation with local residents for preservation of the lake and its surrounding areas.

—Myanmar News Agency ■

Security, Rule of Law and Peace and Stability Carried Out in Maungtaung District

Min Thit (MNA)

ACCORDING to the Maungtaung District Police Office, security forces in Buthidaung, Maungtaung and Taungpyo-Letwe towns are specifically making operations by types of sentry, patrol and post for security, rule of law, reduction of crimes and peace and stability in Maungtaung District.

Police Lt-Col Nyan Win Oo said, "Security duties are being carried around the clock, in 12 places in Maungtaung, 7 places in Buthidaung and in Taungpyo by patrol teams.

In Buthidaung, Maungtaung and Taungpyo Letwe under the control of Maungtaung district police force, seizure of drugs occurred commonly.

As regards the outbreaks of crimes in the area under the

control of the police force, Police Lt-Col Nyan Win Oo said that the area controlled by police forces is the town area, so it can be said to be very narrow. Out of crimes, cases of drug seizure had been involved mostly, compared to others. Maungtaung district police force is controlling 5 wards in Maungtaung, 7 wards in Buthidaung and 7 wards in Taungpyo Letwe for security and rule of law in the area.

Police Lt-Col said, "Police force alone cannot perform the task of security and rule of law. Only if the people join with the police forces, can success be achieved to the full. So, I humbly request our people to join us."

It has been learnt that Maungtaung police forces are carrying out educative talks in townships.



A police sentry patrols the streets of Maungtaung at night. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

Conference held for public service broadcasting

A conference for Dialogues on Freedom of Expression Issues Focus on Public Service Broadcasting was held yesterday in Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. The conference is collaboration between the Ministry for Information and UNESCO.

Deputy Director-General U Win Kyi from MRTV and Media Development Expert Mikel Agurri Idiaquez from UNESCO-Myanmar gave opening speeches.

Afterwards, Advisor of UNESCO-Myanmar, Romon R. Tuzon, an official from Australian Broadcasting Corporation International Development and Director-General U Zaya from MRTV talked about public service media, the launch of public service media in Myanmar and

draft laws for public service media respectively.

This was followed by participants of the conference giving advice for how a public service media should be adapted to Myanmar's requirements.

The purpose of the conference was to think of ways for a media that truly represented the public to emerge; an endeavor that has been aimed for since 2002. Participants also discussed the need for capable personnel to handle a truly public-oriented media and the need for media freedom in a democratic society.

Participants of the conference included Hluttaw representatives, department officials, Tatmadaw officials and representatives from UNESCO.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Dialogues on Freedom of Expression Issues, Focus on Public Service Broadcasting. PHOTO: MNA

KBZ Stirling Coleman Securities wins best securities awards in Singapore

KBZ Stirling Coleman Securities (KBZSC) and its technological partner Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) won Best Securities Trading System Implementation of the Year at the Financial Markets Technology Implementation Award 2017 presentation and dinner in Singapore on 9 June. Singapore based The Asian Banker held the award ceremony and Mr. Rudi Rolles, Senior Managing Director of KBZSC, and Mr. Bharat Sha, Global Product Head of TCS, accepted the awards at the ceremony.

An announcement at the ceremony said the award was given to KBZSC and TCS for creating an integrated trading platform for selling shares on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) in a short amount of time. It is also the first electronic platform for

trading stock shares in Myanmar and provides services with Internet, mobile and tablet applications. KBZSC also controls 70 per cent of the stock share market in YSX and was able to systematically reduce risks in the investment sector.

Vice President U Nyo Myint of KBZSC Securities said he was proud they were given recognition of their efforts in shaping the stock market in Myanmar in a short period of time. KBZ bank is acting as a fund settlement bank in YSX and creates smooth electronic transactions between security companies and YSX. He said KBZSC securities will continue developing the stock exchange sector with international technology to help national economic development.—Thura Lwin (ECO) ■



Mr. Rudi Rolles, Senior Managing Director of KBZSC, and Mr. Bharat Sha, Global Product Head of TCS, accept the best securities awards. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Donation for aircrew, Tatmadaw personnel and families onboard Y-8 Tatmadaw transport plane crash

Lt-Gen. Tha Aye (retired), Daw Wei Wei Khine (Aye Yeik Wei) family, Thuya U Myint Maung (Union Minister retired), Daw Aye Aye Tun family and Kayin State judicial family and well-wishers donated Ks. 1.5 million, 1 million and 1 million respectively yesterday for aircrew, Tatmadaw personnel and families onboard the crashed Y-8 Tatmadaw transport plane to Deputy Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win in Ministry of Defence.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Lt-Gen Sein Win (Right) accepts cash donated by Lt-Gen Tha Aye (Retired). PHOTO: MNA

2nd Startup Israel 2017 to be held

By Ko Moe

With a view to broadening bilateral relations, 2nd Startup Israel 2017 Competition will be held under the sponsorship of Myanmar Computer Federation and Israel Embassy in Myanmar. The competition was held to raise brilliant and innovative youths and entrepreneurs using ICT to upgrade the sector of ICT, for the socio-economic development in Myanmar.

Mr Daniel Zonshine, Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar said, "Such competitions were held aiming at producing youths with inventive minds by the use of ICT & ICT Products that can

reach the international market beyond the local market."

It has been learnt that competitors—those which are not under the big companies and companies which are less than 3-year-company-licence-period can contest under their favorite title out of the two titles, "Applications for social entrepreneurship and Applications for Urban Innovation" which can help the quality of life.

According to Daw Than Than Tint, chairperson of the competition convening committee, video presentation which explains the project to be contested are to be sent to Myanmar Computer Federation, not

later than July 20.

Out of the projects sent by contestants, the qualified ones which meet the designated requirements will be selected at the first stage. And, the selected projects on the short list are to be sent after making necessary changes, within the deadline.

At the last stage, project makers must make presentation and prizes will be awarded out of them. The best award winner will get the chance to attend DLD Israel 2017 to be held in Israel in September, 2017 under the sponsorship of Israel, with second prize winner to be awarded US \$ 400 & third prize winner US \$200.■

US, Mexico, Slim charity to work on Central America crime, migration

MEXICO CITY—The United States, Mexico and three Central American nations will this week unveil plans to work with billionaire Carlos Slim's charity to tackle crime in Central America and find new ways of slowing migration, according to a draft document.

Top US, Mexican and Central American officials meet in Miami on Thursday and Friday to discuss how to cut migration and improve conditions in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, a cluster of poor, violent countries known as the Northern Triangle that most US-bound migrants set out from.

The document, seen in Mexico, contains an agenda for the two-day meeting in Miami and lists several specific objectives it refers to as "deliverables." It is a draft document, and could be subject to change.

US officials hope Mexico will step up efforts in Central America, especially since President Donald Trump's proposed budget contains deep cuts in US aid to the area.

Trump took office vowing to slash illegal immigration to the United States. He has created tensions with Mexico's



A woman from a group called "Las Patronas" (The bosses), a charitable organisation that feeds Central American immigrants who travel atop a freight train known as "La Bestia", passes food and water to immigrants on their way to the border with the United States, at Amatlan de los Reyes, in Veracruz state, Mexico, on 22 October 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

government with accusations that the country is sending criminals north and a pledge to build a wall along the US southern border.

The Miami summit was the brainchild of US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary John Kelly, who will be joined by Vice President Mike Pence.

Trump will be in Miami beginning Friday, although not at the same meeting. Instead, he is expected to address future US-Cuba policy.

According to a draft document between the United States and Mex-

ico after consultation with Northern Triangle countries, the first day of the meeting will focus on "prosperity", and the second on security.

On the second day, the document mentions a memorandum of understanding between USAID and the Carlos Slim Foundation to "focus on training to support the professionalization of crime and violence prevention units throughout Central America and enhance economic opportunities for at-risk youth."

Consulted on the matter, the charitable arm of Mexican tycoon

Slim said it was in talks with USAID, but gave no further details.

Slim, one of the world's richest men, is one of the main telecoms providers in Central America, with business interests across various industries throughout the region.

Kelly, who previously ran US Southern Command, helped former President Barack Obama design his Alliance for Prosperity, a \$750 million initiative that sought to curtail migration with development and gang-fighting projects.—Reuters ■

Cuba kicks off electoral process leading to Castro handover

HAVANA — Communist-run Cuba said on Wednesday it was calling for municipal elections on 22 October, kicking off the electoral procedure that should lead to the handover of power from Raul Castro to the next president.

The ruling Communist Party newspaper Granma said the date for provincial and national assembly elections would be published "at the corresponding time."

The electoral notice coincides with a period of uncertainty for Cuba. US President Donald Trump is expected to announce his Cuba policy on Friday, rolling back parts of former President Barack Obama's opening to the island, which included restoration of relations

and reopening of embassies in a diplomatic breakthrough between Cold War foes. Meanwhile, the generation that ruled Cuba since the 1959 revolution is dying. And Cuba's main political and trade ally Venezuela is in crisis with triple-digit inflation and shortages of food and medicine fanning protests against the socialist government.

Castro, who took over the presidency in 2008 from his ailing and now deceased brother Fidel Castro, has vowed to step down as president next February at the end of his second five-year term. He will, however, remain head of the Communist Party, in which political power is vested in Cuba. All other parties are banned.—Reuters ■



Cuba's President Raul Castro (L, front) gestures while standing next to First Vice-President Miguel Diaz-Canel (R) during an extraordinary session of the National Assembly, in Havana, Cuba, on 1 June 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (9 / 2017)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in US Dollars/Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-001(17-18)	Fuel Bowser (2800 Gal Capacity) (1) Unit	USD
(2)	DMP/L-016(17-18)	Spares of ZJ-70L Drawwork Disc Brake (14) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-017(17-18)	Assorted Sizes of Tyres (11) Items	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-018(17-18)	Assorted Sizes of Battery (6) Items	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-019(17-18)	Spares for Driller Control Equipments, Weight Indicators & Pressure Parts (1) Lot	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-020(17-18)	API Class 'G' Cement (2,000) Tons	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-021(17-18)	Spares for Yanmar Engine & Gear Box Ex River Craft (13) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 13-7-2017, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 15TH June, 2017 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411206 / 411274

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားများ ဘဏ်လီမိတက် အစုရှယ်ယာရှင်များသို့ ဖိတ်ကြားခြင်း

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားများ ဘဏ်လီမိတက်၏ ၂၀၁၆-၂၀၁၇ ဘဏ္ဍာနှစ်၊ ဒါရိုက်တာအဖွဲ့ အစီရင်ခံစာ စာရင်းရှင်းတမ်းနှင့် စာရင်းစစ် အစီရင်ခံစာများကို အတည်ပြုရန်၊ အစုရှယ်ယာများအပေါ် အမြတ်ဝေစုခွဲဝေခြင်းကို ကြေညာရန်နှင့် ဒါရိုက်တာများ ရွေးချယ်တင်မြှောက်ရန်တို့အတွက် (၂၅) ကြိမ်မြောက်နှစ်ပတ်လည်အထွေထွေအစည်းအဝေးကြီးနှင့် (၂၅)နှစ်ပြည့် ငွေရတုအထိမ်းအမှတ် အခမ်းအနားကို အောက်ပါအစီအစဉ်အတိုင်း ကျင်းပပြုလုပ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အစုရှယ်ယာရှင်များ တက်ရောက်နိုင်ကြပါရန် ဖိတ်ကြားအပ်ပါသည်။

ကျင်းပမည့်ရက် - ၈-၇-၂၀၁၇(စနေနေ့)
ကျင်းပမည့်အချိန် - နံနက်(၉:၀၀)နာရီ မှ နေ့လည် (၁:၀၀) နာရီအထိ
ကျင်းပမည့်နေရာ - “Novotel Yangon Max”

အမှတ်(၄၅၉)၊ ပြည်လမ်း၊ ကမာရွတ်မြို့နယ်
ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းဒေသကြီး

မှတ်ချက်။ - အစည်းအဝေးဖိတ်စာကို အစီရင်ခံစာများနှင့်အတူ ဘဏ်တွင် မှတ်တမ်း တင်ထားသော လိပ်စာများသို့ ပေးပို့ထားပါသည်။ ဖိတ်စာလက်ဝယ် မရောက်ရှိသော ရှယ်ယာရှင်များလည်း အထက်ပါအစီအစဉ်အတိုင်း တက်ရောက်နိုင်ပါရန် ဖိတ်ကြားအပ်ပါသည်။
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- အစုရှယ်ယာ ရွှေ့ပြောင်းခြင်းမှတ်တမ်းစာအုပ်ကို (၇. ၇. ၂၀၁၇)ရက်နေ့ထိ ခေတ္တပိတ်ထားမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားများဘဏ်လီမိတက်

China launches space telescope to search for black holes, pulsars

JIUQUAN — China launched its first X-ray space telescope to observe black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts via a Long March-4B rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China's Gobi Desert at 11 am Thursday.

The 2.5-tonne Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope (HXMT), dubbed Insight, was sent into an orbit of 550 kilometers above the earth to help scientists better understand the evolution of black holes,

and the strong magnetic fields and the interiors of pulsars.

Through the telescope, scientists will also study how to use pulsars for spacecraft navigation, and search for gamma-ray bursts corresponding to gravitational waves.

The result of the wisdom and efforts of several generations of Chinese scientists, Insight is expected to push forward the development of space astronomy and improve space X-ray detection technology in China.—Xinhua ■



A Long March-4B rocket carrying X-ray space telescope to observe black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts blasts off from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China's Gobi Desert, on 15 June 2017. PHOTO: XINHUA

Japanese real estate developers bet on Thai market

BANGKOK — Japanese real estate developers are steadily advancing into the Thai market, normally partnering with local firms to cash in on demand for high-end residential units.

Mitsui Fudosan Co. on Wednesday announced the launch of five high-rise condominium projects totaling 21.7 billion baht (\$638 million) on prime Bangkok land in partnership with Ananda Development PLC.

Mitsui Fudosan, a major Japanese real estate developer, has partnered with Ananda, a local real estate and property developer that focuses on the Thai capital and the met-

ropolitan region, since 2013 and has already engaged in 18 joint venture projects worth 81 billion baht.

The two partners are expected to unveil four more joint venture projects before the end of this year.

Hankyu Realty Co., the property arm of Japanese conglomerate Hankyu Hanshin Holdings Inc., also recently announced plans to develop two condominiums worth 7 billion baht along Bangkok's Mass Transit System stations in collaboration with Sena Development PCL.

The two "Niche Mono" brand condos target middle- to high-level senior residents. Hankyu Realty President Ryuichi Moroto-

mi says his Osaka-based company is expanding its operations abroad and finds the Thai market an attractive opportunity because of the expansion of the rapid transit railway system. Hankyu Realty made its initial overseas foray into Vietnam in 2015.

Pornpak Boonthong, deputy managing director of Agency for Real Estate Affairs Co., a Thai property consulting firm, told NNA that many Japanese real estate developers operate joint venture companies, holding a 49 per cent stake in Thai developers. The partnerships mainly invest in high-end condos.

She said Thai partners are benefiting from

joint ventures with Japanese companies, including strengthening financial structures to afford land in promising locations. Taking advantage of Japanese innovation in space optimization and senior and retirement property development is also a benefit.

According to Pornpak, Thailand has huge potential for property investment thanks to a relatively inexpensive average unit price of 3.7 million baht, as compared with much more expensive property prices in Singapore and Hong Kong. The Thai market is expected to grow 5 per cent this year with an annual demand of 80,000 to 100,000 units.—Kyodo News ■

Wind, solar surpassed 10 per cent of US electricity in March: EIA

WASHINGTON — Wind and solar accounted for more than 10 per cent of US electricity generation for the first time in March, the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration said on Wednesday.

Wind and solar power capacity has been growing in the United States, accounting for an average of up to 7 per cent of electricity in 2016. Texas, a wind power giant, accounted for

the largest total amount of wind and solar electricity generation in 2016, according to the EIA.

Meanwhile, Iowa ranked as the state with the highest share of renewable energy in its electricity mix, with 37 per cent of electricity generation from wind and solar.

A separate report released on Wednesday by Deloitte found that consumer and business prefer-



Solar installers from Baker Electric place solar panels on the roof of a residential home in Scripps Ranch, San Diego, California, US, on 14 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

ence will continue to drive demand for renewable energy. The report found that 61 per cent of customers

wanted a certain percentage of electricity to come from renewable energy.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.6.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GLODEN SEA

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA HARTA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA HARTA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.6.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER

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Australian comedian and actor Rebel Wilson reacts as she leaves the Victorian Supreme Court in Melbourne, Australia, on 15 June 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Australian comedian Rebel Wilson wins defamation suit

MELBOURNE — Australian comedian Rebel Wilson has won a defamation suit against a global magazine publisher after the Victorian Supreme Court found a series of articles alleging she was a serial liar had damaged her career; local media reported on Thursday.

The Sydney-born actress, who appeared in Hollywood's Pitch Perfect films, said articles published by Bauer Media claiming she had lied about her age, real name and some childhood experiences cost her significant acting roles and income.

After four weeks of hearing

testimony from Wilson herself, local journalists and several Hollywood celebrities, the jury of six at Victoria's Supreme Court found unanimously in her favour.

"I was hoping that the jury would do the right thing and send a message to these tabloids. And they've done that," Wilson said at a press conference following the court decision broadcast by Sky News. "I really love my job as an actress and an entertainer and now I look forward to rebuilding my career as the record has been set straight." Wilson found a breakout role in the 2011 comedy hit "Bridesmaids." But after the

articles were published in Woman's Day and other Bauer-owned magazines in 2015, Wilson said she was told by the makers of Kung Fu Panda that she had become "too divisive" for a family film, according to her testimony, the Guardian reported.

She also said she was subsequently fired from the DreamWorks animated film Trolls and she was not offered any other roles, according to the Guardian report. A spokeswoman for Bauer Media said the publisher would "consider its options" following Thursday's verdict. —Reuters ■

LA to honour Adam West by lighting bat-signal

LOS ANGELES — Veteran actor Adam West will be honoured with a ceremonial bat-signal by LA Mayor Eric Garcetti and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck.

Garcetti and Beck will light up the iconic signal for the star of the "Batman" TV series, who passed away at the age of 88 last Friday, at 200 N Spring Street downtown in an event that will start around 9 PM PT Thursday evening, reported Deadline.

The signal will be projected via spotlight onto the tower

of Los Angeles City Hall.

West, who was at the pinnacle of pop culture after "Batman" debuted in January 1966, only to see his career fall victim to typecasting after the ABC show flamed out, died after a short battle with leukemia. On the big screen, West starred in "The Young Philadelphians" (1959), "Robinson Crusoe on Mars" (1964) and contributed his velvety voice to the animated "Redux Riding Hood" (1997), which received an Oscar nomination for best short film.—PTI ■

Priyanka beats Dwayne, Gadot to become social media favourite

LOS ANGELES — Priyanka Chopra is more popular than her "Baywatch" co-star Dwayne Johnson and even "Wonder Woman" Gal Gadot on social media.

The 34-year-old actress, who has time and again proved that there's nothing she can't achieve, is number one on the Top Actors chart, a ranking of the most popular actors on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Google Plus.

Social media analytics company MVPindex provided

the global data based on the engagement of the celebs and addition of followers on their online accounts. The latest tracking week ended on 6 June.

Second on the list is Johnson, better known to his fans as 'The Rock'. Actor-comedian Kevin Hart is third on the list, while Gadot and Cara Delevingne are at number four and five, respectively.

Vin Diesel, Jennifer Lopez, Ashley Benson, Zac Efron and Shay Mitchell completed the top 10 —PTI ■

Bob Dylan accused of borrowing some of Nobel lecture from study guide

LOS ANGELES — Bob Dylan has been accused of borrowing heavily for part of the Nobel Literature Prize lecture he finally delivered to the Swedish Academy last week.

The singer-songwriter's remarks on how the book "Moby Dick" influenced him bear a close similarity to the SparkNotes summaries of the Herman Melville classic novel, according to an analysis on Slate.com.

SparkNotes.com provides study guides for students in literature and other fields.

Author Andrea Pitzer, writing on Slate.com on Tuesday, listed some 20 sentences from the portion of Dylan's lecture

on "Moby Dick" that closely resembled phrases or ideas on the SparkNotes website on the book.

They included lines from Dylan's online lecture such as "Ahab's got a wife and child back in Nantucket that he reminisces about now and then."

The entry from SparkNotes reads "musing on his wife and child back in Nantucket," Pitzer noted.

Dylan's representatives did not return calls for comment on Wednesday. Dylan, whose songs include "Blowin' in the Wind," "The Times They Are A-Changin'" and "Like a Rolling Stone," has admitted in the past that he draws from other influences.

In a 2012 interview with Rolling Stone magazine, he brushed aside criticism that he plagiarized the work of other artists by saying: "It's called songwriting. It has to do with melody and rhythm, and then after that, anything goes. You make everything yours. We all do it."

The media-shy Dylan, 76, delivered his lecture to the Swedish Academy last week just within the six-month time limit set by the organization in order for Nobel laureates to receive the 8 million crowns (\$900,000) that goes with the prize. He chose not to attend the annual ceremony and banquet in Stockholm. —Reuters ■



Singer Bob Dylan performs during a segment honoring Director Martin Scorsese, recipient of the Music+ Film Award, at the 17th Annual Critics' Choice Movie Awards in Los Angeles, USA, in 2012. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

ARTISTS BEYOND BOUNDARIES

from 16 to 29 June at American Centre

By Aye Min Soe

“Artists Beyond Boundaries”, an exhibition of captivating and thought-provoking contemporary Yangon art, will be held at the American Centre of the U.S. Embassy from 16 to 29 June.

“The U.S. Embassy is proud to support this exhibition, which features such diverse Myanmar artists,” said Ambassador Scott Marcial. “Art can be a powerful tool in expressing a community’s struggles and achievements. We believe that freedom of expression is a vital aspect of a democracy and the U.S. Embassy continues to encourage and support freedom of speech in all forms throughout Myanmar.”

The exhibition is the first quarter of the four-part “Artists Beyond Boundaries” (ABB) Project, and is curated by Pamela Blotner and Mie Preckler and their Yangon colleague, Tin Win (Beikthano), Myanmar’s

prominent art master. It presents the work of 25 local artists as they respond to the enormous cultural and political changes that have occurred in Myanmar over the past decade.

The American Centre will also host part two of the Project, three days of lectures and films by the exhibiting artists and the curators. Friends, families, visitors and members of the AC community are encouraged to attend, listen, mingle and view the artworks at their leisure.

The third and fourth studio-based parts of the project will be hosted by Pansodan Scene. Part three will feature studio demos and workshops by exhibiting artists, the ABB team, and guests. “Artists Beyond Boundaries” will conclude with a three-day open-studio collaborative art-making event. Everyone who comes by the studio will be encouraged to participate. The exhibition will remain open for viewing the AC through 29 June.

“Artists Beyond Boundaries” was created because I felt that it was important - both at home and countries across the globe - to see and understand how Myanmar artists have responded to the enormous cultural and political changes they have experienced in the last ten years. The artists in this exhibition have more than fulfilled my expectations - their artworks are direct and honest responses to issues that affect them personally and that they know affect us all,” said Pamela to the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Asked what is the difference between the art of Myanmar and other countries, she said, “It is difficult to compare diverse artists and cultures, as their circumstances vary so widely. In my experience, however, those countries who - like Myanmar - have endured hardship and repression in their recent history, create from the heart, above all.” ■



“Line” by Pe Nyunt Way.

Artists Beyond Boundaries: The Exhibition

16-29 June 2017

A curated exhibition featuring the work of 25 Myanmar artists. The American Centre of the US Embassy, Yangon, 14 Taw Win Road, Dagon Township.

Opening Reception// Friday, June 16, 5:00-7:00pm
Lectures & Performances// 17 & 19 June
hours will be posted
Gallery Viewing// Monday-Saturday, June 17-29

Exhibit for artist Saya U Win Pe on June 20

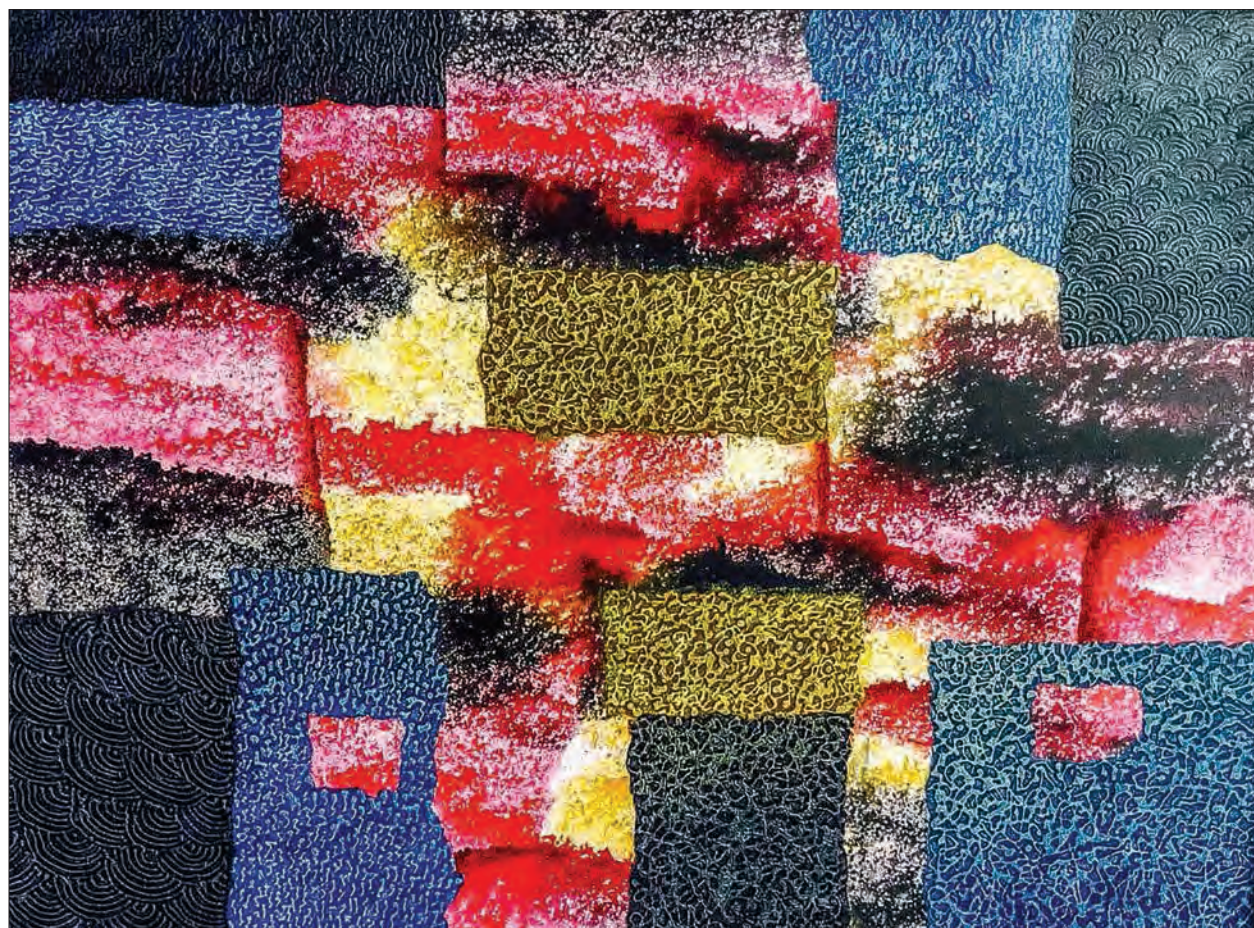
Artist Saya U Win Pe will be featured at “Bayaphi Arts show” of acrylic art from 20 June to 28 June at Think Art Gallery, Nawaday Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. At the art show, 70 works of acrylic art on canvas will be sold for between US\$350 and \$3,500.—Phoe Thant ■

38 artists to exhibit sketches at 43rd Art Gallery

Thirty-eight artists will exhibit their sketches for art lovers and art collectors at the 43rd Art Gallery, Botahtaung Township, Yangon from 18 to 25 June. At the art exhibit, sketch art will be sold for between Ks30,000 and Ks50,000.—Phoe Thant ■



Sketches of the artists are exhibited at the 43rd Art Gallery. **PHOTO: PHOE THANT**



“Conflicts” by Artist Tin Win (Beikthano) is displayed at the Artists Beyond Boundaries. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

Myanmar U 22 prepares for 2017 ASEAN SEA Game

MYANMAR U22 teams comprising of shining players who have played U20 World Cup in New Zealand are going to start their training today.

Myanmar U22 players started the training since 5 June in Yangon and will be coached by Gerd Friedrich for coming international matches.

The team training will also be performed in Taunggyi, northern part and city of Shan State, possessing the finest weather in Myanmar from 16 to 22 June.

After the training, Myanmar will play international challenge

cup with Hongkong, Cambodia and Japanese University Club from 28 June to 2 July.

After that, Myanmar will play friendly match against host Malaysia on 13 June as the preparation for the upcoming SEA Game.

Myanmar will also compete against Australia, Singapore and Brunei in 2018 ASIA qualifier hosted in Myanmar.

In preparation of the SEA Game, Myanmar has been challenged by Inter Milan Youth FC for the play of friendly match in next month. — Shine Htet Zaw ■



Myanmar U15 players practise for the upcoming match against China Taipei. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar will compete against Chinese Taipei in the second match of U15 international tournament today

AT the second match of U15 international football challenge cup, Myanmar will play against Chinese Taipei today in Vietnam.

Myanmar U15 was defeated by Indonesia U15 in the opening match of the tournament so it needs to win this match to cover up the losing marks.

“Chinese Taipei is a very strong team and their physical and technical skills are better than our athletes but we will try as much as we can to gain full marks.”

“The best two teams for the tournament is host Vietnam and Indonesia as they prepared their players and strategies better than last year.

The weakest point of our players is their lack of stamina in the last minutes of the game but we have to prepare our best”, said Myanmar U15 Chief Coach U Nyi Nyi Latt.

Myanmar U15 will play with host Vietnam on 18 June and Vietnamese Channel VTV is going to broadcast all the upcoming matches. —Kyaw Zin Lin ■



Myanmar U22 players will begin their training under coach Gerd Friedrich for their upcoming international match. **PHOTO: MNA**

Mayweather, McGregor agree to August fight

NEW YORK — Undeclared boxer Floyd Mayweather and mixed martial arts champion Conor McGregor, two of the most popular athletes in their respective sports, have agreed to a crossover fight in the ring on 26 August in Las Vegas.

The fight confirmed on Wednesday is expected to gross millions of dollars, with Mayweather a solid favourite.

Mayweather, 40, retired in 2015 with an unblemished 49-0 professional boxing record while boastful Irishman McGregor, 28, is the UFC's lightweight champion.

“IT’S OFFICIAL!!!” Mayweather wrote on his Twitter account alongside a short video that included photos of both fighters. “THE FIGHT IS ON,”

McGregor tweeted minutes before Mayweather's post.

The two fighters had gone back and forth for nearly a year on the showdown, each demanding \$100 million (78.4 million pounds) for the fight.

Both camps declined to disclose financial details during a call with reporters but said all sides were satisfied.

“Nobody is bummed out about this deal,” UFC president Dana White said.

“Everybody's happy,” Mayweather Promotions CEO Leonard Ellerbe said. White told ESPN that the 12-round fight would take place at the T-Mobile Arena and that McGregor would weigh in at 154 pounds.

Mayweather Promotions will publicize the event, which

will be available on Showtime pay-per-view.

“I talked to Conor McGregor this morning,” White said. “He is absolutely, 100 per cent positive that he wins this fight.”

If McGregor pulls that off, it would rank among the greatest boxing upsets of all time.

Mayweather is widely regarded as one of the best defensive fighters ever, and prides himself on his ability to evade punishment with his movement and to make adjustments on the fly. McGregor, the UFC's reigning lightweight champion and former featherweight champion, is known as much for his bravado as for his explosive knockout power inside an MMA octagon.

—Reuters ■

Referees can stop games over discrimination at Confederation Cup

ZURICH — Referees at this year's Confederations Cup in Russia will have the power to abandon games over discriminatory behaviour by fans as part of a three-step procedure to promote fair-play during the tournament, governing body FIFA has said.

The procedure allows referees to halt the match and make a public announcement over discriminatory fan behaviour; temporarily suspend the game if the problem persists and completely

stop the match if the behaviour does not stop. The governing body also introduced an initiative to deploy anti-discrimination officials into the crowd to detect and report abusive behaviour.

“These are ground-breaking changes in the global fight against discrimination that will mark the 2017 edition of the FIFA Confederations Cup,” FIFA President Gianni Infantino said in a statement. “Both initiatives are extra tools for the referees and match

officials to prevent discriminatory attitudes and ensure that the atmosphere in the stadium is one of fair play and respect.”

FIFA had previously used observers, who are trained by the Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE) network, at the 2018 World Cup qualifiers and specific international friendlies. The 10th edition of the Confederations Cup will kick off on June 17 with hosts Russia facing New Zealand. —Reuters ■