

Gold mining firms urged to give debts to government

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When they fail to do as committed, legal actions will be taken against them in accord with rules, laws and procedures”, U Ohn Win said.

In reply to a question raised by Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung Constituency, U Ohn Win said, “There is not any plan to cancel the gravel production project of Long Life Aggregate Mining Co. in Kalamataung Forest Reserve in Paung Township. In case the company is found guilty of violating rules and regulations, legal action will be taken against the company.”

Afterward, Dr Daw Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon Constituency put forward a motion urging the Union Government to make known the national income received from mining

sectors of natural resources and to lay down arrangements for all these earnings to inclusively go into the Union Revenue Fund in accord with the recommendation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (ETTI) into which Myanmar joined as the preliminary candidate in June 2014.

“National citizens are the ones among 13 countries that enjoy the fewest benefits from extraction of natural resources. The motion has been put forward with a view to applying pressure for reaching an all-inclusive development state and effective management of natural resources. It will be more beneficial use for the national development for our country to carry out things to be done in accord with the standards, instructions and



Pyithu Hluttaw session being convened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

recommendations of ETTI. So, it needs to perform the task of making national income from extraction of natural resources to inclusively go into the Union Finance Fund”, Dr Daw Thet Thet Khaing said.

Following that, U Win Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw announced that those interested in discussing the motion approved by Pyithu Hluttaw to be seconded in the Hluttaw to enroll their names.

After that, Thura U Aung Ko, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture, submitted a bill on International Theravara Buddhist Missionary University (ITBMU) Law. —Myanmar News Agency ■

MPs call for fishing rules enforcement to save aquatic resources

MPs of the Amyotha Hluttaw called for fighting illegal fishing, such as using banned fishing nets, and corruption in order to conserve Myanmar's aquatic resources, which are quickly declining.

When debating a motion on sustainable development of Myanmar's fishery sector was tabled by MP U Khin Myo Win of Taninthayi Region constituency 12, MP U Han Win Thein of Taninthayi Region's constituency 4 called for making strict rule enforcement of onshore and offshore fishing to prevent illegal fishing and use of banned fishing nets in order to prevent depletion of fish resources.

“Before fishing boats depart out to sea, thorough inspections and surprise checks should be carried out and effective actions

should be carried out against corruption in the fishing sector,” he said.

The motion focused on collecting all taxes which are deserved from fish and aquatic resources from Myanmar's sea, conservation of fish resources and permitting the transfer of fish to factories or permitting export through FOB and CIF systems by vessels only after the fish hauls from near and far shores are inspected at loading and off-loading ports.

The MP also called for providing full expertise and service loading and off-loading of fish at the ports in order to control the quality of fish and for installing vessel management systems (VMS) on fishing boats.

MPs also stressed the need for aquatic research works to be



U Han Win Thein.



U Okka Min.

conducted systematically and consistently to maintain the ecosystem and for the development of the fishery sector.

U Okka Min of Taninthayi Region constituency 8 said One Stop Service provided by Fishery Department in Kawthoung and Myeik inspection stations is

now changed to MFI and there were nine groups cooperating. There were 1,128 fishing vessels five foreign joint venture fishing vessels, 33 local fish-carrying vessels working under the inspection of the Myeik inspection station. Most of the fish were exported to Thailand and

Malaysia, and four types of inspections were conducted. If the inspection is to be conducted on the wharves, it should be big, wide and government-owned wharves. Advanced machinery and cold stores with sufficient electrical power are required. Installation of VMS to prevent fishing vessels from conducting illegal fishing urgently needs to be implemented. Only then can the Myanmar fishery and aquatic sector be maintained and developed with sustainable production while losses in tax and revenue prevented.

Tatmadaw representative Lt-Col Soe Naing, Dr San Maung Maung of Bago Region constituency 1 and Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Latt of Bago Region constituency 3 also discussed the motion. —Aye Aye Thant (MNA) ■



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint holds talks with Mr. Kristian Schmidt, Ambassador of the European Union. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives EU Ambassador

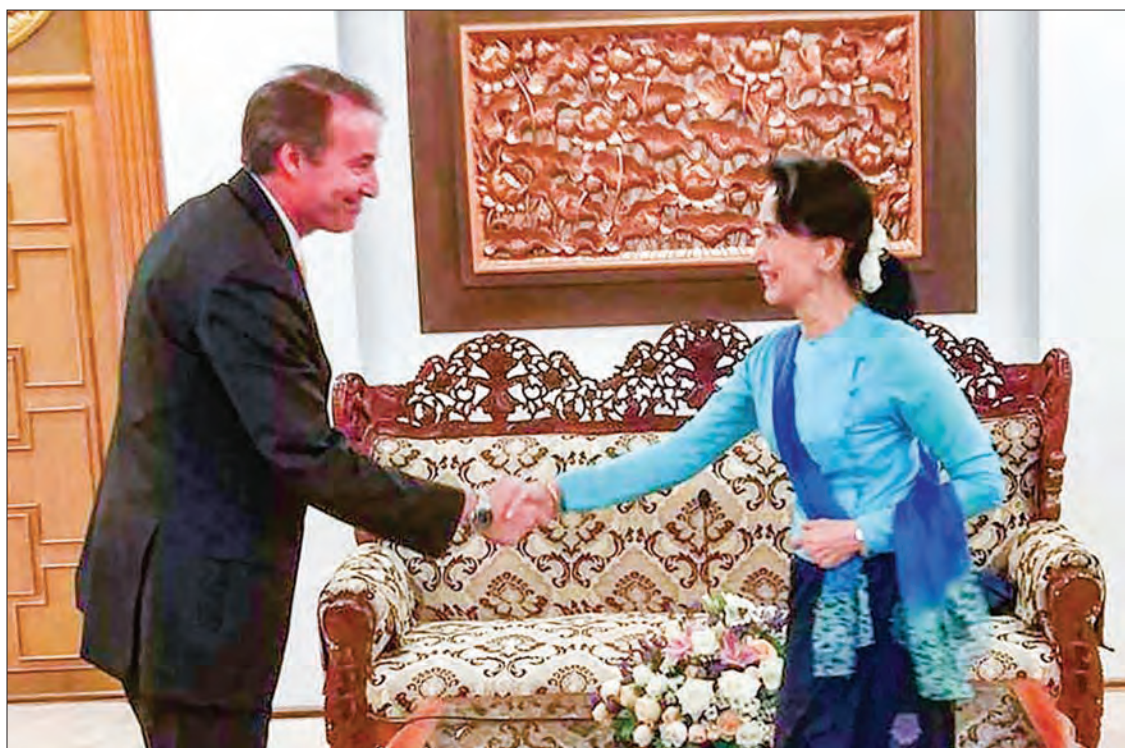
PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint received H.E Mr. Kristian Schmidt, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar yesterday afternoon at the Pyithu Hluttaw office in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed the right way for My-

anmar to transition into democracy, national reconciliation and peace, relational promotion and cooperation between the EU and Myanmar, provision of humanitarian aid for Rakhine State implemented by the government of Myanmar, regional development and the legislative processes of

the Hluttaw.

Ambassador Schmidt, a Danish national, previously served as the Head of the European Union delegation to Uganda and held several senior positions in the European Union's headquarters in Brussels. — Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomes Mr. Kristian Schmidt, Ambassador of the European Union in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor receives EU Ambassador

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, receives H.E. Mr. Kristian Schmidt, Ambassador of the European Union to the Re-

public of the Union of Myanmar on 19 October 2017 at 3:00 pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters related to the promotion

of bilateral relations and co-operation between Myanmar and the European Union, and the progress of the situation in the Rakhine State.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Ceremony for handing over machinery bought as two step loan held

Farming machinery bought with a JICA Two-Step Loan were handed over to farmers in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. The ceremony to hand over the machinery was held at the office of the Maternity and Child Care Association, Lewetownship in Nay Pyi Taw. U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance said the move will improve and increase the country's agricultural sector.

"The two-step loan project is designed for farmers to borrow a considerable amount of money in the form of short-term and long-term loans so as to be able to invest in the tasks from preparation of land for growing to the stage of harvesting, winnowing, milling, packing and selling; to purchase agricultural farming equipments and to build up rice mills, oil mills and storehouses." U Tin Htut, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member, made

an address, followed by clarifications about the objectives and processes of the JICA Two-Step Loan from U Min Thu, director-general of Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank.

U Aye Maung Sein, Nay Pyi Taw Council member, U Tun Tun Naing, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Planning and Finance, Mr Sakai, Deputy In-Charge of JICA Myanmar Office handed over documents on the machinery bought by farmers. Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win and responsible officials then inspected agricultural farming equipment.

The JICA Two-Step Loan was approved by the 2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 3rd Regular Session. It was launched in Pyay Township as a pilot project in FY 2017-2018 and the project will be launched in the remaining Regions and States further. —MNA ■

Nationwide animal census to be taken in January by Livestock Breeding & Vet Dept

The first meeting of a national-level animal census central committee was held yesterday morning at the Royal ACE Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu said the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department is arranging to conduct an animal census in January, with preliminary data collection already conducted in 11 wards and 1,113 villages of Nganzun, Kyaukse, Singgaing, Myittha, Tada-U, Miekhtila, Wundwin, Thazi townships, Mandalay Region while the Food and Agriculture Organization Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (FAO-LIFT Fund) collected data from Mahlaing, Myingyan, Natogyi, Pakokku, Taungtha and Yesagyo townships of Mandalay Region and Magway Region totalling 422,618 houses in 14 townships.

The Union Minister said the animal census could not be conducted successfully simply by having time, manpower and technology. The work can be successfully conducted by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department with the support of



Officials discuss collecting data on animal population. **PHOTO: MNA**

the ministry, the cooperation of related organisations, expertise of the data collectors and enthusiastic and transparent mental and physical cooperation of the people. As per the current calculations, there are 330 townships and 63,860 villages in Myanmar and, excluding townships that didn't have villages and villages where data has already been collected, data will be collected from 20 per cent of villages and wards in 283 townships numbering 12,399 villages and 515 wards consisting of about 1.5 million houses, said the Union Minister.

Only when exact animal census data is collected can policies, aims and projects be implement-

ed in the animal breeding and production sector, which will support the country's political, economic and social sector developments, added the Union Minister. Dr. Ye Tun Win, the director general of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, explained the animal census collection project and implemented works, and an official from FAO explained how the collected data will be utilised. The steps for the national-level animal census collection work process were then reviewed by central committee members and officials of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department. —Myanmar News Agency ■

KBZ's BFM foundation funds K3 billion for development projects in Rakhine

Kanbawza Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation donated Ks3 billion to an effort led by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for implementing projects in all sectors for the development of Rakhine State.

The philanthropic foundation put Ks3 billion into the bank account CF-003434 of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine yesterday, said a foundation official.

The donation came about one week after State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi announced the establishment of UEHARD, inviting NGOs, CSOs, partner nations, UN agencies and INGOs to work together with the Union Government for implementing the three main tasks of humanitarian assistance, resettlement and development in Rakhine State.

For the rehabilitation and resettlement in Rakhine State, the foundation has also

previously contributed Ks47 million to the fund for civil servants who were injured and killed in the conflicts in Rakhine in 2017, Ks300 million to development tasks and more than Ks3.1 billion for stability in the border area, bringing the BFM's total contributions to Rakhine State to more than K6.5 billion yesterday.

In early 2017, BFM established a Ks3 billion peace fund for the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre-NRPC.

When serious floods hit Myanmar in 2015, the foundation donated Ks11.5 billion to the fund for rescue and resettlement in Rakhine State.

BFM chaired by Daw Nang Laung Kham, has donated more than K135 billion so far since its establishment in 2008.

To develop the Rakhine State, the Union Government has invited local and private donors to assist the government.—Thura Lwin (Eco)■

Five killed, five police injured in Hpakhsant jade mine attack

FIVE people were killed and 20 people and five police officers injured in an attack at a jade mine area in Hpakhsant Township, Kachin State yesterday.

While police were patrolling the jade plot owned by 111 Company in Hpakhsant Township at around 9:30pm, nearly 50 jade seekers tried to force their way onto the work site.

When police prevented their entry, they left. One hour later, nearly 600 people returned and attacked the police, burning dump trucks and destroying a backhoe. As po-

lice were attacked with knives, police opened fire to drive back the attackers.

Twenty-five injured people, including five police officers, were sent to the Lone Khin sub-township Hospital using vehicles of the philanthropic association of Hmaw Pone Village. Of the 25, nine seriously injured people were transferred to Myikyina Hospital.

Police are investigating the case in accord with the law, according to Ministry of Home Affairs. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Healthcare using traditional medicines provided for Hindu IDPs in Sittway

THE Traditional Medicine Department of Rakhine State provided healthcare and traditional medicines to the Hindu displaced people in the IDP camp of Danya Wadi playground in Sittway Township yesterday morning.

Treatment was given mostly for asthma, ulcers, coughs and diseases of the skin, said U Thein Htay Aung deputy

medical practitioner of the Traditional Medicine Hospital of Sittway.

One-hundred and fifty-six patients in the temporary relief camps of Danya Wadi playground were given treatment with traditional medicines by U Thein Htay Aung, deputy medical practitioner, health officials and five staff members. —Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

Ygn Region Parliament debates nationalising unused land and buildings

By Ko Moe

YANGON Region Hluttaw representatives debated in support of nationalisation of unused State-owned land and buildings at the Yangon Region Hluttaw meeting on 19 October.

Concerning the motion urging the Yangon Region Government to nationalise unused land and buildings taken ownership under many devious ways and means after careful scrutiny, nine Hluttaw representatives came out in support of the motion.

According to the Hluttaw representatives, entrepreneurs and so-called cronies are selling and renting State-owned buildings and land plots at excessive rates, most of which had been taken in dishonest ways. Some were found to be in original condition, and some were making big profits from selling them, it was learnt.

U Hla Htay, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative of Mingala Taungnyunt constituency 1 said, "Now is the time when the Government is specifically implementing for the national

development and creation of job opportunities for citizens. Had these plans been implemented, the State will earn a lot of income and more job creation will emerge."

The motion was put forward to the regional parliament on 3 October by U Hla Htay.

Following that, respective officials at the regional level replied to questions raised by Hluttaw representatives and it was also learnt that a bill on prevention against risks of fire and natural disasters was submitted to the Hluttaw. ■

Rain expected over upper Myanmar due to depression

THERE is a depression over Westcentral Bay of Bengal, its centered at about (150)miles South-Southeast of Puri and (210)miles South-Southwest of Chandbali India and it is likely to move to North-Northwest, according to Dr Tun Lwin, a prominent weather expert of Myanmar.

According to the observations at (18:30)hrs M.S.T on 20 October, it is forecast to further intensify and cross Odisha coast near Puri and Chandbali during next (18) hours. Depression is located at Latitude (17.3) degree North and Longitude (86.3) degree East, Centre pressure of depression is (1000) hPa and maximum wind speed near the center is (35) miles per hour at (18:30) hrs MST today. Weather is

partly cloudy over the South Bay and cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal. It is not moving towards Myanmar coasts, the present stage of the depression is coded yellow stage. The weatherman warned that trawlers, vessels and ships off and along Myanmar Coasts to notice in condition of the depression. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35) M.P.H. Wave height will be about (6-10) feet in off and along Myanmar Coast.

The DMH forecast that there will be isolated rain or thundershowers in Kachin and Shan (North and East) States, scattered in Taninthayi Region and Southern Shan State, fairly

widespread in Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and widespread in Naypyitaw, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Chin and Rakhine States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Regions and Rakhine States in next two days.

Concerning flood warning issued at (14:30) hr M.S.T observation, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (½) foot at Toungoo above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next (1) day. The weathermen has advised the people who settle near the river bank and low lying area at Taungoo Township of Sittoung River, to take precaution measure.—GNLM ■

Media, state officials meet in Rakhine

MEMBERS of Rakhine State information committee held talks with media men from Sittway at the meeting hall of the Sittway District Information and Public Relations Department.

The Secretary of the Rakhine State press release committee and the head of Rakhine State's information and public relations department U Maung Maung explained the rules and regulations of media groups that are working in the region.

Media representatives then revealed their experiences in

reporting, challenges and news gathering. Inspector Kyi Sann Lwin and officials briefed the media members about releasing information on true ground situations in Rakhine State.

The head of Rakhine State's Information and Public Relations Department, police officials and journalists representing print and broadcast media including Eleven, RFA, SkyNet, News Watch, DVB, MCN, Irrawaddy, Narinjara and Rakhine Gazette participated in the meeting. —Tin Htun (IPRD) ■



Authorities in Sittway meet with local media personnel. PHOTO: TIN HTUN (IPRD)