President U Htin Kyaw accepts credentials from ambassadors of South Africa and Mexican States

MR. GEOFFREY Quinton Mitchell Doidge, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence to U Htin Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw at 2 pm yesterday.

Mr. Nathan Wolf Lustbader, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the United Mexican States to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, also presented his Letter of Credence to U Htin Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw at 2:35 pm yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and Director-General U Thant Sin of the Protocol Department.— Myanmar News Agency ■

President U Htin Kyaw accepts Letter of Credence from Mr. Nathan Wolf Lustbader, the newly-accredited Mexican Ambassador. **PHOTO: MNA**

President U Htin Kyaw accepts Letter of Credence from the newly-accredited South African Ambassador. **PHOTO: MNA**

Jade sector ranked 83rd among . . .

FROM PAGE-1

"Myanmar's long-running internal conflicts have been partly financed by the gemstone sector in general, and jade in particular. Central to the issues facing Myanmar's gemstone sector is transparency, the data show, with the government disclosing almost no information related to the licensing process, contracts or the identities of those with ultimate financial interests in trading companies or the sector generally. Gemstone licensing in Myanmar is the second-least transparent of all countries' licensing systems, with an index score of four of 100 points; only Turkmenistan's oil and gas sector ranks lower. Due to its opaque set-up, Myanmar Gems Enterprise (MGE) received a score of 16 of 100 points for governance, making it one of the most poorly governed state-owned economic enterprises (SEEs) covered in the study", according to a statement released yesterday.

But the report also said this was an opportunity to improve the industry.

"The gemstone sector now has the potential to play an important role in the country's future. Improved transparency throughout the sector, particularly in licensing, ownership, production and revenue data, and improved valuation, taxation and collection of revenues, would be a huge step towards better governance", according to the statement.

"The findings of the Resource Governance Index re-emphasise the need for Myanmar to get the right the new Gemstone Law currently being discussed in Parliament," said Maw Htun Aung, NRGI's Myanmar manager.

The Myanmar Gemstone Law of 1995 effectively separated jade and gemstones from the rest of the mining sector, making it easier for a handful of elites to control the sector. In the country's oil and gas sector, there are also challenges that need to be confronted, the report said.

The Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) scored 35 of 100 points in governance.

"Since MOGE is one of the most important revenue contributors to the state budget, NRGI calls for further improvements. For example the oil and gas sector licensing process scores only 24 of 100 points. In terms of revenue contributions, MOGE does not report annually on its finances or operations, representing a serious failing in oversight. The government has already announced that SEE reform is a priority in its twelve-point economic plan for the country. This plan includes a greater transparency and reporting of finances and taxes to the public, and the restructuring of SEEs to be more competitive and economically viable", according to the statement released yesterday.

The statement from NRGI said the reforms are key for ensuring that Myanmar's oil and gas wealth benefits the economic development of the country, and can contribute to the peace process.

"In the context of Myanmar's peace process, resource-rich, conflict-affected regions of the country have called for greater sharing of natural resource revenues and management responsibilities. Governance challenges evidenced by the index results point to a need to improve transparency as the first step toward designing a system that distributes benefits equitably and allows oversight of compliance with the rules," added Maw Htun Aung.

The results of the Resource Governance Index are available at: www.resourcegovernanceindex.org.—GNLM■

State Counsellor receives the newly accredited Ambassador of the Philippines Mr Eduardo E. Kapunan yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Filipino, Nepalese Ambassadors call on State Counsellor

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received newly accredited Ambassador of the Philippines to Myanmar Mr Eduardo E. Kapunan, Jr. at 10 am and Ambassador of Nepal to Myanmar Mr Bhim K.Udas at 10.45 am yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs respectively.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine State Chief Minister delivers aid to villagers

RAKHINE State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu met with villagers in southern Maungtaw yesterday, delivering aid to the villagers.

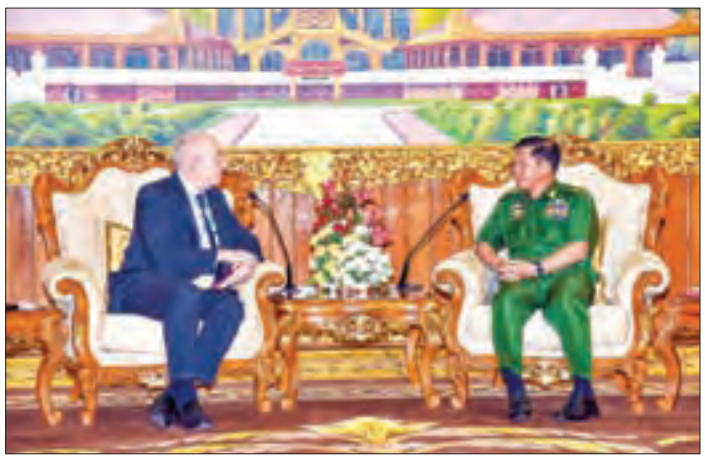
At the meeting, the Chief Minister pledged to assist in restoring peace and stability the district which saw instability due to armed attacks last year.

During his visit to Inndin village, he asked the local people to cooperate with the authorities, encouraging them that situation will return to normal soon. After that, U Nyi Pu and officials went to Kyauk Pandu and Shwe Yin Aye villages and gave the aid to the local people. The State chief minister and members met with administrative officials at the Township General Administration Department in MyinLut Township and discussed about regional peace and stability.— Myint Maung Soe, Aung Kyaw Oo ■

List of civilian murdered in Maungtaw District (2016 October to 2017 June 27)

No.	Date	Name	Township/Village	Death	Remark
1	5-10-2016	Maung Maung Soe @ YuNaMya	UShalKya Village	1	Died from 12 stab wounds in the home of Kaphartula in the same village.
2	5-10-2016	Mahmat Tharli	UShalKya Village	1	Died from 19 stab wounds
3	14-10-2016	Under Investigation	MyoThuGyi Village	1	A rotting corpse was found 14 stab wounds in a sewer canal near the 14 milepost near Myo-ThuGyi Village
4	17-11-2016	Jamar @ Fawma Husoon	Gawduthara (West)	1	Died from stab wounds to the neck near a basic primary school
5	21-12-2016	Dus Mahmat @ YuNaMya	NgarKhuRa (Middle) Village	1	Answered honestly to reporters' questions. Head missing and stab wounds to both legs.
6	25-12-2016	Rafi	YayThwinKyun Village	1	Died from stab wounds to stomach and neck
7	28-12-2016	SweDuArmi	Linbarkonenar Village	1	Died from stab wounds to the neck, found near a creek.
8	20-1-2017	Sunta Ahmed, Mahmet Shawfi and Mahmet Zubai	DoneKalar Village	3	Padakar New Village Adminstrator Mahmet Nuhr reported their disappearance. All three were found with stab wounds to the head.
9	28-1-2017	Zawkee Ahmed	PyaungPike Village	1	Died from stab wounds to the body near Pazun Lake after withdrawing provisions
10	4-2-2017	Idris	Pazun Lake near Gwa-sone Village	1	Was ambushed and stabbed by 10 men while on his way to a meeting in YaykhatChaung Village
11	21-2-2017	AduSaleem	KyarKaungTaung Village	1	Was killed during violent attacks and the body buried in the enclosure
12	24-2-2017	Mahmet Karsein	Shwezar GoneNar Village	1	On 23 February he was on his way home with a friend after watching a football match when four men led by NuraLaung tied a longyi around his neck and hung him till he died
13	26-2-2017	Htun Thar Maung	KyaukSarTine (Rakhine) Village	1	On 24 February he and his friend, Aung Kyaw Sein, were attacked by 3 assailants near Tar-yayKoneBaung Village. Aung Kyaw Sein suffered stab wounds to his back and Htun Thar Maung was found dead with stab wounds to the neck and back
14	2-3-2017	NuhrKarin	KyeeKanPyin Village	1	On 1 March 2017, 4 masked men kidnapped him and he was found dead in a field near the village
15	5-3-2017	Zarmar Hussein	SinOhPyin Village	1	Was found near MaungGyiTaung Village with multiple stab wounds
16	9-3-2017	Mahmet Sawli	AhtetKweKyoMaw Village, Buthidaung Tsp	1	He was on his way to Kadi (2) village with Head of ten households AbulaShein when six men including Mahmet Innus and AbulaShein attacked with knives and sticks
17	16-3-2017	SoliMulla, ThandarMyar	Punthi (North) Village	2	He disappeared on 15 March after driving cattles to graze and was found dead the next day with stab wounds to the head and neck in a sewer canal near the roadside
18	31-3-2017	Shivali	Myoma Ward, Buthi-daung Township	1	Shival left his house on 21 March to visit his parent in-laws in Migyaung Kaungswe Village and disappeared. His body was found in KalarPanzin creek with wounds all over his body
19	1-4-2017	HamidDullha	Ward (2) Tinmay Village (10)	1	He was asleep in his home when 7 masked men led by a person named Rafi broke into the house and beat and stabbed him to death
20	2-4-2017	AnniwaAshad	MyinLut Village East Ward	1	He was called out of his home by two men and when he did not return, a search party found him dead from stab wounds in a lentil plantation to the east of Ward (5)
21	8-4-2017	Rafi	BogyiChaung Village, Buthidaung Township	1	GuraSudin, age 45, and 3 men attacked Rafi with axes and knives
22	18-4-2017	AmiAli	PhwayYar Village	1	10 masked men dragged him out of his home and attacked him with knives
23	2-5-2017	Mahmet PhwayYaw	MaungGyiTaung Village, Buthidaung Tsp	1	5 masked men kidnapped him and he was found dead from stab wounds near DarpineSayar Village
24	5-5-2017	Mahmet Ahlem	TawinChaung Village	1	The body was found 300 yards to the east of the village. A bullet with the serial code KF-7 was found near the body.
25	5-5-2017	AhraUlla	TawinChaung Village	1	A local gang kidnapped and killed him near MayuValley
26	19-5-2017	NoruSalem	KyaungTaung Village-Tract	1	Around 50 men in black masks and clothes dragged him out of his house and killed him 30 yards from his home
27	28-5-2017	Tahal	Migyaung Kaungswe Village, Buthidaung Tsp	1	He was killed by a gang of men near a bridge in InchaungZay Village
28	29-5-2017	ShaungShuAhlaung @ Kyaw Swe	YayTwinPin Village	1	He was kidnapped by 50 men and was found dead and tied up near Barkhumar Valley
29	4-6-2017	NuhAhmein	YwarthitKay Village	1	He was asleep in his home when 15 unknown men kidnapped him and killed him near Pazun lake.
30	15-6-2017	AbuNarsel	GaungNyar Village	1	When he didn't return from a visit to his friend's house, a search party found him dead from stab wounds near a creek to the east of the village
31	16-6-2017	HarbiZu	Gutapyin Village, Buthidaung Tsp	1	He was ambushed by 5 masked men after returning home from sentry duty and was stabbed
32	24-6-2017	AbuHarshein	KaungTakar Village	1	10 masked men ambushed him in his home and attacked with knives. His son received one stab wounds and his 5-year old daughter received wounds to the head.
33	24-6-2017	APhwayYas	MyoThuGyi Village	1	He was asleep in his home when 3 masked men attacked him with knives. His two sisters and son also received stab wounds
34	24-6-2017	U Aung Kyaw	Tashein Village	1	Four villagers including him went on a turtle search and two of them were kidnappped and killed by a violent gang
35	26-6-2017	Ko Ko Thein	Tashein Village	1	One of the two villagers who went on a turtle search and were kidnappped and killed by a violent gang
Total				**38**	

Senior General meets New Zealand Ambassador



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Ambassador Mr. Steve Marshal. **PHOTO: MNA**

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received New Zealand Ambassador Mr. Steve Marshall at Bayinnaung guesthouse yesterday. In the meeting, they discussed about breeding dairy cattle and producing dairy products, technical assistance in researching new medicine for malaria and tuberculosis, sending delegations between the two countries' militaries, Myanmar's peace process and landmine clearance operations.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Villager, suspected terrorist subsidizer dead in Maungtaw

A VILLAGER and a man suspected of bankrolling terrorist training are both dead, after the villager's home was attacked in Phweyar Village, Maungtaw.

Mawlawi Umaw Sardec of Bagonenar village, Maungtaw Township, who was suspected of supporting the training of terrorists in Rakhine State, died of a heart attack at Maungtaw hospital Monday night soon after his arrest.

On 17 June, about 10 masked people entered the house of Armiarli, in-charge of the Tat-Oo Creek village-tract in Phweyar Village, Maungtaw Township.

Armiarli was killed after being stabbed several times. The attackers, some of them armed with guns, ran away when villagers arrived to ward off the attack.

Acting on a tip-off, a suspect, Marmauk Tawyu, was arrested at Bagonenar Village (middle) on Sunday morning. As a result of further investigation, a person named Mawlawi Umaw Sardec, who was allegedly funnelling money to trainees at the terrorist attack training was seized.

They confessed that another man, Sawlein, who is living abroad and is under investigation, was also supporting terroritst training by sending money to Maungtaw.

While investigating Marmauk Tawyu & Mawlawi Umaw Sardec on Monday, Umaw Sardec had suffered chest pains and collapsed.

He was brought to Maungtaw Hospital and pronounced dead at 11:15pm.

A post-mortem examination revealed that Umaw Sardec died of sudden cardiac arrest, and the case was being investigated by the investigation tribunal formed by the Myanmar Police Force, according to the information committee of the Office of State Counsellor. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Community centre, mobile library opened in Nay Pyi Taw

A COMMUNITY centre and mobile library were opened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with an opening ceremony at the office building of Pyinmana's Information and Public Relations Department. The community centre and mobile library are a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Information and the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation.

At the opening ceremony, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Htun, Dr. San Shwe Win, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee for Health and Sports Development, and Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung, an executive member from the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, cut ribbons to celebrate the opening of the community centre and mobile library and then sprayed scented water on the community centre's signboard. Union Minster Dr. Pe Myint gave an opening speech and explained the purpose of a mobile library is to directly interact with the public and to provide access of books to villages, wards and schools that cannot easily access the city library.

He said a community centre is a place for the general public to convene and discuss community matters. Afterwards, U Aung Myin Htun gave a speech and Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung explained how a mobile library works.

Later, the Union Minister gave commemoration certificates to people who donated to the community centre. The Union Minister then inspected the mobile library bus donated by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and the community centre. The community centre and mobile library that opened in Pyinmana yesterday is the fifth one to be opened, with others already opened in Kawhmu, Insein, Myaungmya and Natmauk townships. The Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and the Ministry of Information have signed a memorandum to open mobile libraries and community centres in 26 townships in 14 regions and states within five years. The next destination is said to be in Myitkyina. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint visits the community centre at Pyinmana Information and Public Relations Department. **PHOTO: MNA**

Towards ..... the Cash Flow Based Lending

FROM PAGE 8

With the financial and technical assistance from the German government-owned development bank, KfW, CB has opened a new chapter for traditional lending procedures of Myanmar banks by introducing uncollateralized loan. However, both the credit department and the SMEs applicants face different challenges. The banks can conduct in-house training to improve the credit assessment skills. However, intensive technical support training for SMEs is required in order that they can prepare a realistic business plan.

In a nut shell, cash flow based lending creates improvements to existing conventional lending methods in line with the international practices and SMEs get the chance to acquire technical and financial assistance. This result is excellent and a breakthrough for the development of the lending process and the SMEs. If this can be implemented successfully, it is beneficial for both, banks and SMEs, in form of a win-win-solution. I would like to encourage to implement this technique in a correct manner.

On the other hand, some organizations which support to cash flow based lending should be in place. CB bank is currently lending up to 20 million MMK loans to SMEs, which have difficulties to provide collateral. Instead, CGI (Credit Guarantee Insurance) from Myanma Insurance is applied which covers the credit risk. So far, 60% of loan is covered under this CGI. The percentage of coverage should be increased so that the CGI can be widely applied. This scheme is one of the accesses to finance SMEs. If, in addition, a credit rating agency and a credit information bureau will be established, I hope that cash flow based lending will become more active and very beneficial to the Myanmar banking industry and the SMEs. ■

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to **dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com** with the following information: **(1)** Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), **(2)** Real name and (if different) your penname, **(3)** Your level of education, **(4)** Name of your School/College/University, **(5)** A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, **(6)** A color photo of the submitter, **(7)** Copy of your NRC card, **(8)** Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office