



Workers loading boats with bags of rice in Maungtau. PHOTO: YE HTUT

Maungtau border trade earns over US\$4 million

Trade through Maungtau border land point of entry between Myanmar and Bangladesh earned more than US\$4 million in the first half of this year.

Maungtau trade slowed due to conflicts and attacks in October 2016, but trade has since resumed.

The Maungtau checkpoint trade in the first half of the year consisted of 90 per cent exports and 10 per cent imports, said U Aung Myint Thein, the chairman of Maungtau Border Trade Merchants Association.

The main export items at Maungtau gate are ginger, pea-

nuts, mung bean, dried plums, garlic, rice from agriculture products, saltwater prawn and hilsa fish. Also exported are bamboo from forest products, blankets, candy, plum jam, footwear, and Tun Shwe Wah ointment.—A1 Soe, Myo Thu Hein ■

Japan's Hotel Okura to open first hotel in Myanmar in 2020

Japan's Hotel Okura Co. announced plans Friday to open a 390-room luxury hotel in Myanmar's commercial hub Yangon in 2020 and said it is keen to add three to five more in the country in the next five years.

It said the Okura Prestige Yangon will be situated within a large commercial complex to be built on the site of the former Defense Services Museum in downtown Yangon, a short walk from the Yangon Central Railway Station.

For the operation and management of hotel, Hotel Okura

expects to sign a contract in August with a local alliance comprising Fujita Corp., Tokyo Tatemono Co., Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corp. for Transport & Urban Development and Yangon Technical & Trading Co., a subsidiary of Ayeyar Hinthar Holdings Co.

It said the hotel's inaugural Myanmar property is part of an ambitious undertaking to expand the group's global portfolio to 100 properties, primarily in Asia, by 2020.

Okura Nikko Hotel Management, a subsidiary of Hotel

Okura, currently has six properties in the pipeline in Southeast Asia, including the Okura Hotel & Resorts property in Yangon.

Also among them are three Okura Hotel & Resorts properties opening in Manila, Phnom Penh and Saigon in 2020, and two Nikko Hotels International properties opening in Bangkok in 2018 and in Vietnam's Haiphong in 2020.

It already operates 47 properties in Japan and 25 overseas, more than any other Japan-headquartered hotel operator.—Kyodo News ■

Catfish farming cooperative with Japan

A plan for a local short-headed catfish reproduction business is underway in cooperation with Japan, said U Tun Win Myint, head of the Yangon Region Fishery Department to Myawady Daily last Thursday.

"Experts from Japan will come to the hatchery station in Twantay Township to provide technical assistance", he said. Sample species of

short-headed catfish from Twantay Hatchery Station has already been sent to Japan for laboratory analysis concerning reproduction.

If the local hatchery business is successful, it will be a boon for fishery businessmen in Myanmar, officials said.

Short-headed catfish are rare in the market and can command a high price. In a

bid to have enough supply of short-headed catfish in the market, efforts are being exerted to bring about effective processes for reproduction.

Short-headed catfish are currently found in Ayeyawady delta regions. The catch volume is still low and a viss (1.6 kg) of short-headed catfish fetches over Ks10,000 in the market.—GNLM ■

Ride-hailing service Grab starts full operations in Myanmar

Southeast Asian ride-hailing giant Grab has begun full operations in Myanmar, launching localized apps with new safety and technology features after a four-month trial period.

Hooi Ling Tan, co-founder of Grab, said Myanmar has become the seventh country to be covered by its ride-hailing platform, the largest online transportation network in Southeast Asia.

Tan said the expansion of its technology and local partnerships is aimed at bringing improvements to users as well as supporting the government's efforts to upgrade transport infrastructure.

The Singapore-based firm launched its business operation in Yangon, Myanmar's commercial hub, in March.

More than 5,000 drivers in Myanmar have been registered in Grab's network.

Tan said the company's drivers have seen 30 percent growth in their average income during the trial period.

"We have seen positive and meaningful results, including improvements in taxi service standards and transport efficiency," she said.

The new service expansion in Yangon includes a care program for local drivers and a 24-hour customer call service as well as GrabVenue terminals at major shopping malls such as Junction City, a newly opened high-end shopping mall in Yangon.

The soon-to-open terminals will allow customers without a smartphone to access the service.

Founded in 2012, Grab started operation of its on-demand transportation and mobile payment platform in Malaysia and later expanded to Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The operator says it has partnered with more than 1.1 million drivers in 65 cities across the seven countries.

The company has received several fund injections from some firms to accelerate its expansion in the region, including \$250 million channeled by Japan's Soft-Bank Group Corp. in 2014.

Grab said Monday that Soft-Bank and China's ride-hailing leader Didi Chuxing will invest up to \$2 billion in extra financing to strengthen its market position in the region.—Kyodo News ■

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (FMI)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

Ocean City Supercenter City Mart Supermarket

Myanmar Gazette

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred Dr Khaing Mye, Director-General of the Department of Alternative Education under the Ministry of Education as Director-General of Alternative Education and Life Long Learning Department from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Dr Thar Tun Kyaw, Head of Yangon Region Health Department, the Ministry of Health and Sports as Director-General of the Department of the Public Health, on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Villager killed in Buthidaung Township

A man in Pho Khaung Chaung village was attacked and killed by a suspected terrorist armed with a knife on 27 July in Buthidaung Township.

Harr Chine was asleep at

home when he was attacked. He was pronounced dead at the scene. An investigation into the killing has been launched by Nyaung Chaung police.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Five detained in Maungtaw for not included in household list

Security forces arrested five in Maungtaw on 27th July for living without household certificate. While patrolling Kappa Kaung Village, Maungtaw Township on the morning of 27 July, the

security forces scrutinized them. The five, including Mar Mark Dula in Kan Tat village are detained at the police station for further investigation.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Pyithu Hluttaw MP: let's fight against H1N1

FROM PAGE-1

as they have a large number of civilians passing through them”, said MP U Thein Htun in his motion to Pyithu Hluttaw.

One concern is that neighbouring India reports they had 12,460 cases of H1N1 influenza up till 17 July and 600 people have died from it. The motion urged health checks at ports and airports to people coming from India as well as Thailand.

The Ministry of Health and Sports issued a statement yesterday, stating that more people were confirmed to have contracted the H1N1 virus.

“The Ministry of Health and Sports is monitoring and carrying out prevention and control of the infection of H1N1 virus and

12 more patients suspected of have contracted with H1N1 are found from 2 pm on 27th July and 2 pm on 28th July. But, no more patients have died from the infection,” said the statement.

The statement also said that 10 patients receiving treatment for H1N1 at Matupi People's Hospital were discharged from the hospital on 25th July after they recovered from the illness. The ministry will use laboratory testing and medicines including Tamiflu to be provided the World Health Organization and India.

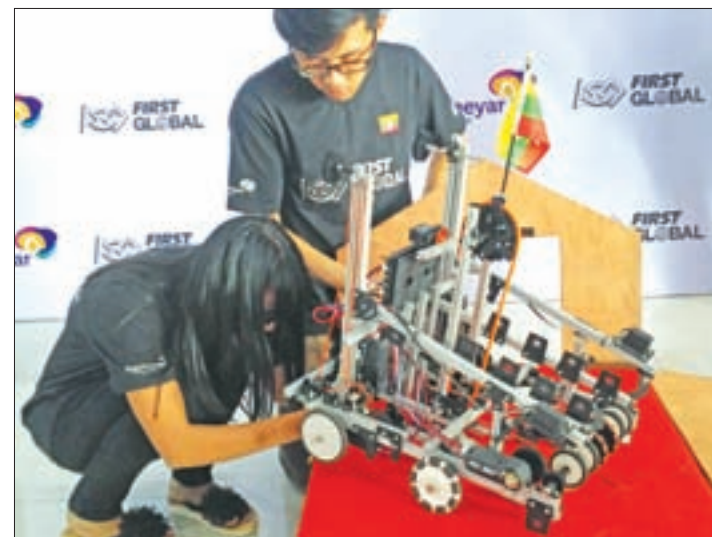
The next meeting of the Pyithu Hluttaw will be on Monday, at which the H1N1 outbreak will be discussed. — GNLM ■

Myanmar team ranked 6th out of 163 teams at World's first international robotics Olympics in USA

A team of 7 highly talented students represented Myanmar and achieved a ranking of 6 out of the 163 teams at FIRST Global Robotics Olympics, the world's first international robotics competition. The three-day long competition took place at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., USA from 16 July to 18 July 2017, with over 100 countries from 6 continents.

Prior to the competition, Phandeeyar: Myanmar Innovation Lab with support from USAID organized a team of high school and university students (aged between 15 to 18 years old) from a pool of over 50 promising applicants, to represent Myanmar in the FIRST Global Robotics Olympics. Using the materials given from FIRST Global, the team built and innovated the robot through coaching and support from Phandeeyar: Myanmar Innovation Lab.

Mr. Jes Kaliebe Petersen, CEO of PHandeeyar: Myanmar Innovation Lab said: “Myanmar youth has extraordinary talent when it comes to technology and innovation. Achieving a top 10 ranking in technology at a global stage is truly inspiring for all of Myanmar. We hope that this



Two members of Myanmar team participates in the Global Robotics Olympics. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

story will continue to inspire many more young people to use STEM skills- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics- to build the solutions for the future of Myanmar”.

Mr. Scot Marciel, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar said: “This competition provides an environment where young, innovative thinkers can develop and fortify their ideas. The U.S. government is proud to have supported this team and the next generation of thought leaders who will set the stage and pave the way for a peaceful

and prosperous Myanmar”.

The FIRST Global Myanmar team included a roster of talented engineering students from high schools and universities: Phone Thiha Kyaw (Yangon Technological University, Inn Sein), Wai Yan Aung (Yangon Technological University, Inn Sein), Kyaw Za Aw (ILBC), Yuzana Win (University of Information Technology), May Pyae Sone Kyaw (University of Information Technology), Wai Yan Htun (Bursa Orhangazi Universitesi, Turkey), Tun Htut Aye (University of Computer Studies).—GNLM ■

C-in-C Office (Army, Navy, Air) family plant trees

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the second monsoon tree planting event of Commander-in-Chief Office (Army, Navy, Air) family held yesterday morning near Yezin Dam, Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the event, the Senior General said since 2011 we planted trees near Yezin Dam and within the seven years period, more than 100,000 trees were planted.

Next, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife planted teaks as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, union ministers and wives, high ranking Tatmadaw officers and wives of Commander-in-Chief



Family members of the Tatmadaw plant trees. **PHOTO: MNA**

office, event attendees planted tree saplings in designated places.

8,000 teak saplings were planted in the Commander-in-Chief Office (Army, Navy, Air) families' second monsoon tree planting event for 2017.

Commander-in-Chief Office (Army, Navy, Air) families had conducted twenty monsoon tree planting events starting from 2011 and had planted more than 100,950 trees that includes teak, padauk, pyinkado etc.—MNA ■

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