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Friday, 20 April 2018

State Counsellor arrives in Hanoi



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc in Hanoi yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

AT the invitation of Viet Nam's Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi departed for Viet Nam from Nay Pyi Taw by air yesterday morning.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, accompanied by Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Office of the President Deputy Minister U Min Thu and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung and other officials, reached Hanoi Noi Bai International Airport at local standard time 10 a.m., where she was greeted by Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Dang Dinh Quy, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Luan Thuy Duong, Myanmar Ambassador to Viet Nam U Kyaw Soe Win and wife, Military Attache Col. Aung Kyaw Oo and other officials.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the delegation were taken to Grand Plaza Hotel in a motorcade. Next, the State Counsellor laid a wreath at the Martyrs' Monument of Viet Nam.

The State Counsellor then attended a welcome ceremony held at the Presidential Palace of Viet Nam, where she was greeted by Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc.

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'We are ready for repatriation'

Union Ministers reaffirm Myanmar's willingness and readiness to receive displaced persons

A press conference on the visit of the Myanmar delegation led by Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of Myanmar, to Cox's Bazar and Dhaka,

Bangladesh from 11 to 13 April was held at National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC), in Yangon yesterday morning.

The press conference was attended by Heads of Mission,

diplomats and representatives of UN agencies residing in Yangon as well as representatives of local and international media.

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"Myanmar was ready and willing to receive the verified returnees under the principle of voluntary, safe and dignified return."

U Thaug Tun

Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government



Senior General receives All Myanmar Gurkha-Hindu Dhamma Association Chairman

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, received All Myanmar Gurkha-Hindu Dhamma Association Chairman U Kaladahr @ U Maung Win at Bayint Naung Guesthouse in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning. During the meeting, mat-

ters related to the status of forming a Nepal-Myanmar Friendship Association in Myanmar, increasing bilateral friendship, trade, tourism and the status of achieving peace in Myanmar, according to the law, were discussed. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with delegation led by All Myanmar Gurkha-Hindu Dhamma Association Chairman U Kaladahr @ U Maung Win in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Order 19/2018

5th Waxing of Kason, 1380 ME
19 April, 2018

Appointment of Magway Region Ministers

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 262, Sub-section (f) and article 264, Sub-section (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 19 (c), section 82 (c) of Union Government Law and Section 8 (g), Section 56 (a) of Region or State Government Law, the following persons have been appointed as Magway Region Ministers of the Ministries shown against each of their names.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| (1) U Win Maw Htay | Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation |
| (2) U Myint Swe | Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population |

Sd/-
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ministry of Hotels and Tourism assigns Mrs. Junko Koshino as tourism ambassador

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung designates Japanese fashion designer Mrs. Junko Koshino as a tourism ambassador to Myanmar, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Mrs. Junko Koshino and her entourage visited Inle Lake in Nyaung Shwe Township, southern Shan State, on 17 April.

During their stay, the fashion designer visited tourist destinations in Inle Lake and surroundings. They talked with officials from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism about plans for more Japanese tourists traveling to the region.

The Japanese team arrived in Myanmar on 15 April to promote the Myanmar-Japan tourism industry. They visited key tourist destinations in Myanmar and have been conducting promotional campaigns for the tourism industry.

The delegation took part in the Myanmar Water Festival at the grand mayor's pavilion at the Yangon City Hall on 16 April, and enjoyed the festival around the Kandawgyi Lake.

The team visited Bagan and neighboring areas yesterday, and is scheduled to leave for Japan today, 20 April.—Myanmar Digital News ■

Union Minister for SWRR receives UN Resident Coordinator

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (SWRR) Dr. Win Myat Aye received United Nations Resident Coordinator Knut Ostby at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, the Union Minister explained the peace, stability and development that had been achieved in Rakhine State, the preparation of committees formed to receive

returnees, the current status of receiving the returnees, the works conducted to close IDP camps, the status of granting freedom of movement and the status of naturalisation. The Union Minister also called for the signing of the works cooperation agreement on receiving returnees by the UNDP and UNHCR at the earliest. Knut Ostby said the international organisation will cooperate with the government and participate in the process

of receiving the returnees. Efforts will be made to sign the agreement as soon as possible. The UN organisations are also working towards cooperating and participating in the process and all its organisations, including UNDP, will join the process, he noted. Also present at the meeting were the Deputy Minister for SWRR and the director-general of the Department of Disaster Management. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye holds talks with United Nations Resident Coordinator Knut Ostby at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

MNHRC conveys New Year greetings

THE Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) released announcement No. (5/2018) yesterday conveying Myanmar New Year greetings.

The announcement said that to perform the two tasks of promoting and preserving human rights, the commission had formed the Human Rights Education Department, Human

Rights Promotion Department, Law Department and the International Relations Department. In keeping with the principles of international human rights organisations, the commission is acting according to the prescribed law on submitting reports to the President and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and providing advice and encouragement to the respective de-

partments and organisations.

During the President's meeting with members of the MNHRC on 12 April, the President urged the commission to uphold righteously the law to preserve human rights in Myanmar.

The commission will do its tasks according to the president's advice, it stated. —Myanmar News Agency ■



I would firstly like to address the three branches of the sovereign power of the State, who have been entrusted with power according to the Constitution, to exercise mutual respect, understanding, and trust as they collaborate for the good of the people. Additionally, I wish to urge the media sector, which serve as the ears and eyes of the public, to understand the seriousness of their duties and to hold in high regard the public sector that they serve.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)



Let us strive collectively for the emergence of a just and free nation – a nation which will guarantee equal rights and equality, a nation which practices a pure ideology.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

State Counsellor arrives in Hanoi

FROM PAGE-1

The Guard of Honour played the national anthem of Myanmar and Viet Nam, and then State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi inspected the Guard of Honour, together with Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc.

The State Counsellor and the Vietnamese Prime Minister introduced the members of the governments of Myanmar and Viet Nam to one another and received the marching salute from the Guard of Honour.

Following this, the State Counsellor and the Prime Minister took a commemorative photograph.

A meeting was then held in the office of the government of Viet Nam.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Thant Sin Maung and U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Ministers U Min Thu and U Set Aung and other officials.

At the meeting, the leaders of the two countries discussed bilateral relations and cooperation started by national leaders Bogyoke Aung San and President Ho Chi Minh and maintained by subsequent leaders of the two countries, the positive developments in the bilateral cooperation during the recent



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, accompanied by Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, inspect the Guard of Honour in Viet Nam. **PHOTO: MNA**

years, especially the raising of the friendly relationship to an all-round bilateral cooperation in August 2017, increasing bilateral trade, investment in the agriculture, transport, energy, commu-

nications, tourism and education sectors, increasing and exchanging contacts between the peoples of the two countries and increasing cooperation with regional and international organizations.

After the meeting, the State Counsellor attended the signing ceremony for Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) on cooperation between Myanmar and Viet Nam. At the ceremony, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung and Viet Nam's Ministry of Information and Communications Deputy Minister Mr. Phan Tam signed an MoU on Myanmar-Viet Nam cooperation in the post, communications and information technology sector, while the Myanmar Ambassador to Viet Nam U Kyaw Soe Win and Viet Nam Ministry of Information and Communications Deputy

Minister Mr. Phan Tam signed an MoU on bilateral cooperation in the information sector, in the presence of the State Counsellor and the Prime Minister.

Later in the evening, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended a dinner hosted in her honour by Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc at the International Conference Centre. The State Counsellor and the Prime Minister exchanged messages of greeting and then enjoyed dinner together. During the dinner, Vietnamese artistes provided entertainments and after the dinner, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met cordially with the artistes and took commemorative group photo.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi departs for Viet Nam

STATE Counsellor Daw

Aung San Suu Kyi departed for Viet Nam from Nay Pyi Taw via a special plane yesterday morning. She is on an official two-day visit to Viet Nam on the invitation of Viet Nam Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc.

Accompanying the State Counsellor were Union Minister for Transport and Communication U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Office of the President Deputy Minister U Min Thu and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung. The Myanmar delegation was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung and wife, Viet Nam Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Le Gia Thinh and other officials. —Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (Right) arrives the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport to depart for Viet Nam yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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able to publish "Letter to the Editor"
that do not exceed 500 words. Should
you submit a text longer than 500 words
please be aware that your letter will be
edited.The Mandalay region Urban and Housing Development Department plans to implement the employee apartments in Mandalay. **PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MAN SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)**

Employee housing project to be implemented in Mandalay in 2018-2019 FY

THE Mandalay Region Urban and Housing Development Department is planning to implement the employee housing scheme in eight townships from mid-2018, said U Thet Naing, director of Urban and Housing Development Department.

The department will construct 248 employee apartments in Mogok, Meiktila, Kyaukpadaung, Thazi, Mahlaing, Yamethin, Myingyan and Nyaung U townships in the Mandalay Region. The department will construct more housing projects for the civil staff, the company staff and retired civil staff.

"Our department is constructing the apartments for the civil staff to meet their requirements. Moreover, we have even planned to construct housing for sale. While implementing the housing for sale component, we will give priority to the retired civil staff," he added.

The Aung Myin Mandalay civil staff housing project is being implemented on a 33.22-acre plot near Mae Kin Gone village, Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Region, at a cost of Ks10 billion from the union government's and region government's budgets. The Aung Myin Mandalay civil staff housing project will

include 500 apartments.

Of the 500 apartments, 260 are being constructed with the region government's budget, and so far, 95 per cent has been completed. The remaining apartments are being constructed with the union government's budget and 38 per cent has been completed.

There are more than 56,000 civil staff in the Mandalay region. The government is able to provide accommodation for 4.9 per cent of the civil staff. Therefore, the department is planning to construct more housing for the civil staff.—Min Htet Aung (Man Sub-printing house) ■

Man missing after his motor boat sinks

A man went missing when his motor boat sunk yesterday evening in a creek near Haig-yikyun Town in Ayeyawady Region, according to a source from the Information and Public Relations Department in Haig-yikyun. The Honda engine mo-

tor boat left Annawa jetty and was traveling to Kanyin Chaung village to transport sand, gravel and cement bags. It suddenly sunk when it reached the middle of the creek, and the man, identified as U Myint Naing, went missing. Locals said that the

water flows faster in the creek because it was at ebb time. They also guessed that the boat sank quickly because it may have had a hole in the bottom of the boat.

Officials and a rescue team are still searching for the man.—MDN ■

Police arrest counterfeit money makers, seize printer

FOUR people allegedly involved in the manufacture of counterfeit currency were arrested from an area controlled by Kanyutkwin Police Station, Pyu Township, Bago Region, at 7 p.m. last Wednesday.

With counterfeit Ks10,000 notes, three unidentified people shopped at a store belonging to Ma Mar Myint in Thanatkwin village, Kyunkon village tract.

Following a tip, police officers inspected a green Dayang motorcycle (E2811) and searched for three men identified as Phyo Lin, 24, Phyo Aung, 25, and Khin Maung Myint, 40, in the northern ward of Aungmyin town and found some 42 fake notes of Ks10,000 denomination.

The counterfeit notes were reportedly obtained from Bo Bo Naing, 37, living in the northern ward of Aungmyin Town. When the police officers searched his house, an HP Colour LaserJet Pro MAP M2742 copier, a GP 12V 70AH battery, a 300VA solar inverter and solar panel and related machines were found and seized.

The local police station has filed charges against the four people under section 489 (A), (B) and (C) of the Penal Code.—Phyo Ko Lin (Nyaung Wine) ■

Tourists enter Myanmar via Tachilek border gate

TOURISTS have been travelling in and out of Myanmar through the international and cross-border gateways to enjoy its landscapes, tourist attractions and witness its many traditions, customs and lifestyles. Myanmar has developed a culture-based tourism package, where tourists can observe the traditions and culture of the nation's many ethnic people.

Some 193 visitors entered via the Tachilek border gate on a day's return trip from 6 to 12 April 2018. Some 241 tourists, including from Thailand and other countries arrived in

Tourists being seen near the Tachilek border entrance. **PHOTO: MOHT**

Mongphyat and Kengtone, while 272 tourists from Thailand and other countries visited with visas from 6 to 12 April.

Tourists who travelled on a day's return trip visited the Tarlot market, Bayintnaung statue, Maha Myatmuni Pagoda, Shwed-

agon Pagoda, National Landmarks Garden, Arrkhar market and the Chinese monastery.

Tourists who stayed overnight visited the Buddha Footprint Pagoda, Maha Myatmuni Pagoda in Kyaing Tong, Hokho, Witinn, monastery, Soon Taung and Kyauk Sayee Pagoda, and other famous pagodas and places in Mongphyat.

Tourist arrivals via the Tachilek border gate included 26,165 day visitors and 241 visitors who travelled to Kengtone and Kengtone from 6 to 12 April. Myanmar recorded 272 tourist arrivals on visas who travelled by air via Tachilek.—GNLM ■

‘We are ready for repatriation’

FROM PAGE-1

The briefing was jointly conducted by U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the members of the Myanmar delegation - Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Chief Coordinator of Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State, Dr. Thet Thet Zin, Chairperson of the Myanmar Women's Affair Federation and members of the Interfaith Dialogue, U Tin Myint, U Than Lwin and Dr. Hla Tun.

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, in his opening remarks stated that Myanmar wished to implement, in an expeditious manner, the bilateral agreement on return of displaced persons from Rakhine State signed by the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh on 23 November 2018. In its earnest desire to commence the repatriation expeditiously, Myanmar unilaterally identified 508 Hindu villagers from Rakhine who had expressed their desire to return. Myanmar side was informed by the Bangladesh authorities that Hindus would be part of the last segment of the first batch. To accommodate the position of the Bangladesh side, Myanmar verified and sent additional list of names of 750 Muslim villagers so that the first batch comprising 750 Muslim and 508 Hindu villagers could be repatriated expeditiously. He said that no response had been received so far.

During the visit of the Minister for Home Affairs of Myanmar to Bangladesh, the delegation was provided with another list of forms of 8032 displaced persons from Rakhine State. However, the Myanmar side proceeded to verify them immediately. The forms were found to be different from prescribed forms agreed in the Physical Arrangement for Repatriation. In particular, they did not contain signatures, finger prints and proper photographs necessary for proper identification. The situation made the verification process most difficult. He said that Myanmar had requested the Bangladesh side on three separate occasions through diplomatic channels to forward duly-filled prescribed



A Press Conference on the visit of Myanmar Delegation led by Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of Myanmar, to Cox's Bazar and Dhaka, Bangladesh on 11-13 April held at National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC), Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye



Union Minister U Thaung Tun



Prof Dr Aung Tun Thet

forms that would enable displaced persons to be repatriated under the principle of voluntary, safe and dignified return. Notwithstanding the limited information provided by the Bangladesh side, over 600 persons on the list were ascertained to be residents of Rakhine. Myanmar had informed the Bangladesh side accordingly.

The Union Minister added that the Myanmar side was ready to receive verified returnees and that necessary preparations had been completed for the repatriation. In this connection, Myanmar believed that it would be beneficial to send a team to Bangladesh headed by the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, who is concurrently the Chairman of the Implementation Committee for Recommendations on Rakhine State which among others included recommendations of the Kofi Annan Commission, to explain to

The prescribed forms which include the necessary details would facilitate the repatriation process. As the condition of camps in Cox's Bazar is poor, it is imperative to receive the returnees as soon as possible.

the people in the camps in Cox's Bazar and encourage them to return. The United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Myanmar and Ambassador of Norway to Myanmar were invited to join the delegation. The UN Resident Coordinator responded that he could not join the visit. The Ambassador of Norway initially planned to join the delegation. Subsequently, as she was the only diplomat among the members of delegation, she cancelled to participate in the trip. During the visit, the Myanmar delegation requested to meet

with 508 people of Hindu faith, 750 Muslim villagers and over 600 verified residents of Rakhine. The delegation found it disappointing as they were unable to meet the persons they requested to see. The delegation was taken to the camp where they met with a number of displaced persons and explained to them the preparations made by Myanmar for their repatriation of displaced persons. The delegation was told by the people that they met that they were not provided with any form and that they had no knowledge of the repatriation

agreement. In the meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Home Affairs of Bangladesh, the delegation informed the Ministers that the forms sent back to Myanmar were not the prescribed forms agreed upon between the two governments. The Minister of Foreign Affairs ascertained the validity of this information and informed the Myanmar delegation that proper forms would be sent soon. The delegation informally learnt from the officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh that the forms of 8032 persons sent by Bangladesh were arranged through the community leaders without the consent of the individuals concerned. The prescribed forms which include the necessary details would facilitate the repatriation process. As the condition of camps in Cox's Bazar is poor, it is imperative to receive the returnees as soon as possible.

SEE PAGE-15

Interview with Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat

By Nanda Win

A DEMOCRATIC federal union requires its three pillars of the legislative power the executive power and judicial power to have mutual respect and understanding. The Hluttaws or parliaments make laws that benefit the development of the nation, its people, and the economy. The Pyithu Hluttaw has completed its second year on the road to democratic transition. The following are excerpts from an interview with Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat on the Hluttaw's two-year journey.

Q: Could you tell us about the policies and objectives in place for the Pyithu Hluttaw?

A: The duty of the hluttaws is making laws that are in line with democratic values for the citizens, who are the original holders of power of the three branches of power. Our policy is to carry out our duties in accord with the constitution and be free of ethnic, racial, or ideological bias.

As for objectives, we are striving for national development, rule of law and internal peace, ethnic unity, freedom, equality and justice for all, increasing the capabilities of the Hluttaw representatives and the Hluttaw staff, and collaboration among state-level organizations.

Q: What laws were made in the two years of the Pyithu Hluttaw's term?

A: Throughout the second Pyithu Hluttaw up till 30 March 2018, seven new laws were approved, ten existing laws were revoked and replaced, twenty-four laws were amended, nine laws were revoked, and eight laws pertaining to the national plan, budget and tax were approved, bringing the total to 58 laws that



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



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. **PHOTO: MNA**

Our policy is to carry out our duties in accord with the constitution and be free of ethnic, racial, or ideological bias.



Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat (Now Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker) attends the 38th AIPA General Assembly held in Manila, the Philippines, in 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

were discussed in the two years of the Pyithu Hluttaw. To give a general summary of the laws reviewed in the Hluttaw, we approved of laws for healthcare and security of senior citizens, and also laws to protect the privacy of citizens. I'd like to bring to atten-

tion to laws that will benefit and support the people, their businesses and the natural environment. The Hluttaw approved of The Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law which provides a better framework for digging for resources with minimal damage

to the natural environment.

The other one is The Canal Law passed in November 2017 that will help the agricultural sector and for supplying water to regions with limited access to water. Then there's the Myanmar Hluttaw Law for the various

hluttaws to collaborate with each other and with international parliamentary Union and the ASEAN parliament.

Q: Can you tell us some of the things done for improving the capabilities of the MPs and Hluttaw staff?

A: When I was still the Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, I also assumed the position of Chairman for the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) in May 2016 and since then we have been working improving hluttaws in Myanmar.

There are thirteen organizations collaborating with the JCC and among them, five organizations have signed MoUs with us for parliamentary development programmes. The five organizations are the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD/HoC), the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the Foundation Hironnelle, and the Forum of Federation. We have conducted 62 workshops and 88 training sessions for the Hluttaw staff with them.

In detail, we've sent 83 hluttaw staff to trainings by the Union Civil Service Board, 41 staff to Myanmar-Singapore trainings in Yangon, 26 staff to trainings by the Union Auditor General's Office, and 185 staff to interdepartmental trainings. We've sent a total of 37 Hluttaw staff on twenty expeditions to foreign countries, and 18 staff members were sent on 15 study abroad programs.

We've also sent committee chairmen, secretaries, committee members and 221 MPs on a total of 96 expeditions, discussion panels, conferences and workshops abroad.

Q: Can you tell us about the proposals submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw and the ones



Officials of Pyithu Hluttaw Office are counting ballots in the presence of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives during a voting at the Pyithu Hluttaw. **PHOTO: MNA**



Members of the National League for Democracy visit Pyithu Hluttaw. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat and Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein take their oaths of office at the Hluttaw. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat gives the oath document to the Chairman. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat casts his ballot during the voting. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat and Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein signing their oath documents. **PHOTO: MNA**

that were approved?

A: A total of 84 proposals were submitted and from among them, 33 proposals were approved, 46 proposals were put on record, 3 proposals were unapproved, one proposal was revoked, and one proposal was denied.

The approved proposals included those to reduce and abolish corruption, and to protect the livelihoods of farmers from natural disasters and pests. There was a proposal approved for allotting a set budget to schools for the physical wellbeing of the young people and this was done with cooperation from the Ministry of Health and Sports. The Ministry

also helped with a proposal to draw a sports competition calendar from the primary schools up to colleges and universities with the aim of raising future athletes to represent Myanmar.

There was a proposal approved to broadcast a government education TV channel to support development in the education sector; a proposal for preserving natural water resources, and a proposal for establishing third parties in construction projects nationwide so they can review the projects and ensure the people's budget is now wasted.

Q: Were there other significant processes?



The then Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint (current President) presents cash assistance for UEHRD to Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye in Nay Pyi Taw on 26 October 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Building. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw MPs register to attend the Hluttaw meeting. **PHOTO: MNA**

A: I'd like to share some things Myanmar Hluttaws did in the ASEAN parliament and international parliament conferences.

In the 38th General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly conference held in Manila, Philippines, there was a discussion under the title of the "Human Rights difficulties and violence against the Rohingya" to which a Hluttaw delegation objected based on the covenant of the AIPA (ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly). Since the rules state that every decision should be made with consensus the discussion topic was repealed.

At the 137th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly in St.

Petersburg, Russia, eight countries from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held a one-sided discussion on the situation in Rakhine State but our Hluttaw MPs managed to counter-argue the topic and effectively explained to all the IPU member countries on the Rakhine situation and humanitarian aid given there. They successfully repealed the decisions made by the IPU member countries which were not based on true facts.

Q: Is there anything else you want to tell the readers?

A: We will use all our experiences gathered during the two years to do an even better job

in the future. During the break until the next Hluttaw session, our MPs will be returning to their constituencies to relay the information from the meetings to the people and in turn they will ask and gather information on the people's wants and needs to be discussed in the next Hluttaw session, such as confiscated lands and rural development.

In conclusion, I want to tell the people that the Hluttaw is doing what it can to strengthen the foundations of democracy in the country and we promise to accomplish the people's hopes and develop their livelihoods. ■

(Translated by Chris)

We are willing to receive displaced people who come back on a voluntary basis

A HIGH-LEVEL Myanmar delegation visited the displaced persons' camp in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh recently and explained to them Myanmar's readiness for the repatriation process.

The majority of the displaced persons (DPs) at the camp, though they said they are willing to return to their homes in Myanmar, have not yet seen the forms needed for repatriation nor received them. Unfortunately, the displaced persons staying at the camps have no knowledge of the details, the Myanmar delegation learnt.

It is not normal that there are no returnees. At the meeting with the Myanmar delegation, the people have expressed their desire to come back. For this to occur, they must be provided with the forms that have been agreed to by both sides.

One main thing for Myanmar is to begin the repatriation process as soon as possible, because the monsoon season, which can bring difficulties to those who fled to Bangladesh, is drawing near.

live in better conditions with human integrity, according to the law.

To proceed with the repatriation process, we will need to have a clear understanding that this issue can be resolved best through mutual cooperation of the two countries of Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The Myanmar government has made arrangements to make sure that when displaced people return, they will have a livelihood. They had started building and rebuilding villages, but it is not possible to rebuild each and every house.

The government has started a programme where, when the returnees come back, they will be given the materials to rebuild their houses. At the same time, the government will pay them for their labour. This is a programme that has been well-tested elsewhere and we want to make sure that this can go forward.

One main thing for Myanmar is to begin the repatriation process as soon as possible, because the monsoon season, which can bring difficulties to those who fled to Bangladesh, is drawing near.

We are ready to receive those who are willing to come back on a voluntary basis. We have prepared to provide them with security and necessities for them to continue with their lives with dignity.

We are ready and willing to receive them. This is the message we want to send. We are ready and willing to receive those who would like to come back on a voluntary basis. For this to happen, we will need the cooperation of our friends in Bangladesh.

By Dr. Phyu Phyu Aye

I STILL remember a story when I was in my primary school years is the Story of an old man who was growing small saplings of mango plants along the fence of his house. He grew these small plants for the benefits of his posterity, whom will remember him as a truly great man.

Most important things I realize when I get older is that I have come across such this kind of old man in these days.

Thus I would like to extend my appreciation to such a man like him for his contribution and endeavor to our modern society.

The purpose of philanthropy is to improve the wellbeing of humankind by preventing and solving social problems.

Origins of the Red Cross

The International Red Cross Movements started in 1863 and were inspired by Swiss businessman Henry Dunant.

Henry Dunant was a Swiss social and peace activist who founded the Red Cross and was the recipient of the first Nobel Peace. His life started from the home of nobility. He invested in a company but lost all his fortune by neglecting his business while being busy with humanitarian work. Some of this money was also used to reserve a free bed for poor patients in the hospice where he spent his last days.

The suffering of thousands of men on both sides of the Battle of Solferino in 1859 upset Dunant. Many were left to die due to lack of care and he proposed creating national relief societies, made up of volunteers, trained in peacetime to provide neutral and impartial help to relieve suffering in times of war.

In response to these ideas, a committee (which later became the International Committee of the Red Cross) was established in Geneva and the founding charter of the Red Cross was drawn up in 1863.

Dunant also proposed that countries adopt an interna-



PHOTO: MYANMAR RED CROSS SOCIETY

tional agreement, which would recognize the status of medical services and of the wounded on the battlefield.

Founding of the Red Cross Movement

Thousands of wounded were left on the battlefield, far too many for small medical teams to cope with. It happened that a 31-year-old Swiss businessman named Henri Dunant was travelling through the area and was utterly horrified by the battle and by its aftermath. He helped to organize people from the nearby villages to bring water, food and aid to the wounded, regardless of their nationality. He persuaded the soldiers to release a few captured doctors to help and he paid for the hasty creation of makeshift hospitals. He proposed creating national relief societies, made up of volunteers, trained in peacetime to provide neutral and impartial help to relieve suffering in times of war.

When the children reach five years of age, they can go to primary schools. The early years in a child's life are a very significant time and it helps them develop their personalities and an understanding of themselves, and the world around them. It is also a time when children develop their academic knowledge and skills in numeracy and literacy.

In 1862 Dunant wrote an account of what he had seen in which he suggested that national armies should have efficiently trained non-combatant volunteers to give help to the wounded of both sides. He also wanted international treaties to guarantee the protection of those involved. He sent copies to important figures all over Europe and he made a strong impression.

Dunant came from Geneva, where he had grown up a devout Calvinist with a deep interest in charitable work. In his twenties he engaged in business activities in North Africa and Italy and helped to create the interna-

tional Young Men's Christian Association.

In 1863 the Public Welfare Association in Geneva set up a five-man committee to consider Dunant's ideas. The committee organized an international conference in Geneva in October to start things moving. Delegates from many countries attended the conference. This effectively marked the launch of the Red Cross movement.

In 1864 the Swiss government organized a conference in Geneva at which delegates from many countries signed the first Geneva Convention which set up rules on the lines Dunant had advocated and accepted as

international law by almost all the countries in the world.

Dunant had been hugely successful and regarded as a founder of Red Cross Movement.

Red Cross Movements in Myanmar

The Myanmar Red Cross Society is one of the leading and oldest humanitarian organizations in Myanmar which is committed to improving the health and well-being of vulnerable people.

The objective of the Society is to alleviate human sufferings. Three activities such as promoting health, preventing diseases and providing help to those in

distress are supportive activities to meet the objective. As the leading humanitarian organization, Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) is committed to assist vulnerable people and to improve and maintain their health and well-being.

Background

Myanmar Red Cross Society began its operations in 1920 as a branch of the Indian Red Cross. After Burma formally separated from India in 1937, the Society obtained official, national status and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 1946.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of vulnerable people. The National Society's volunteers are actively involved in responding to disasters and emergencies such as fires, flood and landslides, and in health care delivery – nutrition, water and sanitation and immunizations.

Nurturing children

When the children reach five years of age, they can go to primary schools. The early years in a child's life are a very significant time and it helps them develop their personalities and an understanding of themselves, and the world around them. It is also a time when children develop their academic knowledge and skills in numeracy and literacy.

During this period, brain development is the most significant, as proven by research. It is therefore critical that the learning environment, both physical and mental, is that of a very high quality and one that offers stimulation and promotes a lifelong love for learning.

As for government and parents, efforts should be made for the children to develop academic knowledge, problem solving and physical skills that will support them to become independent in everyday tasks.

Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung

Business leaders call for strengthened partnership of public and private sectors

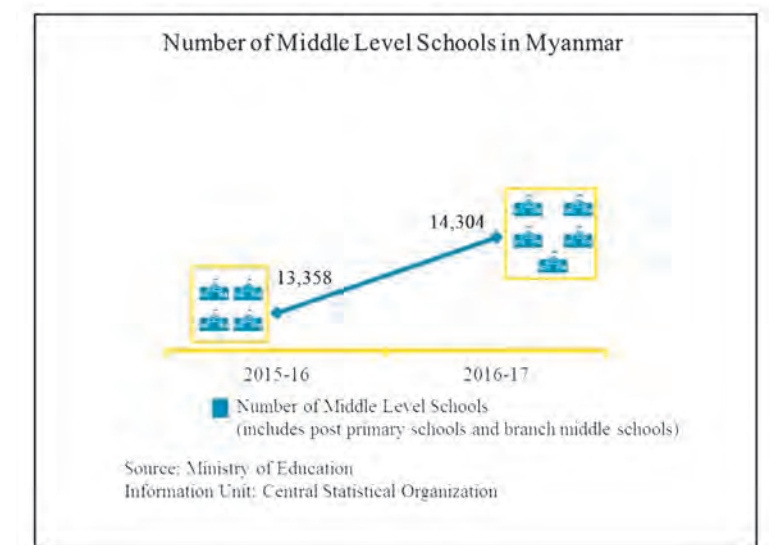
FUTURE technologies and innovative financing have the potential to transform and accelerate sustainable development, but better policies and regulation are needed to ensure all benefit equally from these new advances. This was one of the main conclusions of the annual Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF), which was held in Hong Kong earlier this week.

Organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Cyberport, the forum brought together senior policymakers and private sector representatives to discuss how innovation, technology and financing can help solve environmental and social problems in the region while also supporting equitable growth.

Innovations discussed included green financing, impact investment, FinTech, and artificial intelligence and their potential to lower costs, increase efficiency and help Asia and the Pacific leapfrog to the new economy. The region offers many examples of new technologies improving access to healthcare and education, supporting more efficient manufacturing and enabling more sustainable cities. Participants also discussed sustainable business practices linked to smart energy solutions, risk management systems for disaster risk reduction, and ways to advance impact entrepreneurship.

While the enormous opportunities presented by such innovations are clear, speakers also noted the accompanying challenges, such as ensuring the right governance structures, access to infrastructure and cybersecurity, and financial literacy.

Speaking at the opening of the two-day event, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the ESCAP, Dr. Shamshad Akhtar said, "Technology and innovation coupled with modern financial services, including green financing and new financial technologies, will be critical to close key development gaps in the Asia-Pacific region." She emphasised that by strengthening and deepening partnerships between the public and private sectors, the region will be better positioned to leverage the potential of these emerging technologies.—ESCAP



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

By Khin Yadanar

DURING the second year in office of the incumbent government, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy has been building power plants, national grids and sub-power stations to meet the growing demand of electricity, to ensure power system stability and to supply power in full capacity enabling citizens and industrialists to buy electricity at reasonable price. Moreover, it is focusing on putting more money into the Treasury by producing and distributing energy.

To Double Electricity Productivity in Three Years

It is important to make sure that electricity is delivered to the consumers by providing excellent service, and according to estimation, electricity demand for the year from 2020 to 2021 will be 6000 megawatt. Nation's current electricity productivity is just over 3000 megawatt and thus the ministry is putting all its energies into fulfilling the needs of people.

"We are trying our best to tackle the problems we have been facing for over 60 years; that is to say we are looking for efficient supply chain to meet the desire of people. The nation's power consuming is 3200 megawatt in maximum and normal use stands at 1500 megawatt. As there are 17 per cent of technical and non-technical losses, we are also seeking ways and means to mitigate these losses," said Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing.

Growing Electricity Production

Up to 2015-2016 Fiscal Year, there were about 46 power stations in the country. The installed capacity was 4954.1 megawatt. But the number increased to 52 in 2017-2018 FY with installed capacity of 5704.9 megawatt, according to the ministry.

During the two-year period in office, six power plants - five using natural gas and one hydro power plant - emerged in the country with the capacity of producing 750 megawatt.

In the sector of power distribution also, 230, 132 and 66 KV power lines are



Yedagon gas field project located offshore of Taninthayi coast. **PHOTO: MNA**

Performance over two years by Electricity and Energy Ministry

transmitting power throughout the country. Within two years, 31 power lines with 1598 miles in length were erected, and 127 power substations with 2378 MVA built, the Union Minister said.

Power Supply to Northern Rakhine State

Now, brethren in Yathedaung, Buthidaung and Maungtaung townships in northern Rakhine State are enjoying electricity transmitted from national grid through 230, 66 and 11 KVA, 100 MVA sub-power stations built in Ponnagyun Township in the state. The expansion of Ponnagyun power substation has been completed in December 2017.

Building of Yathedaung substation with the capacity of 66/11 KV, 5 MVA

Now, brethren in Yathedaung, Buthidaung and Maungtaung townships in northern Rakhine State are enjoying electricity transmitted from national grid through 230, 66 and 11 KVA, 100 MVA sub-power stations built in Ponnagyun Township in the state.

,wasKcompleted. The ministry also has a plan to build Buthidaung and Maungtaung power substations in the coming December. Altogether 4050 million kyat from the State budget was earmarked to construct Ponnagyun-Yathedaung-Buthidaung-Maungtaung power lines. Now, the state is spending 30355 million kyat on implementing such construction project.

Efforts to Satisfy Electricity Demand

Electricity Supply Enterprise is endeavouring for enabling people to enjoy full electricity supply, ensuring electricity safety, mitigating power loss and reducing power outage.

SEE PAGE-11



Photo shows 118.9 MW Thaton gas power plant in Mon State. **PHOTO: MNA**



Photo shows 255-megawatt Sembcorp Myingyan gas-fired power plant in Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

Electricity and Energy Ministry Brings Light to Nation and Increase National Income

FROM PAGE-10

In Yangon Region where electricity is used most, measures have been taken to reduce power outage, build substations and upgrade the old ones. Seinbanmying substations in Mayangon Township and U Wisara substation in Kamaryut Township were upgraded and South Kabaraye substation was upgraded into 66 KV stations. Thanks to these efforts, Yangon dwellers enjoy full voltage of electricity supply and there was less power outage. Bearing the electrical loads and less power loss are another benefits turned out from such efforts, according to Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation.

The government puts its focus of fulfilling electricity demand not only in Yangon but also in the whole country. The facilities of 33 KV and 11 KV lines with 6453 miles in length and the substations with the capacity of 3499 MVA are proofs of these efforts. During the two-year period 706097 households from 2718 villages enjoyed electricity and power loss can be reduced 3 per cent in the same period, said the Union Minister.

Consume and Pay

Introducing new method of collecting electricity bill in April this year by the ministry is one of the changes aiming at contributing to the welfare of the people.

The Union Minister said, "According to the current system applied in our country, only one meter system is used, no matter in what place it is used. This system poses no problem to the place with high demand of electricity. But a place which needs limited electricity may face unwanted expenditure. When I started assuming the duty, I introduced four systems of electricity meter. The reason why I was in a rush on that matter is that 60 per cent of our country left to enjoy electricity. This figure should not be ignored but put it at the top of the priority list."

The four systems of electricity meter include village meter, meter for small town, normal meter and industrial meter. Users can choose whatever they want out of the four kinds. One can consume the electricity as he wishes but pay the bill.

Regarding to this matter, an expert explained saying that this system is introduced by the government for the people enabling them to consume electricity systematically; that the system cultivates habit of saving power among the people; and the more volume of electricity is used the higher the bill will be, and the less the use, the more money can be saved.

Production of CNG and Petroleum Gas

According to the statistics received from the ministry, in 2016-2017 FY, 6666.71 million cubic feet of CNG was produced and distributed and in 2017-2018 FY the

volume increased to 7024.76 million cubic feet. As regard production of petroleum gas, 7866.95 metric ton was produced in 2016-2017 FY and 7123.12 metric ton in 2017-2018 FY.

Power Sector and Vision for Future

In accordance with the guidance given by the government and in line with the policy, additional 3000 megawatt are to be produced in the next three years. As production of CNG may be decreased in 2020-2021, preventive efforts are being made to be able to supply power at the reasonable price by importing LNG. To realize the goal, agreements were signed in January 2018 with four companies which are engaged in selling electricity through Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). The ministry is also aiming at transmitting power to the whole country by expanding 500 KV electrical network. As the business is behemoth which needs great investment, reliable firms with sound financial and technical backgrounds had to be chosen. Only when the country possesses high capacity in power sector, will the foreign investment flow into the country thereby raising socioeconomic standard of the nation. The Union minister said, "We never lose sight of distributing power in international standard. In doing so, the government as well as the firms are trying their best to provide excellent service to the people. Our main focus is on increasing quality and service."

Introducing new method of collecting electricity bill in April this year by the ministry is one of the changes aiming at contributing to the welfare of the people.

New Offshore Blocks

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise developed 6 new blocks and drilled 51 development wells in offshore drilling during the two years. Gas production from inland and offshore areas reached 652807 million cubic feet in 2016-2017 FY and the number stood at 644761 million cubic feet in 2017-2018 FY.

As the Yadanar Project will be completed in 2021 and its production will decrease, measures are being taken to produce natural gas from Block A-6 as much as possible in five years. To meet this goal the ministry formed joint ventures with economic firms. In 2016, Shweyeetun 1, in 2017, Pyithit 1 and Pyitharyar 1 were drilled



Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing inspects Bayintnaung electrical substation. PHOTO: MNA

and it is hope that these wells will produce natural gas in 2030, according to MOGE.

As MOGE has formed joint venture with entrepreneurs for drilling at Offshore Block AD-7, Thalin-1 (A) was drilled in 2016 January; Thalin-1 (B) and Thalin-2 in February in 2017 and Khayanswe in August 2017. The ministry also said that as gas deposits are found, they are to be drilled.

Expansion of Inland Blocks

"In terms of inland blocks, four new blocks were developed and 48 wells drilled," said the Union Minister.

MOGE is drilling gas in 12 areas from which 6400 barrels of oil and 50 million cubic feet of natural gas a day can be produced. Seismic survey works are being carried out in Myaing area, Bogale and Labutta areas to drill oil wells. In 2018-2019 FY, an exploring well will be drilled in Myaing area especially Pondaung and Tabyin area to produce natural gas. MOGE estimates the project will produce 3 million to 5 million cubic feet of natural gas.

An official from MOGE said, "It is planned to drill 17 development wells at oil and gas fields in 2018-2019 FY. The fields are located in Pahtoelone area, Kyaukkwek Letpanto, Htauksharbin and Myanaung oilfields and Maubin gas field. It is estimated that new development wells will produce 280 to 570 barrels of oil and 15 million to 22 million cubic feet of natural gas a day."

In Cooperation with Foreign Companies

With the cooperation between MOGE and foreign oil companies, plans are being made to drill 15 new wells in Yenangyaung and Chauk oilfields, to implement project which will increase oil production by channeling water into the sand layer; to drill new well in Mann oilfield and two wells in Shweypythar oilfield.

Myanmar New Year and a Change

"This year will surely bring a real change to us. Myanmar is currently producing 3000 megawatt of electricity but in the next three years, she will produce another 3000 megawatt. After handling the supply side properly, we must try in the next step to gain surplus and reserved power. To solve the problems in three years which the people have faced for years is the policy the government has laid down and this policy will be put into action. This is to overcome the difficulties immediately regarding electricity supply which people are suffering. We are trying to transform problems into happiness. Moreover constant efforts will be made to increase foreign exchange and to meet the domestic needs," explained the union minister regarding the future projects. ■

(Translated by Wallace)

MFF preparing to set up a public company

May Thet Hnin

THE Myanmar Fishery Federation (MFF) is planning to establish a public company, said Daw Toe Nanda Tin from MFF.

MFF is endeavouring to register this company with the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) in the name of Global Earth Agro and Aqua Public Company. They will invite shareholders in the coming open season.

"MFF cannot run a business as it is a non-governmental organisation. A public company is a must for business.

Therefore, MFF is meeting with lawyers for registration. We will

negotiate with the entrepreneurs to start operating by the end of this year. This public company will manage not just the livestock breeding business but also feed processing businesses, and so, we named the company Agro," she added.

Apart from businessmen from MFF, every enthusiastic entrepreneur can join in this, she continued.

"We will consider the locals as shareholders if they contribute their land towards this. They can be part of this company as staff or shareholders," said Daw Toe Nanda Tin.

MFF will unveil the details of capital, share volume and share div-

idend.

MFF is attempting to set up fish and prawn farming zones, in cooperation with the region and state governments.

They will also invite foreign experts to produce value-added products. In addition to this, MFF will explore new markets and adopt an advanced farming system to enhance the fish and prawn farming sector.

Some 568,227.327 metric tonnes worth US\$717.7 million were exported to foreign trade partners in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which is the highest in the past 20 years, according to an official release of the Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Ministry. ■



YBS buses seen in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Foreign companies eye investment in YBS

FOREIGN companies have expressed interest to invest in the Yangon Bus Service (YBS), according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

"Recently, Malaysia- and China-based foreign companies visited Myanmar and discussed investment in YBS. We are planning to cooperate with them after discussions," said Dr. Maung Aung, secretary of the

Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA). Myanmar's new company law will come into effect from 1 August. Companies with 35 per cent foreign ownership will be treated as citizen-owned companies. Many good job opportunities will arise then, and we have to prepare for it now," he added.

"For the Yangon Bus Public Company (YBPC), we are planning

to increase the number of shareholders.

Foreigners will also be permitted to hold shares. We must provide the public with good service," said Dr. Maung Aung. Since 16 January 2017, the Yangon government has replaced the old Ma Hta Tha public bus transport system in the region with the new YBS transport system for smooth transport.—GNLM ■

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Five states fail to attract investments last FY

SHAN, Chin, Kayah, Kayin and Chin states failed to attract investments in the 2017-2018 fiscal year (FY), despite obtaining the approval of region and state investment committees.

The Yangon Region attracted 60 per cent of the local and foreign investments, while the Mandalay Region received 30 per cent of the total investment so far. Only a small investment amount has flown into other regions and states.

The Yangon Region attracted foreign invest-

ments worth some US\$54 million through 38 enterprises, while some \$10 million was invested by four enterprises in the Mandalay Region. Between 1 April and 31 March of the 2017-2018 FY, foreign investments were registered at some \$3.685 million in the Ayeyawady Region, \$0.6 million in the Magway Region, \$16.354 million in the Bago Region, \$1.5 million in Mon State, \$0.449 million in Nay Pyi Taw and \$1.3 million in the Sagaing Region.

The Yangon Region received the highest do-

mestic investments worth some Ks23 billion, which also flow into the Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Taninthayi and the Ayeyawady regions, as well as Mon, Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states and Nay Pyi Taw.

The MIC is holding yearly investment fairs in regions and states across the country on rotation to invite investments for balanced economic development. This fair aims to promote investments in remote areas and achieve a balance in the economic development of the

country.

The new Myanmar Investment Law provides tax exemptions and relief from three to seven years for investors, depending on the developments made in the regions and states. Investors in remote areas can enjoy a tax break of up to seven years.

According to the new Myanmar Investment Law, region and state DICA offices are authorised to give approval to investment proposals with capital not exceeding \$5 million (Ks6,000 million).— Mon Mon ■

High production costs, low yield hit dried marian plum business

Dried marian plum businessmen have earned zero profits this year owing to the low yield and high production costs in Paung Township, Mon State. However, businessmen are continuing with the business hoping to get a good price soon, said Ko Kyaw Tun, a businessman from Paung Township.

“Unseasonal rainfall and cold weather led to low yields. Also, the labour cost is higher this year. We are expecting the market to

recover soon and reap a good profit,” he said. Business is usually done from February to April. Some four viss of fresh and raw plum when sun dried provide one viss of dried marian plum. A viss of raw marian plum fetches only Ks600, while the labour wage is Ks5,500. Dried marian plum produced from Paung Township is sent mainly to Mawlamyine town, Kayin State, the Bago and Yangon regions. —Ko Hein (Paung) ■

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In respect of “Pharmaceutical preparations, namely a preparation for treatment of liver diseases” included in **International Class 05**;

Contractubex

Reg. No. 4/3147/2015

In respect of “Pharmaceutical preparations” included in **International Class 05**;

Mederma

Reg. No. 4/3143/2015

In respect of “Cosmetic preparations for skin care” included in **International Class 03** and “Pharmaceutical preparations for skin” included in **International Class 05**.
Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, H.G.P
For Merz Pharma GmbH & Co. KGaA,
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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
hh@kcyangon.com

Dated 20th April 2018

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population Social Security Board Postponing of Tender Proposal Deadline for Social Security Board Information System

1. Social Security Board has announced the open tender to implement the Social Security Board Information System for promoting the employer and employee registration process, contribution collection process, medical services provision process and benefit and claims management process on national newspapers from 17-3-2018 to 20-3-2018 and the tender proposal (RFP) submitting date was already defined as 11-5-2018 by the tender form buying companies.
2. According to the request letters of the companies, the Social Security Board Information System project was very complex and it needs to have enough time for studying the social security's core business processes, therefore, all tender submitting companies have to submit the proposal (RFP) on 2018, May (31) instead of 11-5-2018 at Social Security Board (Head Office), No (OU- 77), Corner of /Between ThiriYadanar Road and Naykyar (8) Street, Ottarathiri Township, Naypyitaw, Myanmar during office hours. Any tender proposal will not be received after the deadline for submission and the tendering processes are described as follows:

No	Description	Date and Time
(A)	The tender proposal submitting date (Both Technical Proposal and Commercial Proposal)	31-5-2018 (within office hour)
(B)	For evaluating the Technical proposals (the selected companies will be evaluated) (the companies that have the technical evaluation 70 % will select as the selected companies)	From 4-6-2018 To 15-6-2018
(C)	Presentation by the selected companies (2 hours per company including questions and answers)	From 18-6-2018 To 19-6-2018 20-6-2018 (Reserved Day) (10:00) AM
(D)	The commercial proposal that submitted by the selected companies opening and tender evaluation process	25-6-2018 (Or) 27-6-2018 (10:00) AM
(E)	The winner tender company inform and announce at the ministry website	29-6-2018

3. Any Tender Proposal that are torn sealed envelopes and applied by e-mail cannot be accepted.
4. For further detail information, please visit Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population website <http://www.mol.gov.mm> and inquire, phone number 067- 3417925 and 067-3417951 and e-mail (ssbitsection@gmail.com) during office hours.

Tender Invitation and Appraisal Committee
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population

TradeMark

Ads

Call

Thin Thin May,

09251022355,
09974424848

National Antimicrobial Resistance Counteracting Committee holds first meeting

THE first meeting of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Counteracting Committee was held at the office of the Ministry of Health and Sports in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 April. Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe, chairman of the committee, delivered the keynote speech.

The union minister said the meeting was important for the country and its people because antimicrobial resistance (AMR) could prevent common illnesses from becoming incurable in the future. Anyone can develop AMR, irrespective of their age or gender, and it is the biggest health-related danger in Myanmar and the world.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has published the WHO Global Strategy for Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance, and Myanmar has



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe attends the National Antimicrobial Resistance Counteracting Committee meeting in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 April. **PHOTO: MNA**

also drawn the National Strategy for Counteracting Antimicrobial Resistance. A publication entitled "Situation Analysis on AMR in South-East Asia Region: Report 2016" was launched during a regional committee meeting in September 2017. The union minister

said relevant information from the report and the guidelines set by the World Health Summit must be applied in Myanmar.

The committee must give leading guidelines to accomplish the national AMR strategy and develop plans suited for My-

anmar, he noted. Further, the committee must form a department to negotiate AMR counteracting plans and five work groups to provide technological assistance, he said.

The union minister called for cooperation with relevant ministries

and departments, medical and hospital associations in Myanmar, the Hluttaw MPs, the WHO, and the World Food Programme. AMR-related topics must be taught in medical and nursing universities, he stated.

Next, Deputy Direc-

tor-General (Lab) Prof. Dr. Htay Htay Tin, committee secretary, explained and discussed the national AMR counteracting strategy.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Committee for Developing Health and Sports Dr. San Shwe Win, Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Health and Sports Prof. Dr. Thet Khaing Win, WHO representative to Myanmar Dr. Stephan Paul Jost, Chairman of Myanmar Medical Association (Central) Dr. Ye Mya, Chairman of Myanmar Physician Association Dr. Nay Win, Chairman of Medical Advisory Board Prof. Dr. Aye Maung Han, and members of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Counteracting Committee and other relevant departments.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Planning and Finance

Modernization of Public Finance Management Project (MPFMP)

Request for Expressions of Interest for Individual Consultant-Translator cum Interpreter for Medium Taxpayer Office, Internal Revenue Department (IRD), Yangon

REOI No: MPFMP/A-C324

Closing Date: 30 April 2018

The project is seeking to recruit a national Translator cum Interpreter to support its work in the area of modernization of its tax functions. The translation services is to assist the IRD in translating documents from English to Myanmar and from Myanmar to English documents, and interpretation services is to assist the communications for the international consultants and the IRD.

This work will specifically include:

Translation of documents from Myanmar to English, and from English to Myanmar, and would comprise of – key publications and major documents, shorter documents for public dissemination, documents for internal use, and operational and miscellaneous documents.

Interpretation in Myanmar and in English – consecutive interpretation during meetings with small groups and larger groups, and workshops; simultaneous interpretation for individuals (international consultants), and for groups.

The Consultant is required to demonstrate the following as a minimum:

- Proven abilities and experience in English/Myanmar translation
- At least 5 years professional English/Myanmar translating experience (preferred)
- Capacity and Ability to finish heavy task of translation under tight deadline
- A proven track record of successful translation of technical related documents.
- Experience in translation & interpreting related documents on Audit related subject matters would be an advantage.

The assignment is for an estimated duration of 12 months (full time). The location of the assignment is in Yangon, Myanmar.

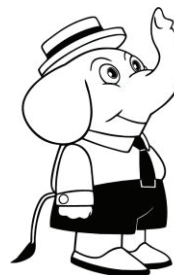
MPFMP now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above mentioned services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (in addition to the educational qualifications, experience of similar assignments and country of work etc. should be incorporated in the CV to be submitted along with expression of interest/ application). Interested consultants may obtain a copy of the Terms of Reference for the assignment at the address below during office hours [i.e.10:00 to 16:00 hours] or by sending an E-Mail to: trdirdmyanmar@gmail.com.

Expression of interest must be delivered to the address below by 16:00 hours on 30 April 2018 to:

U Kyaw Zeya, Assistant Director, Medium Taxpayer Office (1), IRD
No.59/61, Corner of Pansodan & Merchant Road, Yangon
Tel: 01-252542, Fax: 01-378357
E-mail for applications: kwsn.zeya@gmail.com

TRADEMARK CAUTION

ZOJIRUSHI CORPORATION, a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 20-5, 1-Chome, Tenma, Kita-Ku, Osaka JAPAN is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:



Reg. No.4/9266/2017 (25.8.2017)

ZOJIRUSHI

Reg. No.4/9267/2017 (25.8.2017)

All in respect of "electrothermic appliances; bread-making machines; cooking apparatus and installations; dish drying machines; tap-water filters, non-electric; electrical rice cookers; Electric rice warmers; Rice porridge makers, electric; oven toasters; Sandwich toaster; coffee machines, electric; coffee brewers, electric; hot plates; Electric frying pans; Electric grill pans; electromagnetic induction cookers for household purposes; electromagnetic induction cookers for commercial use; Fish roasters; Electric egg boilers; water heaters; Electric kettles; steam humidifier; drying installations; Clothes dryers; air purifiers; Futon driers; pressure cookers, electric; bread makers; convection oven; rice cookers; electric warmers; soup warmers; soup makers; Electric chocolate warmer; water filtering apparatus" included in **International Class 11**; and "cooking pots and pans, non-electric; coffee-makers, non-electric; Kettles [non-electric]; Tumblers; lunch boxes; Lunch boxes with the function of keeping the contents hot or cold; ice chests for household purposes; kitchen containers for rice; drinking flasks; vacuum bottles; insulating container; ice pails; Rice paddles [cooked rice serving scoops]; hand-operated coffee grinders and pepper mills; spatulas for kitchen use; chopsticks; chopstick cases; cooking grills; rice washing tool; Stainless steel pans; Stainless steel tumblers; Stainless steel lunch jar; vacuum bottles (glass); vacuum bottles (stainless steel); Stainless steel food jar; Stainless steel mugs; Stainless steel cool bottles; drink dispenser; cool pitcher; Meal delivery container with the function of keeping the contents hot or cold; Rice washers" included in **International Class 21**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
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Dated 20th April 2018

'We are ready for repatriation'

FROM PAGE-5

Next, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye briefed the audience on the purpose of the visit, the readiness for repatriation and the benefits of holding NVC cards. In addition, the Union Minister shared his experience on the visit. He said that the delegation was not able to meet the requested displaced persons despite meeting with some from the camps in Cox's Bazar including some who spoke Myanmar language fluently. He learnt that the displaced persons had no knowledge of the forms to be filled for repatriation and no one had explained to them about the forms. He stated that the meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Home Affairs of Bangladesh in Dhaka was fruitful. He mentioned that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh found out that the forms that they sent to Myanmar were not the prescribed forms agreed upon between the two governments. The Minister of Foreign Affairs assured the delegation that agreed forms would be sent soon.

Chief Coordinator of UEHRD Dr. Aung Tun Thet also shared his experience on the visit of Cox's Bazar and Dhaka. He mentioned that despite having made arrangements to include diplomats from the neighbouring countries posted in Dhaka to the visit, they were unable to join the delegation due to the unavailability of seats on the flight to Cox's Bazar. He underlined that the main purpose of the visit was to discuss with the Bangladesh authorities and the displaced persons in order to move forward the repatriation process expeditiously. He said he was surprised to learn that the displaced persons that he met had no knowledge of the need to fill the forms for repatriation. The high point of the visit was the meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh. He added that the Myanmar side was ready to receive the returnees



U Than Lwin, member of Interfaith Dialogue



Dr. Hla Tun, member of Interfaith Dialogue



Journalist Wall Street Journal



Journalist from the Asahi Shinbum.



Journalist from NIKKEI



Journalist from AFP

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and was even thinking of beyond the repatriation. He confirmed that the Myanmar side was taking necessary steps to provide livelihoods for the returnees. He said that unfortunately the delegation experienced that some media incorrectly mentioned on what the delegation did not say. The cooperation of the media is crucial. Furthermore, the Chief Coordinator added that the delegation had genuine and sincere desire to create the conditions to

receive the displaced persons under the principle of voluntary, safe and dignified return. Myanmar is willing and ready to receive the verified returnees.

Dr. Thet Thet Zin, Chairperson of the Myanmar Women's Affair Federation, and U Tin Myint, U Than Lwin, Dr. Hla Tun, members of the Interfaith Dialogue shared their experiences of the visit. They mentioned that it was very important to start the repatriation process because

the monsoon was coming soon. The main purpose of the visit was to explain the repatriation process and persuade them to be repatriated. Although the Myanmar delegation requested to meet with religious and community leaders, the delegation was unable to meet them. It was requested that dully-filled prescribed forms as agreed by both sides to be sent to Myanmar. Despite requesting to meet displaced Hindus in the camps in Cox's Bazar, the Bangladesh side did not facilitate the request, giving reason of the distance of the place where displaced Hindus were residing. Sadly, it was found out that their camp was located just before the camp the Myanmar delegation visited. It was also learnt that the forms had not been distributed to the displaced Hindus. He therefore called on the government of Bangladesh, the United Nations and International Organizations to assist in the process for early repatriation of displaced Hindus.

The Union Ministers responded to the questions raised by the media personnel.

U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government made the closing remarks. He thanked the attendees and said that the violence was triggered by the terrorist attacks on 25 August 2017. He confirmed that Myanmar wished to commence the repatriation process at the earliest possible time in keeping with the "Arrangement on Return of Displaced Persons from Rakhine State", signed between the two countries. He said that Myanmar had already made necessary preparations for the repatriation in accordance with the agreement. He reaffirmed that Myanmar was ready and willing to receive the verified returnees under the principle of voluntary, safe and dignified return. Those who expressed their willingness to return should be allowed to do so.—MNA ■

Thai-Myanmar border trade value increases by \$200m

TRADE at the Thai-Myanmar border gates was worth some US\$1.59 billion from 1 April to 31 March of the 2017-2018 fiscal year (FY), which increased by some \$200 million compared to last FY.

Among the seven Thai-Myanmar border gates, the Myawady gate is the main point for bilateral border trade, but the trade value decreased by \$25 million compared to the 2016-2017 FY.

Similarly, Tachilek also showed a slight decline in trade.

The remaining gates showed an increase in trade. Exports via the Kawthoung and Myeik checkpoints surpassed imports significantly.

The value of border trade was \$90 million at the Tachilek gate, \$907 million at Myawady, \$204

million at Kawthoung, \$259 million at Myeik, \$122 million at Hteekhee, \$7.4 million at Mawtaung and \$0.95 million at Maese.

Large volumes of fishery products are exported daily through the Myawady gate.

Nevertheless, the import of vehicles through the checkpoint ceased owing to changes in the automobile policy.

Industrial machinery, trucks, agricultural equipment, tractors, motorcycles, cars, food and beverages, cosmetics, fuel oil, fertilisers, cement, construction materials and sugar for re-export are imported through the Myawady gate. Fish, prawns, crabs, onions, sesame, turmeric, herbs and forestry products are sent to Thailand—Htet Myat ■

CONDOLENCE

We, Staff of the Export Marketing & Milling Department of Myanma Timber Enterprise would like to express our sadness of the passing away of Mr.P.C.Cheng of Cheung Hing & Company(Hong kong),Thai Sawat Import Export Co.,Ltd(Bangkok). We offer our deepest condolences to the family, relatives and friends of Mr.P.C.Cheng in this occasion of grief and sorrow.

General Manager(Export) and Staff
Export Marketing and Milling Department

U YE WUNNA AYE
AGE 47

B.E (Petroleum) YIT
Post Graduate Diploma in Hotel
Management and Tourism (S.H.M.S) Switzerland
Mastery Diploma in English (W.S.I) Switzerland

YE WUNNA AYE beloved son of U Tin Maung Aye (Councillor, Myanmar Press Council, Asahi Shibum Reporter:Rtd)-Daw Myint Myint Aye, brother of Daw Saw Thiri Aye – U Myo Aung Thane (MD-Myo Auto Services), Managing Director of Ananda Lin Lett Co.,Ltd, Thuwanna Lin Lett Co.,Ltd and Amara Lin Lett Co.,Ltd, passed away in Luton and Dunstable University Hospital in UK on 18 April 2018.

United give Mourinho selection dilemma ahead of Spurs semi

BOURNEMOUTH — Jose Mourinho admitted Manchester United had given him an FA Cup semi-final selection dilemma after their 2-0 win at Bournemouth on Wednesday.

Goals from Chris Smalling and Romelu Lukaku sealed the points at Dean Court after Mourinho made seven changes in the aftermath of United's shock defeat to struggling West Bromwich Albion on Sunday.

That limp surrender had gifted the Premier League title to Manchester City, prompting Mourinho to accuse his players of complacency.

In a bid to shake up his under-performing stars and rest key players, the United manager

Mourinho is ready to sell the out-of-form France midfielder in the close-season.

Mourinho's hardline stance appeared to sting his players into action as Smalling opened the scoring in the first half.

Lukaku came off the bench to seal the points in the closing stages as United consolidated second place in the Premier League.

Mourinho was impressed with the work done by his new-look side and claimed he would have to think hard before deciding his Cup line-up.

"Everything was good, I am happy. Every player on the pitch was positive and put himself available for Saturday," Mourinho said.

"The players were in the right positions and not trying one more flick, one more trick.

"I will not play

Pogba was widely criticised for his lacklustre display against Albion -- the latest in a long line of disappointing efforts from the former Juventus star since his move to United two seasons ago.

That sparked talk that Mourinho has told United to put Pogba up for sale, just days after Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola said he had been offered the chance to sign the midfielder by his agent in January.

Whether Pogba features at Wembley this weekend will go some way to showing whether he is still part of Mourinho's long-term plans, but he at least impressed his boss for one

finish in the top four and now one point is probably enough. When we have that resolved we can think about third and second place," Mourinho added.

Smalling put United ahead in the 28th minute when he tapped in from Jesse Lingard's cross despite Bournemouth appeals for offside.

Having survived two Bournemouth penalty appeals — including Luke Shaw blocking out Callum Wilson as he tried to finish off a cross — United doubled their lead in the 70th minute.

Pogba was slightly more effective after his recent troubles and he created United's second goal.

Breaking up a Bournemouth attack, he galloped clear and picked out Lukaku's run with a perfectly-weighted pass.

Lukaku capped the raid by slotting past Bournemouth goalkeeper Asmir Begovic to claim his 27th goal of the season.

That clinched United's sixth win in their last seven league games, but all eyes remained on Pogba.

He was substituted soon after and initially headed straight down the tunnel, but was directed to the bench, where he took a seat on the back row like a naughty child at school.—AFP ■



Manchester United striker Romelu Lukaku celebrates after scoring their second goal. PHOTO: AFP

rang the changes against Bournemouth, with Lukaku, Alexis Sanchez and Juan Mata among the big names left out of the starting line-up ahead of Saturday's FA Cup semi-final against Tottenham.

Paul Pogba kept his place despite mounting speculation

this 11 at Wembley but all of them told me (with their performances) that they want to play and they are ready.

"Obviously I will bring back Lukaku, Antonio Valencia, Nemanja Matic."

night after winning the man of the match award.

"I'm not very good on man of the match, I'm not a big fan of it, but Paul Pogba played very well," Mourinho said.

"Against Man City he was phenomenal but today he was very, very good. A good choice."

Mourinho's side are 14 points clear of fifth placed Chelsea and will be guaranteed to qualify for the Champions League if the Blues fail to beat Burnley on Thursday.

"The first ambition was to

Myanmar teams to test with England's Leeds United FC

LEEDS United Football Club, a member of the English Football League Championship, the second-highest in the English football league system, will play friendly matches with the Myanmar national team and the Myanmar National League (MNL) All Star team in May, according to a statement released by the Myanmar Football Federation.

The matches on 9 and 11 May are being planned as part of the AYA Bank Tour 2018. Leeds

United will arrive in Myanmar on 7 April and test with the MNL All-Star team at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 9 May. They will also test with the Myanmar National Football team in Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay on 11 May. Many of Leeds United's star players will play in the test matches, according to the MFF.

Leeds United is a professional association football club based in Leeds, West Yorkshire, England with a rich history.

The club was formed in 1919 following the disbanding of Leeds City F.C. by the Football League and took over their Elland Road stadium. Leeds United has won three English league titles, one FA Cup, one League Cup and two Inter-Cities Fairs Cups. The entrance fees for the friendly matches on 9 and 11 April are Ks 4,000, Ks 3,000 and Ks 2,000 depending on the seat location, according to MFF.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Myanmar to take part in 2018 AFF Championship

MYANMAR'S national football team will take part in the 2018 AFF Championship, also known as the AFF Suzuki Cup, which will run from 8 November to 15 December, according to the officials from ASEAN Football Federation (AFF). This is the 12th edition of the AFF Championship, and the sixth under the name AFF Suzuki Cup. The final tournament will run from 8 November to 15 December. The draw for the tournament will be held on 2 May in Indonesia, with the AFF deciding

to use the teams' progress in the two previous editions.

The 10 ASEAN teams will be included in the draw ceremony to choose their Group in the tourney.

Myanmar has a chance to host two home matches in the tourney under the new format set up by the AFF, said an official from the Myanmar Football Federation. Myanmar reached the semi-final stage during the 2016 AFF Suzuki Cup, or AFF Championship, which was hosted in Myanmar.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■