LABOURERS MAY GET HIKED MINIMUM WAGES FROM MAY P-5 (BUSINESS)

NATIONAL
VP U Myint Swe receives Laos Deputy Defence Minister of Lt-Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy
PAGE-4

NATIONAL
Sixth batch of UEHRD youth volunteers arrives in Sittway
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
Central Bank of Myanmar to introduce new quarter tical gold coins
PAGE-3

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 11, 13th Waxing of Kason 1380 ME | www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com | Friday, 27 April 2018

President U Win Myint is welcomed by dignitaries at Singapore's Changi International Airport yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

President in Singapore for 32nd ASEAN Summit

A DELEGATION led by U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, arrived in Singapore yesterday at 4:30 pm Local Standard Time to attend the 32nd ASEAN Summit and related meetings.

The delegation led by President U Win Myint was welcomed at the Changi International Airport by Mr. Heng Chee, the Senior Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Htay Aung and wife, Military Attache Col Win Myat and wife, Myanmar Embassy officials and other officials.

From the airport, the President and party proceeded to Shangri La Hotel for a brief rest.

Afterwards, the President visited the Embassy of Myanmar in Singapore and met with embassy staff and their families. The President enquired about the education, health and work status of the embassy staff and family members, after which he presented gifts.

Later in the evening, the President attended a dinner hosted by the Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Peace Commission holds peace talks with KNPP signing NCA in Loikaw

THE Peace Commission and the Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) held peace talks in Loikaw, Kayah State, yesterday, taking further steps to sign the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).

Speaking at the opening of the meeting, U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor and Vice Chairman of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre, conveyed a message from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, saying that the State Counsellor hoped to see good results from the meeting for peace, which was desired by the people of Kayah State.

The Union Minister said peace was desired not only by the ethnic people in Kayah State, but also the people in the entire country and the international community were watching the peace talks closely.

"Whether this meeting will produce impressive results for peace in Kayah State or uncertain results depends on these people sitting at the negotiation table," said U Kyaw Tint Swe.

The meeting would decide whether there were prospects for shining rays of peace in the areas stretching from the central part of the country to lower Myanmar, he added.

SEE PAGE-15

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL
MOI:
To Inform,
To Educate &
To Entertain
PAGE-6-7

NATIONAL
C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Lt. Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy
PAGE-12

NATIONAL
Union Minister updates public on status of garbage fire
PAGE-15

SPORT
Grassroots Football Festival to be held
PAGE-16

SPORT
Week 11 of MPT Myanmar National League begins tomorrow
PAGE-16

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat receives Singapore, South Korean Ambassadors

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat poses for the photo together with Singaporean Ambassador Ms. Vanessa Elisabeth Chan Yuen Ying in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat holds talks with South Korea Ambassador Mr. Lee Sang-hwa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat received Singapore Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Vanessa Elisabeth Chan Yuen Ying at the Pyithu Hluttaw building, Nay Pyi Taw, at 1 p.m. yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on friendship and cooperation between the parliaments of Myanmar and Singapore, as well as legislative matters.

Similarly, the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker received South Korea Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Lee Sang-hwa. During the meeting, they discussed Korea-Myanmar bilateral friendship, cooperation in development, investment matters, agriculture sector development, industrial and technology sector development and matters related to the peace process. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Sixth batch of UEHRD youth volunteers arrives in Sittway

By Myo Myint, Han Lin Naing

TO provide humanitarian assistance effectively under the programme of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD), the sixth batch of youth volunteers from across the country arrived in Sittway on motor vehicles and were welcomed by officials.

The sixth batch of volunteers included 19 men and 15 women.

The youth volunteer group will leave Sittway for Maungtaw Township on the morning of 27 April and will provide basic food and collect data through field trips.

The youth volunteer programme to provide humanitarian assistance in Rakhine State was started in November 2017 and some 274 volunteers have provided 15,625 rice bags, 46,910 litres of cooking oil, 5,654 viss of salt, 11,578 viss of onions, 57,691 viss of potatoes, 150,834 cans of fish and 2,465 packets of milk powder to some 56,020 people in 9,720 households. ■

UEHRD youth volunteers arrive Sittway to provide food and collect data in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: NAING LIN**

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein meets with Singaporean Ambassador Ms. Vanessa Elisabeth Chan Yuen Ying in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein receives Singapore Ambassador

PYITHU Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein received Singapore Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Vanessa Elisabeth Chan Yuen Ying at the Pyithu Hluttaw building, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on matters related to increase bilateral friendship between Myanmar and Singapore, and courses that could be conducted to raise the quality of the Myanmar parliament staff. — Myanmar News Agency ■

> Today at this time, we are witnessing the transformation of an era and a system in accordance with democratic principles. This is just the beginning of the democratic transition. To make this transition process smooth and successful, it is very important for our peoples, government employees and civil servants to change their dogmatic mindset and habits. Those government institutions which are lagging behind in the transformation process will need to be put under tight management controls. The country's weak judiciary system would need to be strengthened. More efforts need to be exerted to stamp out corruption. More efforts need to be exerted to prevent human rights violations. More efforts need to be exerted to crack down illegal drug trade. We need to manage public funds properly so that there is no wastage. Measures need to be taken to return confiscated farmland to farmers and to give compensation to farmers for losses they have suffered in accordance with the law. We also need to improve the socio-economic life of farmers, improve the lives of workers and ensure that students gain access to higher education.
>
> (Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)

> Not only in Rakhine State which has received the attention of the world, but in the entire country let us strive collectively for security of mind and body.
>
> (Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

Central Bank of Myanmar to introduce new quarter tical gold coins

Quarter tical gold coin. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Central Bank of Myanmar has been issuing quality tical, half tical and quarter tical gold coins since 1991.

A single star is depicted in the centre of the tical gold coin. Images of a plowing farmer and an elephant hauling a log are depicted on the half and quarter tical gold coins.

Owing to high demand from the public, the quarter tical gold coins have run out of stock and a quarter tical gold coin with a new design will soon be introduced. The new quarter tical gold coin has a diameter of 18 millimetres and a thickness of 1 millimetre. At the centre of the face of the gold coin is a portrait of Bogyoke Aung San with the words Aung San written at the bottom. Along the circumference of the coin, the words "Central Bank of Myanmar" and "4.082 gm 999.9 Fine Gold" will be etched, while the opposite face will have the "Central Bank of Myanmar 2018, quarter tical, 999.9 Fine Gold" embossed in the Myanmar language.

When a quarter tical gold coin is bought, the Central Bank of Myanmar governor and the gold coin casting department head will provide a certificate of authenticity.

The quarter tical gold coins can be bought at the Myanma Gem Enterprise sales centres (Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay) at the prevailing gold rate of the day, along with a payment of the casting fee of Ks12,500, according to the Central Bank of Myanmar.—Myanmar News Agency ■

President U Win Myint is seen off by vice presidents and dignitaries at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport as he departs for Singapore. **PHOTO: PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**

President U Win Myint departs for Singapore to attend 32nd ASEAN Summit

U WIN MYINT, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar departed for Singapore to attend the 32nd ASEAN Summit and related meetings. The President and his delegation left by special flight from Nay Pyi Taw at 11.40 a.m. yesterday.

They were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by First Lady Daw Cho Cho, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Maw, Deputy Minister for Office of the President U Min Thu, Singapore Ambassador to Myanmar Ms.Vanessa Chan and other officials.

The President was accompanied by Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and officials.

The President is attending the 32nd ASEAN Summit, along with other ASEAN Heads of State.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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Due to limitation of space we are only 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.

Vice President receives Laos Deputy Defence Minister Lt-Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy

VICE President U Myint Swe received a delegation led by Deputy Defence Minister of the People's Republic of Laos and Chief of Staff of the Lao People's Army H.E. Lieutenant General Souvone Leuangbounmy at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the increasing bilateral friendship, trade and travel sectors, cooperation in sports and culture, and increasing cooperation of the two armed forces during natural disaster management.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Minister for Defence Rear-Admiral Myint Nwe, Director-General of the President's office U Naing Swe Oo, International Organisation and Economic Department Director-General U Kyaw Moe Tun, Laos Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lyying Sayaxang and other officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Vice President U Myint Swe shakes hands with Laos Deputy Defence Minister and Chief of Staff of the Lao People's Army Lt-Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint meets with South Korean Ambassador Mr. Lee Sang-hwa at the Ministry of Information's office yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA.**

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint receives South Korea Ambassador

UNION Minister Dr. Pe Myint received Republic of Korea Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Lee Sang-hwa at the Ministry of Information's guest hall yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to cooperation in news, information and culture, the visit of the Korean national culture group to Myanmar in June, the status of the process of receiving displaced persons from Rakhine State, the view of the ambassador on this matter and the construction of the Yangon-Dala bridge through an arrangement with South Korea.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung welcomed by the Netherlands Ambassador Mr. Wouter Robert Marie Jurgen. **PHOTO: MNA**

King's Day of the Netherlands celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw

King's Day (Koningsdag) is the national holiday celebration of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and it was celebrated at Hotel M Gallery by Sofitel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

The celebration began with the playing of the anthems of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Mr. Wouter Robert Marie Jurgen, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung delivered the opening speeches.

Present at the event were Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung and wife, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw and wife, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun and wife, officials from foreign embassies in Myanmar and invited guests.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Labourers may get hiked minimum wages from May

THE Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population is trying to ensure that labourers are paid the revised minimum wages from May onwards, according to a recent report in Myawady Daily.

The minimum wage is fixed every two years. In 2015, a daily minimum wage of Ks3,600 was set for eight working hours. Prior to the approval of the proposed minimum wage of Ks4,800, labourers will keep receiving wages of Ks3,600.

We will make efforts to implement the revised minimum wage in May. Earlier, we targeted to achieve this last month, said U Myo Aung, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population.

Earlier, in some cases, employers did not pay the daily wage of Ks3,600 set by the National Committee on Minimum Wage. To avoid such cases and to deal with problems between employers and employees, committees have already been formed in Yangon and Mandalay to check if labourers are receiving the actual minimum wage of Ks4,800, and if the employers are cutting other allowances that were previously given.

After the proposed minimum wage is approved, workers will be paid at the set rate. Inexperienced workers will be paid not less than 50 per cent of the minimum wages during their three-month training period (before probation). Employees serving the three-month probation period will receive 75 per cent of the minimum wages.—GNLM ■

Tomato growers get healthy profits in Mongyawng Tsp

Woman selling tomatoes on the street market. **PHOTO-AYE MIN SOE**

Tomatoes are selling well in Mongyawng Township in eastern Shan State, with farmers seeing high yields this year.

The growers are doing well, as tomatoes are bringing in handsome profits due to the high demand. Tomato cultivation starts in January after the growers sow the seedlings. It starts producing green tomatoes after three months, said a local tomato grower.

Tomatoes are harvested in March. Their price is some Ks10,000 for 20 kilograms.

The prevailing price of tomatoes is around Ks400-Ks500 per kilogram in the villages, and slightly higher in the towns. —(IPRD) ■

Mawtaung border gate ensures trade facilitation

THE Myeik District administrator and officials concerned discussed matters related to trade facilitation and granting of import/export licences at the Mawtaung border gate on Wednesday.

During the event, U Zeyar Kyaw Kyaw, in charge of Mawtaung gate, explained the export/import flow and trade volumes.

The related departments also explained ongoing activities in the respective sectors. Myeik District Administrator U Lin Ko Ko urged the officials to ensure trade facilitation and carry out trade in line with the import/export licence.

Next, the Myeik District administrator and other officials inspected the Myanma Economic Bank at Mawtaung gate and the location of its treasury, which is being constructed.

The Mawtaung checkpoint was opened on 16 January 2005, with the involvement of six official departments.

The Mawtaung gate saw trade worth US$3.24 million in the 2016-2017 fiscal year (FY), while trade valued at some $7.24 million was conducted during the 2017-2018 FY. –Khaing Htoo (Myeik/IPRD) ■

Sino-Myanmar border trade value rises by $40m

THE value of border trade between China and Myanmar between 1 and 13 April during the six-month transition period for the 2018-2019 fiscal year (FY) exceeded US$195 million, recording an increase of some $40 million compared with the same period in the 2017-2018 FY, according to the commerce ministry.

Myanmar trades with China through the Muse, Lwejel, Chinshwehaw, Kanpiketee and Kengtung gates.

Muse is the major border trading gate of Myanmar. It saw an increase by $28 million in 13 days of trade during the interim period.

The value of Sino-Myanmar border trade was some $154 million at Muse, $12.6 million at Lwejel, $10.6 million at Chinshwehaw, $17.9 million at Kanpiketee and $0.13 million at Kengtung.

Myanmar exports rice, sugar, various types of pulses, sesame seeds, corn, dried tea leaves, fishery products, minerals and animal products to China, while capital goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods flow into the country.— Mon Mon ■

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Ministry of Information: To Inform, To Educate & To Entertain

By Khin Yadanar

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the Myanmar Motion Picture Academy Awards Presentation Ceremony for 2017 at Myanmar Event Park in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint visits the news broadcasting room of Myanmar International Radio (MIRadio) in Yangon on 21 October 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

The winner, May Thu Kyaw was awarded Ks 30 million by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint at the Grand Final and Awarding ceremony of Peace Music Festival in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

MINISTRY of Information is a bridge between the government and the public. The ministry is discharging duties of informing, educating and entertaining the people.

The following are excerpts from interviews with Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint and Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun on aims and objectives of the ministry.

Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information

Question: Could Your Excellency Union Minister explain policies adopted by the ministry during the second year in office of the government?

Answer: Ministry of Information has to inform, educate and entertain the people. All these three tasks are carried out by Myanma Radio and Television, Information and Public Relations Department, Printing and Publishing Department and News and Periodicals Enterprise.

Q: What are the ways and means the ministry is setting out to inform the public?

A: NPE and MRTV are the main sources of informing the public. Kyemon and Myanma Alinn dailies under NPE are state-owned dailies, and the Global New Light of Myanmar is run under joint venture with a private company.

MRTV airs news both on radio and from TV. This is the age of Information Technology which has grown rapidly. NPE is posting digital news enabling the people to know latest news in time. Moreover, in every townships, there are established IPRD offices. IPRD's staff collect news in their areas and they also are journalists.

Arrangements are being made to combine news presenting, collecting, airing and publishing. News will be published in printed media, posted online and aired from TV and radio through Myanmar Digital News after combining the staff, sources and news from the aforementioned three departments.

As it is aiming at applying the strength of all three departments, news writing, collecting, editing and presenting will be combined. For example, news casters from MRTV are good at presenting and thus their skills can be used in MDN in terms of multimedia. The ministry is focusing on combining all departments under it and mobilizing news sources to establish a better media tool.

Q: What is a plan of the ministry to promote the role of private media?

A: Arrangements are being made for the people to be informed and for media development. As regards to dailies and journals, they are allowed to do their business independently. Currently, 400 periodicals are permitted to publish but the number appearing on the market is just 250. There are also many magazines. What I mean is that private media are also encouraged for their development.

As regard to TV, there was only one and it was MRTV. Later, Forever Group and Shwe Than Lwin companies became engaged in the business. After assuming the duties, arrangements were made to add new channels. Five firms were allowed on multi channel Playout System of MRTV. Now, Mizzima Media and DVB Media are testing its programmes.

For those who are interested, airing on radio are also allowed. Recently, Khayae FM started airing from Htantabin. If a comprehensive TV and radio law is enacted, business in TV and radio will be booming.

Q: What is the ministry's arrangement for improvement of literary world?

A: Literature development including Myanmar literature development and increase in the number of readers in our country are the main factors for knowledge enrichment. So, we focus on it, and book festivals were held as well as the literature festivals with paper reading session. The significant work was that Theinbyu road on which PPD is located was designated as Book Road and bookstalls were allowed to open on every Saturday and Sunday. This will continue this year.

Literature improvement will attract the people and reading will surely improve knowledge of people. Book producers disclosed their difficulties saying that prices are skyrocketing for publishing a book and as a consequence, readers will not buy a book if the price is high. To overcome this difficulty, Ministry of Information consulted with other related ministries to exempt tax on periodicals and newspapers according to 2018 Tax Law. This is the indirect assistance rendered to the people.

Q: What measures are the ministry taking for increasing the number of readers, to increase the reading habit and to enhance knowledge?

A: It is said that many of the youths today are not fond of reading and the number of readers is decreasing. To increase the number of readers, it is needed to cultivate reading habit among youth. This habit is easier to cultivate in the mind of children than in adult. Therefore, children literature festivals have been held, children's books are given and children are allowed to participate in competitions. This attracts children and they develop a good habit of reading.

Children literature attracts not only children but also their parents. Therefore, to conduct literature and other development programmes, Youth all-round Development Festival was held in Yangon University. This is combined efforts of MoI and Education Ministry, and Health and Sports Ministry and Yangon Region Government. It is also arranged to be held in Mandalay.

Research works and paper reading sessions are also carried out for literature development.

There are IPRD offices and libraries in every township. There, reading circles were established, reading associations founded. These efforts are aiming at enriching knowledge of people.

Q: Could Your Excellency tell me Myanmar literature's sustainability?

A: Sarpay Beikman is a branch under PPD. Since before independence, pilot teams of it existed and after independence, it came into existence. It can be seen good traditions of Sarpay Beikman are re-exposed.

As Myanmar encyclopedia is published around 1950s, efforts are being made together with Tun Foundation for new edition.

Unprecedented work is to publish Myanmar Literature Selections which include 100 books and bulletins. The first volume will come out next month. New version of Myanmar encyclopedia is expected to come out this year.

Myanmar is home to 135 ethnic groups. They use their own language and literature. Some have alphabets and some verbal. They are also encouraged. paper reading sessions on literature of ethnic groups and were held in Kayin State and Shan State.

Next year, paper reading sessons of all ethnic groups will be held together with culture show.

Q: Please explain about Community Centre for the public.

A: Libraries in the respective IPRD office have been transformed into community libraries and Community Centres. The places are used not only for reading but for consultations. Arrangements are being made to transform them into places accessible by all people including children, mothers and organizations. There are some requirements for those with same interests. Although there are space and equipment difficulties, we have sponsors to render assistance to community-based activities.

For example a place with larger space will be turned into Volleyball ground, or futsal or sepeck takraw pitches and the smaller space is for table tennis. In addition to sports activities, music, art or photograph enthusiasts can gather there.

Q: Are there any plan to be known directly by government and the three pillars on people's voice?

A: This is arranged by MoI. Reading corners are set up in literature development programmes and such topics as political, economic, social affairs and job opportunities are discussed widely and these are the places where people are exposing their feelings. This is aimed at enabling those from management circles to know the voice of the people.

Q: Regarding entertainment, what new chapters can the ministry open?

A: The major platform for entertainment is MRTV. To inform and to entertain, staff themselves are participating in the programmes and experts from outside are invited to participate in these programmes.

These programmes produce youth with creative and innovative potentials and this is aimed at possessing the spirit of peace and prosperity in building a federal union.

MRTV organized Democracy Motion Picture Week this year. Four movies depicting democracy were shot and of them, the movie – Naychi Hmar Shweyi Laung – won academy award.

Q: My last and final question is what is the measure the ministry is taking for Myanmar movie development.

A: As regard movie industry, MoI encourages development of movie industry. Arrangement is being made to establish a movie studio and a movie skills training school in Nay Pyi Taw. The project is implemented in cooperation with Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw Council, and Motion Picture Association.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, Managing Director U Kyaw Soe and CEO U Than Htaik cut ribbon to open ceremony of Digital Newspaper, News Portal. **PHOTO: MNA**

Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun addresses the meeting with editors from state-run print media at the Global New Light of Myanmar. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

U Aung Hla Tun, Deputy Minister for Ministry of Information

Question: Could you please tell to what extent the role of media is important in Myanmar?

Answer: Media plays a very important role in our country. It is more important for us compared with other countries because the challenges faced by the country in the transition period to democracy are greater than of other countries. The events in the country attract attention of international media and community.

Cause of some major problems the country has been facing was rooted since colonial period and these problems could not be solved properly but have accelerated into complications. Democracy and freedom of press met its end in 1962 but revived in 2011 and has been growing gradually.

The term of democracy is just seven years old and media gained its freedom about five years ago. As regard media, there exists international media and domestic media in the country. Media in the country has state- and private-owned media. Media inform the events in the country to enthusiasts within and without the country.

When a policy related to a certain country is adopted in the international community, this policy is based much on the image of that country portrayed by international media. Therefore, it is important to deal systematically with international media. Both state- and private-owned media in the country have lagged far behind for half a century, Myanmar had to face and is facing difficulties in reporting its news to the world.

Q: What measures have been taken regarding media during the two years in office of the government?

A: It is better to explain what will be done in coming three years than recount the previous works.

State- and private-owned media serve as a bridge between the government and the three pillars namely legislation, administration and judiciary.

As a watchdog, media is to make healthy criticism on performances of these three pillars and inform its findings to the public. And it must report the situation of the public. That is why we acknowledge the important role of media and we are trying to improve the media as much as we can.

The most important factors for all media persons are access to information and freedom of press.

We are contacting authorities encouraging them to assign spokespersons for the respective authorities, to set focal points to answer the queries raised by media persons and to pose news not harming national security in advance on websites and social media. We conduct trainings for staff in the respective departments to deal with media and hold workshops on building mutual trust and cooperation.

Q: Could you please tell me the future plan for media development?

A: Guided Tours are arranged once in two weeks for the media persons at home and abroad to visit northern Rakhine State on which the international community put their attention much.

Standard Operation Procedure regarding media is being worked out for amendment of the law which needs to be amended and to make a new law which is needed. A press conference was held last month to explain the preparation made for repatriation of those who left for Bangladesh from northern Rakhine State. We'll try our best for holding the next round of press conference. We also receive the international media persons who propose us to meet them.

Q: What is your message to the media world?

A: We absolutely agree emergence of independent, responsible and self-regulated media and we also understand it is not satisfactory. I would like to request all media persons to cooperate with us with patience as there are many difficulties and challenges.

(Translated by Wallace)

27 APRIL 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Take care of effects of garbage dump fire

SINCE a fire broke out at the Htein Bin rubbish dump in Hlinethaya Township on 21 April, the biggest challenge was to control the poisonous smoke emanating from the fire.

The main cause of the fire was the buildup of methane from the rubbish dump. We do not possess the technology to dispose of garbage systematically, so methane under the massive rubbish dump has been building up over the years.

The fire that started on 21 April was something Myanmar had never experienced before. The blaze in the rubbish dump had expanded to over 100 acres. We do not have the sufficient equipment to deal with fires like this yet. The combined forces of firefighters, Tatmadaw members and police have been working around the clock to control the fire and the smoke.

People with heart-related or breathing problems tend to be affected more quickly by CO gas poisoning. Pregnant women, babies, and small children are also more susceptible.

The pollution from this fire has created health risks to the neighbouring area, and the authorities have prepared responses to the situation in nearby areas due to the smoke and carbon monoxide emitted by the fire.

Common symptoms of low-level carbon monoxide poisoning include headaches, sleepiness, fatigue, confusion and irritability. At higher levels, poisoning can result in nausea, vomiting, irregular heartbeat, impaired vision and coordination, brain damage and death. Unfortunately, symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning can easily be confused with symptoms of viral illnesses like the common cold or seasonal flu.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is serious and should be handled as a medical emergency. Get help immediately if you suspect someone was exposed to carbon monoxide.

About 15 people have been hospitalized for emergency treatment. To avoid deaths from the poisonous smoke, people should take precautions against the poisonous carbon monoxide and seek help from local authorities to escape from dense smoke.

There have been reports of breathing difficulties from firefighting personnel, but no reports of deaths yet.

Five clinics have been set up in nearby villages to provide healthcare to the people, and about 50 ambulances are also being used to send patients to the hospital when necessary.

People with heart-related or breathing problems tend to be affected more quickly by CO gas poisoning. Pregnant women, babies, and small children are also more susceptible.

Though the fire is under control, smoke is still rising from the burning rubbish deep under the dump that is polluting the air.

People are urged to be aware of the poisonous gas emissions.

Lantsang-Mekong Development Cooperation:

The Efforts of Students from the University of Yangon

By Omar Kyaw
(University of Yangon)

THE river named "Mekong" is a trans-boundary one which is a vital river for daily life of many people living along the river. From the Yushu Plateau of People's Republic of China (PRC) in the North (Upper basin of Lantsang-Mekong), Lantsang-Mekong River flows to the countries of Indo-China Peninsula namely Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand in the South (Lower Basin of Mekong River). It is the twelth longest river in the world and seventh longest river for Asia. Although Lantsang-Mekong River flows along the Eastern extremity of Myanmar boundary which is about 217 miles only, it is a major source of water and transportation for other countries in the region.

Now, countries along the Mekong River are trying for the development and conservation of Lantsang-Mekong River bilaterally and multilaterally. There are many researchers, scientists and technical experts who are trying to maintain the sustainability of Lantsang-Mekong River and its water resource management. In this context, under the cooperation and initiation of Guangxi University and Fudan University of PRC and Shanghai International Cultural Association, Youth Innovation Competition on Lantsang-Mekong Region's Governance and Development (YICMG) have been launched with the aim of nurturing the young generation as a competent generation for the world in carrying out sustainable development. It is now coming up as an innovation program initiated by the young university students of Lantsang-Mekong region.

Since July 2015 Lantsang-Mekong International Summer Camp for College Students had been launched. Many regional governmental staff, scholars and university students actively participated in this program. This Summer Camp Program became a good foundation for the introduction of YICMG for regional cultural exchange and inter-connectivity with community living along Lantsang-Mekong River. The very first YICMG competition for the university students of Lantsang-Mekong Region was held in August 2016 for the first time at Nanning, Guangxi Province of PRC. Student teams from the University of Yangon were selected to compete in the First Youth Innovation Competition on Lantsan-Mekong Region's Governance and Development. The themes of the competition were "Sustainable Management of Water and Water Environment" and "Climate Change and Cooperation against Disaster". With the support and guidance of the International Expert Team, students from Lantsang-Mekong Region including students from the University of Yangon actively participated in the YICMG competition. Students from the Department of Industrial Chemistry of the University of Yangon received "The Most Innovation Team Award" for the First 2016 YICMG Competition.

It is the real competitions among the university students of six countries of Mekong River Region to explore more critical ideas on scientific and innovative experiments because the competitions were closely and carefully monitored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Water Resource Management of the PRC together with the support and coordination of Shanghai Municipal Government and Guangzi Zhuang Autonomous Area of Qinghai Province. During two days field trip to Upper Lantsang-Mekong River Basin in Yushu Plateau, university students from 6 countries in Mekong Region placed the remarkable international footprints on Yushu Highland.

In the context of YICMG competition, students of the University of Yangon were carrying out the research projects on sustainability of water resource, environmental conservation and eco-tourism development as a cooperation of higher education students of Lantsang-Mekong Region. In fact, YICMG is a platform for cultural diplomacy among youths and community living in that region. Through such kind of cooperation platform, the future generation of the Mekong Region will channel the avenue for good governance and development practices and behaviors for the whole region in the near future.

> It is the real competitions among the university students of six countries of Mekong River Region to explore more critical ideas on scientific and innovative experiments.

> There were increasing numbers of students who were more energetic and envied to contest in YICMG and they organized themselves into group and team to create and generate own research projects for YICMG competitions in line with respective themes.

Students of the University of Yangon were constantly encouraged to participate in the YICMG competitions. There were increasing numbers of students who were more energetic and envied to contest in YICMG and they organized themselves into groups and teams to create and generate their own research projects for YICMG competitions in line with respective themes. Student teams were very competitive among themselves before submitting the projects to YICMG. The themes for 2017 YICMG Competition were "Mitigation of Carbon Dioxide with Effective Adsorbent and Emergency Management for Climate Change and Disaster Protection" and students from the Department of Industrial Chemistry of the University of Yangon earned "The Best Project Incubation Award" for their innovative idea to use corn (maize) cob to reduce carbon dioxide in emergency situation. Moreover, the Best Project Incubation Award was honoured to the Students from the University of Yangon who initiated the research project by using coconut shell for water purification.

The very first YICMG Competition held outside of PRC was the Third YICMG Competition in Laos People's Democratic Republic on 26 to 31 January 2018. The theme for 2018 YICMG was "Development of Tourism and Other Green Industries" and 12 students from the University of Yangon submitted 4 projects to the Committee for YICMG 2018. This time, university students together with local community living along Mekong River went on to field trip to conduct ground survey for socio-cultural behaviors of local people. This kind of field surveys nurtured the decision-making of students in solving problems through cooperation and coordination among international student teams. The Most Valuable Issue Award was honoured to the students from the University of Yangon for "Implementation of an Eco-Friendly Hotel" Project. Consequently, student teams from Industrial Chemistry specialization at the University of Yangon also received The Best Multi-national Team Award of YICMG 2018.

> The university students are trying to find out the most appropriate solution and suggestion for the sustainable regional development and environmental conservation based on field works jointly conducted by university students of Mekong Region countries and on the needs of local community as well.

It was not an easy task for students and organizers of YICMG program. Since April 2017, the instructions, guide lines and themes for Third YICMG were disseminated and Committee for Holding Third YICMG Competition encouraged students to form team with at least three students. It was also supported by respective universities, embassies and academic institutions to explore more issues facing with local community of individual Mekong River country. Finally, 20 teams from 6 countries were selected by International Expert Team for YICMG Competition for more innovative idea.

The mechanism to select the YICMG Project consists of two steps. For the first round, every student group had to submit the project proposal to Committee for YICMG Competition. The Committee finally announced the most relevant and most innovative projects to compete in China. For the second round competition, each student team based on country-specific teams were reorganized as Multi-national Student Team. Through random lottery system, the Multi-national Teams have to find the more credible and sustainable solutions of the research projects which were selected for competition in the first round.

The International Expert Team supported the idea and suggestion to Multi-National Student Teams to explore more innovative thinking and ideas for sustainable development of Lantsang-Mekong Region. After defending the critical questions on experimental solutions raised by International Expert Team, the Best International Team Award and the Best Project for Incubation Award were selected for competing Multi-national Teams.

One of the programs, the YICMG Training Camp for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is a program with the decision of International Expert Team to train the Multinational Student Teams. It has more meaningful decision to conduct exchange program on cultural resources among countries in the region.

The major objective of the Training Camp is to disseminate information and criteria for innovation or innovative instructions and project incubation services. Mentors also encourage students for close consultation and problem solving through relaxation activities such as Ignite Talk, Open Course on Innovation and Entrepreneurs and Mekong Café.

The students from the University of Yangon have participated in YICMG Competitions since 2016. They received Awards from YICMG every year. The university students are trying to find out the most appropriate solution and suggestion for the sustainable regional development and environmental conservation based on field works jointly conducted by university students of Mekong Region countries and on the needs of local community as well.

The students of the University of Yangon are also making efforts enthusiastically not only for their nation but also for regional development of Lantsang-Mekong Region in Asia. ■

(Translated by Yin Myo Thu)

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and confirmed

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred U Hla Maw Oo, Director-General, Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce as Director-General of Minister's Office under the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names on the expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Nyunt Win	Director-General Department of Factory & General Labour Laws Inspection Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population
(2) Daw Thway Thway Chit	Director-General Project Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department Ministry of Planning and Finance

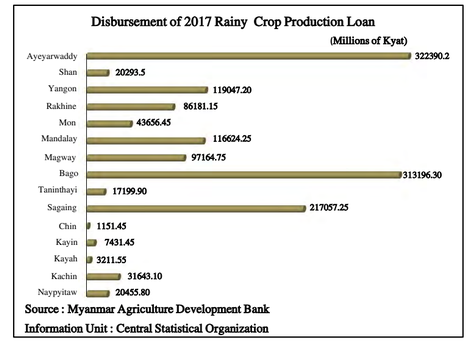
PRESS RELEASE

Appointment of Ambassador of Chile agreed

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr. Christian Rehren as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Chile to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, with residence in Bangkok.

Mr. Christian Rehren was born in 1956. He graduated from the Diplomatic Academy of Chile in 1982. In his diplomatic career, Mr. Christian Rehren has served under various capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile and at diplomatic Missions in Ecuador, El Salvador, Romania, United Kingdom and Japan and also served as the Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations in New York and Alternate Representative of Chile to the Organization of American States – OAS in Washington, D.C. He served as Ambassador of Chile to Malaysia from 2011 to 2015 and as Director-General for the Americas Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2015 to 2017. Currently, he is serving as Ambassador of Chile to the Kingdom of Thailand.

MNA



Star Cruises luxury ship docks. **PHOTO: MNA**

Workers processing crabs at a cold storage factory in Kyunsu Township.

Local and foreign visitors visit Kawthoung on Thai-Myanmar Border. **PHOTO: MNA**

Taninthayi Region Chief Minister Dr. Lei Lei Maw meets Mro people in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, during her visit to Maungtaw to open a school donated by the people of Taninthayi Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

The opening ceremony of Tourism and Investment Festival held in Kawthoung in February 2018. **PHOTO: MNA**

Performance of Taninthayi Region Government in 2nd Year in Office

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint (Current President) planting a tree to mark the opening of new Hluttaw building in Taninthayi Region. **PHOTO- MNA**

By Shin Min

TANINTHAYI Region Government has carried out to achieve all-round development in all socio-economic sectors of the people.

Tourism Sector

Taninthayi Region can be boasting of the Myeik archipelago, a cluster of more than 800 largely untouched islands which can draw the attention of the international visitors around the world. In order to promote the sustainable path for tourism development, the Taninthayi Region Government has formed a Taninthayi Tourism Development Committee, made up tourism ministry officials and private sector representatives which can make success as a tourist destination without harming the environment. Efforts are being made to increase the number of tourists coming to the Myeik archipelago but with less impact on the environment.

In order to make sustainable development, plans are under way to draw up a master plan for developing tourism in the region and specifically the Myeik archipelago, with the aim of creating job opportunities for local people while protecting the area's natural resources and landscape.

Edible bird's nest production

The forestry sector of the Taninthayi Region has generated a large amount of tax revenues for the country. The edible bird's nest business contributed to generate in the forestry sector.

Edible bird's nests are bird nests created by edible-nest swift-lets using solidified saliva. They are prized particularly by the Chinese for their supposedly high nutritional value, rarity and flavour.

Permits are granted to private companies in order to harvest the bird's nests which can enable firms to harvest and produce edible bird's nests. As the auction is on a yearly-basis, prices for the working permits are different every year.

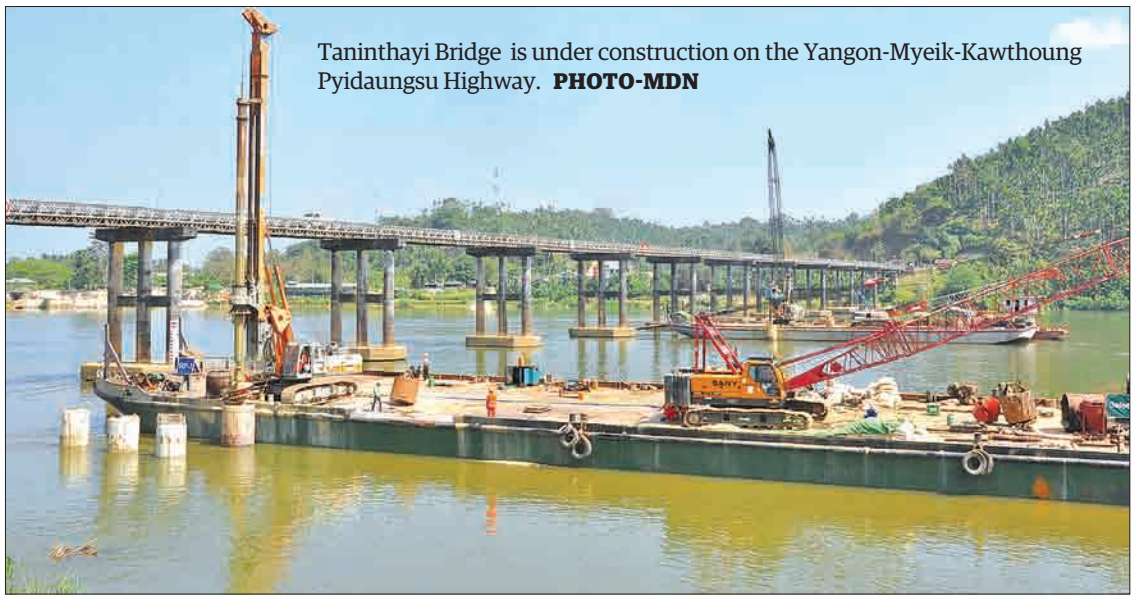
Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement

As for the Taninthayi Region Government, efforts are being made to jointly cooperate with the New Mon State Party (NMSP), and KNU in the peace process regarding territorial disputes.

The Taninthayi Region Government invited them to discuss and find ways in order to avoid further clashes and learn from the past to prevent disputes.

Boosting marine products

The Taninthayi Region Government Chief Minister Dr. Lei Lei Maw said, "Efforts are being made to develop a domestic-based system for the trading of marine products at between Myanmar and Thailand as part of a new economic policy for Taninthayi Region.



Taninthayi Bridge is under construction on the Yangon-Myeik-Kawthoung Pyidaungsu Highway. **PHOTO-MDN**

Cocks Comb Island in Myeik Archipelago. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED BY GOOD LIFE MYANMAR**

Cruise ships in the Myeik Archipelago. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

To sell fish and other marine produce or seafood, Myanmar traders currently have to travel specific trading sites and we need to have a strong local market in Myanmar and Thailand.

There are currently plans to establish markets for trading marine products like fish and other seafood in Myeik, Dawei and Kawthoung districts under an auction system, she added. The initial plan includes two markets in Myeik, and one each in Dawei and Kawthoung.

The first fish market is likely to be in Myeik district at Pa Htet Kan, which has a marine product processing factory. Meanwhile, several businesses have applied for permission to build a jetty and fish auction market there and it

may take time. Therefore it is quite difficult to guess how long it will take as the move will change the whole market.

Another market will be established at Thayetchaung Township in Dawei District with $18million in private investments approved by the Myanmar Investment Commission. That market is now at ground-leveling stage. The marine product and seafood sector, which include small-scale fishermen, is one of the top economic industries in Taninthayi Region.

Oil Palm Plantation

The Taninthayi Region Government is planning an oil palm-sector assessment project as part of an effort to help solve land use issues in the region.

The government held a workshop with participation from a variety of civil society organizations and representatives from local and ethnic groups including stakeholders from the regional government, oil-palm companies and representatives from local and ethnic groups.

It is of great importance to ensure sustainable development which can produce quality seeds and build an oil plant in cooperation with local and foreign companies. As a result, oil palm companies have bought huge amounts of land in the region. The authorities concerned should support local edible oil consumption to reduce edible oil imports, and local companies followed their directives.

Dawei Special Economic Zone

Myanmar and Thailand had signed a memorandum of understanding to permit the Italian-Thai Development public company (ITD) to begin work on the Dawei deep sea port infrastructure project in 2018. The original project started in 2008 and was set to build and develop a port, a highway to and from Myanmar and Thailand, industrial zones, office buildings, residential buildings and other infrastructure. However, the project never took off due to the large scale of the project. The Dawei Special Economic Zone Management Committee convened in August 2015 and March 2016 and have agreed to allow Italian-Thai Plc. and other related companies to begin working on the area for the deep sea port. The deep sea port measures 27 square kilometers, while the total project area is 196 square kilometers.

The budget for the construction of the highway to and from Thailand's border had provided by the Thai Government in the form of a low-interest loan. Myanmar's Ministry of Construction and Thailand's Department of Highways have officially measured the length of the highway.

In 2015, Myanmar, Thailand and Japan signed a memorandum of intent (MOI) which allows the three countries to use Dawei SEZ Development Co. Ltd as a special purpose vehicle.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits seawater prawn breeding plant in Myeik, Taninthayi Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

Workers seen at seawater prawn breeding plant in Myeik, Taninthayi Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) had conducted a survey for the deep sea port project, including setting up an electrical grid, basic infrastructure and buildings which would begin after the pilot project is completed. With the cooperation of the Taninthayi Region Government, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy had collaborated to install 12 gas engines to the Dawei SEZ.

Moreover there was a plan to supply electricity to Dawei and it was a joint collaboration between Italian-Thai, Shell Co. Ltd and LNG Plus.

The Union Government had made many plans for the development of both Dawei and Myeik areas in the Taninthayi Region. The Ministry is in negotiations with Asian Development Bank to acquire a loan at a low interest rate.

According to an official, connecting to the national grid via Ye and Mawlamyine is the first plan and the second plan had involved forming a joint venture company with Total S.A, a French multinational integrated oil and gas company, and Siemens AG, a German conglomerate with a division in the energy sector. The company would be based in Kanpauk and import LNG gas by ship.

The ship would dock in Kanpauk's vicinity and send the LNG via pipelines to Kanpauk, where it will power two engines to produce 1,230 megawatts of energy. From there the electricity would be sent to Dawei, situated south of Kanpauk.

Arrangements have been made to supply electricity from these factories and upon its completion these plants can be able to transmit the power supply to other regions in Myanmar.

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Lt. Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief, received the Chief-of-Staff of the Lao People's Armed Forces (LPAF) Lt. Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy with a Guard of Honour, in front of Zeyar Thiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Lt. Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy took the salute from the Guard of Honour and then inspected the Guard of Honour.

They then introduced the senior military officers of the two countries in attendance to each another.

Later, Lt. Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy signed the Zeyar Thiri Beikman visitors' book and met with the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief in the meeting hall.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the exchange and cooperation in training and medical technology between the two militaries, exchange of visits by rank between the two militaries, exchange of sports and culture groups, sharing of experiences on natural disaster prevention, and cooperation between the two militaries for border area development of the two countries.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Lt. Gen Souvone Leuangbounmy take the salute from the Guard of Honour in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Thura U Shwe Mann receives ROK Ambassador to Myanmar

CHAIRMAN of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Thura U Shwe Mann received Republic of Korea Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Lee Sang-hwa at the Hluttaw Affairs Building I-11 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. During the meeting, they openly exchanged views and discussed matters related to the increasing bilateral relation and cooperation. —Myanmar News Agency ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BALI VOY. NO. (053N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BALI VOY. NO. (053N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-4-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SILKAGO LOGISTICS PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V PATHEIN STAR VOY. NO. (018N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PATHEIN STAR VOY. NO. (018N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-4-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MAENAM-1 VOY. NO. (013 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MAENAM-1 VOY. NO. (013 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-4-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V EVER ABLE VOY. NO. (0238-480)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V EVER ABLE VOY. NO. (0238-480) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-4-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

" Refutation, explanation, warning, declaration for know to public from Advocate Daw Aye Aye Thet by directives assignation of U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe, 12/Pa Za Ta (Naing) 016853 included advertisement page (Salein), Mirror Newspaper, dated; 15-3-2018 relevant of description facts at reply explanation, declaration upon the public notification of family owned remained property of deceased U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi at page (26) of Myanma Ahlin Newspaper, dated (9-3-2018)"

Whereas, refutation, explanation, warning for know to public by directives assignation of **Daw Sondarran (a) Daw Saung Daroon Ammar**, holder of Citizenship Scrutiny Card No. 12/ Pa Za Ta (Naing) 022956, residing at No. (120), Corner of 57th Street and Maha Bandoola Street, Ward (2), Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region.

Whereas, measurement area (0.052) acre, (60) years lease grant, Land Plot No. (1-2B), Residential Ward No. (2), No. 9-K^2, Survey Block, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region and on that land constructed the building are acquired duration the married life of my friend **U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi.** Regarding with that land plot, absolutely unacceptable declare to **U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe** purchased that land plot and building and obtained the lease grant from Yangon City Development Committee declared at advertisement page (10) in Mirror Newspaper. My client **Daw Sondarran (a) Daw Saung Daroon Ammar** living up to now and husband **U San Myint (a) Guru Swarmi** sale by solely will event unreasonable and without accordance with law therefore effective object. Regarding with that sale declare of my client absolutely unacceptable and disagree.

Besides that, **U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe** without solely commence establishment to Myanmar Cotton Mattress business of family owned business, such as my client formerly (50) years over commence performed by namely (Bamar Cotton) business. Family, relatives and associates known to that business stand by family owned business up to now.

Therefore, waning declare to public understand that declared dated 15-3-2018 stated the building included (Myanmar Cotton) business are without solely effective possession entitlement.

Thereof regarding with the whole property, affirm waning prohibit declare to do not misappropriate, sale, mortgage, gift, lease, otherwise transfer to that property and business without consent of my friend.

By directive assignation;

U Tin Maung Thein (LL.B)
Advocate (Sr. 5991/1993)
Bldg. 10/12, First Floor,
Room 104-H,
09 5124559

U Tin Shwe (LL.B)
Advocate (Sr. 8007/2011)
35th (Lower) Street,
Kyauktada Township,
Yangon.
09 448047382

Village library opened to commemorate 8th anniversary of Khami National Day

THE opening ceremony of Nay La Thisar village library was held at Zayar Wady Village on 25 April to commemorate the 8th anniversary of Khami National Day.

Khami is a Rakhine ethnic group. Khami National Day is annually held in the township, where Khami ethnic people have been residing for long. More than 80,000 Khami ethnic people live in Rakhine State.

Librarian U Nay Aung accepts the books, posters and dolls donated by Daw San San Aung and Pauktaw Township IPRD Head Daw Tin Tin Sein. **PHOTO: WIN MIN SOE (IPRD)**

Head of Sittway District Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) Daw San San Aung, Rakhine State library foundation chairman, writer and comedian Bagyi Kyaw (Sittway) and elder U Hla Kyaw Aung cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the village library.

Librarian U Nay Aung and U Than Shwe accepted the books, posters and dolls donated by Daw San San Aung and Head of Pauktaw Township IPRD Daw Tin Tin Sein.

Daw San San Aung explained the purpose of the village library and the sustainable future process for the library. Bagyi Kyaw (Sittway) then gave a speech on the benefits of literature.

Khami Literature and Culture Committee Chairman U Lay Kyaw Aung gave the words of thanks. The officials who attended the ceremony then inspected the library.

The village library is 15 feet long, 10 feet wide and nine feet high. The library was constructed at a cost of more than Ks2 million.

"The library will currently stay open three days a week and remain open daily for the villagers in the future," said U Nay Aung.—Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

Rain, thundershowers continue in Bago, Yangon, Taninthayi Regions

RAIN and thundershowers will continue to lash the Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi regions, as well as Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states, in the next two days, as the weather is partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay, with a few clouds elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal, according to the Myanmar Daily weather report issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology yesterday evening.

The forecast for Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and the neighbouring areas for today is isolated rain or thundershowers, and the degree of certainty is 80 per cent, while Yangon and the neighbouring area may receive isolated rain or thundershowers and the degree of certainty is 60 per cent.

Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. The wave height will be some 3-5 feet off and along Myanmar's coast. — GNLM ■

Sea turtle found dead in village

LOCAL villagers found a dead sea turtle along the seaside of Kyarkan village, Hainggyikyun, Ayeyawady region, on 24 April.A villager said the sea turtle was not killed as a turtle reproduction and conservation camp is located close to the village.

Dead sea turtle found along the seaside of Kyarkan village, Hainggyikyun, Ayeyawady. **PHOTO: KYAW THU HEIN**

The fisheries department from Hainggyikyun is checking the turtle size, its species and the cause of death, in cooperation with officials from the turtle reproduction and conservation camp.— Kyaw Thu Hein (IPRD-Hainggyikyun) ■

" Refutation, explanation, warning, declaration from Advocate Daw Aye Aye Thet by directives assignation of U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe, 12/Pa Za Ta (Naing) 016853 included advertisement page (Salein), Mirror Newspaper, dated; 15-3-2018 relevant of description facts at reply explanation, declaration upon the public notification of family owned remained property of deceased U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi at page (26) of Myanma Ahlin Newspaper, dated (9-3-2018)"

Whereas, refutation, explanation, warning by directives assignation of **U Thein Shwe,** holder of Citizenship Scrutiny Card No. 12/Pa Za Ta (Naing) 025639 and siblings **U Ni Ni (a) Mee Mee, Daw Marathi, Daw Khin Malar, Daw Aye Aye Than and Daw Khin Khin San,** residing at No. (117), Anawrahta Street, Pazundaung Township, Yangon.

Whereas, measurement area (0.052) acre, (60) years lease grant, Land Plot No. (1-2B), Residential Ward No. (2), No. 9-K², Survey Block, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region and on that land constructed the (7) storey building, known as No. (120), Maha Bandoola Street, Pazundaung Township has being up to now life mother **Daw Saung Daroon Ammar** included all children entitlement land plot and building. It is become the property acquired duration the married life of father **U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi** and mother **Daw Saung Daroon Ammar**. Father **U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi** sold that building and land plot to any family member or any other person he do not notice to mother included all children up to his expire time. But at the refutation, explanation, declaration of **U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe**, "outright purchased and obtain by possessions to land plot and building from **U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe** on 2008 and made registered with Sale Agreement Deed No. 926/08 at Yangon Deeds Registration Office and **U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe** legal in hand purchased" that explanation is unacceptable solve because that property are whole family owned property accordance with Hindu Law. Father **U San Myint (a) S Guru Swarmi** and own son **U Mu Gu Gan (a) U Tin Shwe** made sold that land plot and building are all family corporate collect owned property thereof that made sale agreement of property are without consent, known, assignation from benefits entitlement persons and my friends have suffered losses cannot cures therefore add warning declare to shall be action by law.

Refute and explanation to your return explain declaration (third) para stated. Mother **Daw Saung Daroon Ammar** formerly (50) year over used name as (**Bamar Cotton**) and commence establishment to mattress, screen business to that description included **Myanmar Cotton Mattress** business. Family economic business accordance with Hindu Customary and performed together with benefits and development business. Among the public known and acceptance business as (Myanmar Cotton Company Limited owner) up to my husband expire time. Refute explanation and declare to that (Myanmar Cotton) mattress shop business is not perform by solely own trade mark and all family corporate performed business.

Besides that, above land plot and (7) storey building included Myanma Cotton Mattress Shop business have without solely owned and mother and included all sibling together with benefits entitlement have the property and business.

Therefore, stated subjects of your return explanation declaration are become to my friends suffered losses cannot cures therefore warning declare to shall be effectively action by litigate accordance with law.

By directive assignation;

U Tin Maung Thein (LL.B)
Advocate (Sr. 5991/1993)
Bldg. 10/12, First Floor, Room 104-H,
09 5124559

U Tin Shwe (LL.B)
Advocate (Sr. 8007/2011)
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Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 1st (Tuesday) May 2018 "MAY DAY" under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

No Objection Advertisement

If any wishing to object the transfer from **Close Friend Co., Ltd. to Buronos Private Company Limited** (No. 59/61 (Lot-E), Maharweitzado Street, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar) for all registration process and distribution of under mentioned products produced by **Zenith Crop Sciences Bulgaria Limited** (Address: 75-83, Dimitar Manov Street, Sofia 1408, Bulgaria) may state their objection within (14) days from this advertisement date to C**o-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board (PRB), Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, Myanmar.**

No.	Trade Name	Active ingredients	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Passat 450 Sc	Cymoxanil 50 g/l + Propamocarb Hydrochloride 400 g/l SC	Experimental	E2017-3992
2	Termidor 4 SC	Nicosulfuron 40 g/l SC	Experimental	E2017-3993

Close Friend Co., Ltd.
(No. 829 (A), Thu Mingalar Road, 7-Ward, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon, Myanmar)

World Intellectual Property Day (2018) ceremony held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE World Intellectual Property Day (2018) ceremony was held at M Gallery Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning.

The ceremony was opened by Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director Ms Teresa McGhie and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Expert Ms Hiromi Takaoka, who cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi and attendees pose for the photo at the World Intellectual Property Day (2018) in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

At the event, Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi said the Ministry of Education was the main entity that was in contact with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in the intellectual property rights sector.

WIPO holds the World Intellectual Property Day event annually by designating a theme. The theme for 2018 is "Powering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity." WIPO highlighted this theme to encourage women in creative and technological fields. It also wants to prove that the intellectual property rights system is playing an important role in putting ideas into the market.

The Ministry of Education is striving to enact four laws – industrial design copyright law, invention copyright law, trademark copyright law, and copyright law. It has already obtained the agreement and permission for this purpose from the Amyotha Hluttaw. Arrangements are being made to submit these to the Pyithu Hluttaw, said the Union Minister.

In Myanmar, the cooperation between universities and businesses is weak. Laws to protect inventions, innovations and technical transfers do not exist. This reduces the opportunity for more inventions and innovations, but despite this, with the support of USAID, students of Yangon Technological University and Information Technology University stood sixth among the 163 teams that competed in the First Global Challenge 2017 Robotic Competition.

Furthermore, together with a team of students from Texas State, USA, the University of Technology (Yadanarbon Cyber City) students participated in the "Invent for the Planet 2018" challenge and achieved the highest award by inventing a new system to produce electrical power. In addition to raising the image of the country, it also became a driving force for the quick enactment and implementation of the intellectual property rights law.

With attempts being made towards reforms, the practice and implementation of intellectual property rights is linked to foreign investment entering the country, raising the GDP and developing the trade sector. Therefore, it is the responsibility and duty of all citizens to establish a copyright system as soon as possible, said the union minister.

Next, Teresa McGhie and Hiromi Takaoka of JICA delivered speeches, while the Ministry of Education Copyright Department Deputy Director General Dr. Moe Moe Thwe read the message sent by WIPO.

Later, Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho, Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Teresa McGhie and Hiromi Takaoka presented the documents of honour.

The Union Minister and the officials then viewed the research conducted by universities and college students, award-winning inventions at international invention competitions, posters showing the works of the intellectual property department in Myanmar on establishing a copyright system and other agriculture products, handicrafts and SME products.

The ceremony was attended by invited guests from the Amyotha Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw, Amotha Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw bill committees chairmen and secretaries, director generals of relevant ministries and officials, representatives of local and international NGOs, officials from the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar Positive Group, and other invited guests. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Ministry of Health and Sports provides healthcare services following garbage fire

THE Ministry of Health and Sports is providing cooperation works in the health sector and public healthcare services in response to a fire at Htein Bin garbage dump, Hlinethaya Township, Yangon Region.

Some 19 in-patients, 13 on 24 April, two on 25 April and four on 26 April, as well as 19 out-patients, including three on 24 April, 11 on 25 April and five on 26 April, were treated for smoke inhalation and other related ailments in Hlinethaya People's Hospital since the dump fire started. One in-patient had a lung disease and was transferred and treated at Yangon People's Hospital. In addition to this, a patient from Hlinethaya was treated for smoke inhalation and other related ailments. Of the patients undergoing treatment at the hospital, three were discharged from the hospital on 24 April and one was discharged on 25 April. The condition of the remaining 14 patients is improving.

In Hlinethaya Township, six temporary emergency healthcare clinics were opened and will remain open 24 hours a day. Each clinic was equipped with medicines, medical equipment, five oxygen cylinders and an ambulance to transfer patients. The township public health department is coordinating with welfare groups to keep sufficient oxygen cylinders ready to transfer patients speedily and conveniently.

The air quality measurement works were started by the Department of Public Health, work site and environmental health sub-department in Hlinethaya Township, ward (20) on 24 April and ward (6) on 26 April.

The central field group members from the Department of Public Health and Department of Medical Services joined the existing field groups on site and the Yangon Region Public Health Department officials, and formed three smaller groups to reinforce the firefighting works conducted in Hlinethaya Township ward (6), ward (20) and inner Padan village tract, Myasaneyaung field. The field groups provided healthcare services to the firefighters.

Medical team providing medical treatment to a fire fighter at a temporary emergency healthcare clinic in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

The dangers associated with smoke inhalation and health-related information were posted on vinyl signboards for the public. The ministry also gave talks and made announcements on loudspeakers to inform the public.

The Ministry of Health and Sports is closely monitoring the occurrence of smoke inhalation and related ailments. It is coordinating and working with (Yangon) the region government, related departments and other organisations.— Myanmar News Agency ■

PC, KNPP hold peace talks for signing NCA in Loikaw

Representatives sit down for holding peace talks for signing NCA in Loikaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

"Hence, today's talks will be a historic milestone for the people in Kayah State," said the Union Minister.

Natural scenic beauty and attractions for travellers in Kayah State are reasons why Kayah State could develop quickly if it gains peace, said U Kyaw Tin Swe.

As the shortest route from Thailand to Nay Pyi Taw is passing through Kayah State, the state also possesses good prospects for trading and the trip makes clear why the people of Kayah have desired peace for many decades.

If we look back at the history of our armed conflicts, we could see that we failed to resolve political problems with peaceful political solutions, and that had led to this prolonged conflict. The incumbent government had put more focus on national reconciliation and peace building and working for inclusion in roundtable discussions such as the 21st Century Panglong Conference. The Peace Commission was continuously working for all stakeholders to be a part of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) which was the door to political dialogue.

There have been misconceptions that signing the NCA meant forfeiting your weapons, but it was actually working for armed conflicts to end while simultaneously endeavouring for political dialogue to solve political problems. The Panglong Conference is discussing the establishment of a democratic federal union, which is something all ethnic groups desire. He added that they were able to sign the first part of the union agreement in the second Panglong Conference and they would discuss inclusion of ethnic groups left over and self-administration in a federal union during the third Panglong Conference.

He said national equality, self-administration, and a basic constitution for each state is something all ethnic people want. He said he wishes for the voice of the Karreni National Progressive Party (KNPP) and the Kayah People to be heard during the meeting.

He said the government would work to resolve the difficulties of the KNPP and remove obstacles that hindered them from signing the NCA. He said that solving the present problems now would help shape the federal union in the future. He said he wanted them to think of the Kayah children of today and their situation when they grow up. He said the children would face the good and bad consequences of our actions today.

He said he hoped today's meeting would be transparent and honest from both sides and would lead to solutions to overcome obstacles and challenges for the federal democratic union in the future. He said that the hopes and desires of the Kayah people would be given due consideration and good results would be had from the meeting that will lead to signing of the NCA. This was followed by KNPP Executive Committee Member U Bi Htoo delivered a speech saying the KNPP has been involved in the peace process all along and was heading towards signing the NCA. He said they desired to be a part of the federal union and hoped for good results from the meeting.

Afterwards, the Peace Commission and the KNPP began discussions. The meeting continues today.—MNA ■

Union Minister updates public on status of garbage fire

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye meets with residents affected by the Htein Bin garbage dump fire in Hlinethaya. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye visited the Htein Bin garbage dump fire in Hlinethaya Township yesterday morning.

The Union Minister and party consisting of Hluttaw representatives met with firefighters, Hlinethaya Township ward administrators, personnel providing health care services, civil service societies, Myanmar Police Force personnel, officials from Yangon City Development Committee and donors and coordinated requirements and provided support.

Next, the Union Minister met with the public in Hlinethaya ward (18) Aye Yeik-ThaDhammayone. The Union Minister encouraged the public and explained about the status of fighting the fire, the coordinated works on the union level and regional level, and enquired about the difficulties faced by the public. The Union Minister also explained matters raised by the public.

The Union Minister then went to a Tatmadaw travelling health care camp opened in ward (20) to inspect the treatment provided and preparations made to provide emergency care.

Afterwards, the Union Minister, together with Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, met with the public in Kyonesu Village Basic Education Primary School No. (7) in Shwelinban Ward to encourage the public and explain to them the status of efforts to put out the fire, plans to temporarily move and provide treatment to those with existing ailments, the elderly, expecting mothers and children, as smoke could adversely affect health in the long run.

Following this, they met with departmental officials in Hlinethaya People's Hospital and explained the status of putting out the fire, efforts made in cooperation between those on the union level and regional level to eliminate the smoke, usage of bio-foam to put out the fire, contact and arrangement made with AHA Centre (ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance), technical support programs of the ERAT Team (Emergency Response and Assessment Team) and future plans. After the meeting, Ks2.49 million in cash was donated to 830 firefighters from the fire department, the Myanmar Police Force and the Tatmadaw. A total of Ks1.2 million in cash was donated to 24 patients in the hospital, 13 patients undergoing treatment and 11 more who came to obtain treatment yesterday at the rate of Ks50,000 per patient.

From there, they travelled to a temporary medical treatment camp opened in Hlinethaya Ward (6) Basic Education Middle School (1) by the Public Health Department and observed treatment provided to patients, arrangements made for people requiring evacuation and temporary refuge, and air pollution measurement equipment installed by Ministry of Health and Sports.

The Union Minister was accompanied by Deputy Minister U SoeAung, deputy director general U ThanHtutSwe and directors and departmental officials, it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Messi scores in EU court battle to trademark name

BRUSSELS — Barcelona footballer Lionel Messi won a legal battle Thursday to register his name as a trademark to sell sports goods after an EU court ruled that he is too famous to be confused with other businesses.

The Argentine star, the world's highest earning footballer, rode out a challenge by a Spanish cycling gear manufacturer called Massi, which had challenged his trademark on the grounds that it was too similar to its own.

"Lionel Messi may register his trade mark 'MESSI' for sports equipment and clothing," said a ruling by the General Court of the European Union, the bloc's second-highest court.

"The football player's fame counteracts the visual and phonetic similarities between his trade mark and the trade mark 'MASSI' belonging to a Spanish company," the Luxembourg-based court said.

The ruling caps a seven-year legal fight since the footballer first tried in 2011 to trademark his name with the EU's intellectual property office.

A court rules that Lionel Messi is too famous to be confused with a company with a similar name. **PHOTO: AFP**

The boss of the Massi cycling goods company filed an appeal the same year, saying there was a "likelihood of confusion" with its own trademark, and the trademark office agreed.

Judges admitted that the trademarks "are very similar phonetically" but said the IPO was wrong to assume that Messi was only known by people who were interested in football or sport.

"Mr Messi is, in fact, a well-known public figure who can be seen on television and who is regularly discussed on television or on the radio," the court said.

The ruling comes days after it emerged that Messi has overtaken Cristiano Ronaldo as the highest earner in world football, according to France Football magazine.

The Barcelona attacker is making 126 million euros ($154mn) in salary, bonuses and commercial revenue for the current season while his great Real Madrid rival is making 94mn euros.—AFP ■

Grassroots Football Festival to be held

A football tournament, skills workshop and anti-drugs programme known as the Grassroots Football Festival will soon be launched across Mon State, according to a coordination meeting between Myanmar Football Federation officials and government officials held at the Mon State Government office yesterday. The tournaments to be held are under the titles of MFF-MPT Grassroots Football Festival 2018 and MPT U-14 Football Tournament 2018. The exact date and place of the tourneys will be released soon by the Myanmar Football Federation, said an official.

According to the meeting, the Grassroots Football Festivals aim to prevent teenagers using drugs and narcotic substances and help children enjoy football from a young age to develop their physical and mental health and promote football in Mon State.

Since last year, Myanmar Football Federation, in coordination and collaboration with Ministry of Basic Education, participated in organising basic football training courses in Basic Education Schools, youth football competitions and Grass Roots programmes.

Yangon and Mandalay Football Academies are being run with the intention to promote football education, techniques and training.—Lynn Thit (tgi) ■

Week 11 of MPT Myanmar National League begins tomorrow

The 2018 season of the MPT Myanmar National League (MNL) has reached the halfway point, with Week 11matches to start tomorrow, according to the MNL.

One of this weekend's matches involves the defending champions of the MNL squaring off against a well-regarded mid-level club, making for a potentially interesting matchup.

The defending champion Shan United will play against Myawady FC at 4pm on 29 April at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon. The match will be broadcast live on MRTV.

In other matches, Ayeyawady United will play against Hanthawady United tomorrow at 3.30pm at Pathein Stadium, while well-known Yadanabon FC will play against Sagaing United at the same time on the same day at Monywa Stadium.

Tomorrow at 4pm, Zwekapin United will play against GFA FC at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Yangon United, the team at the top of the league rankings, will play against Southern Myanmar FC at 3.30 pm on 30 April at Mawlamyaing Stadium in Mon State. The match will be broadcast live on MRTV.

Magwe FC, the second place team, will play against Rakhine United on 13 May at Wai Tharli Stadium. The match will be broadcast live on the MNL's Facebook page, according to the MNL. —LynnThit (tgi) ■

Two Italian men charged over assault on Liverpool fan

LONDON — Two Italian men were charged on Thursday in connection with an assault which left a 53-year-old Liverpool fan in a critical condition before Tuesday's Champions League clash with AS Roma.

Filippo Lombardi, 20, has been charged with violent disorder and wounding and inflicting grievous bodily harm, Merseyside Police said in a statement. Daniele Sciusco, 29, was also charged with violent disorder.

The two men will appear in court later on Thursday. Sean Cox, 53, who had travelled over from Ireland for the match, suffered a serious head injury after being attacked outside Liverpool's Anfield Stadium.

Cox, described as a "cornerstone of his local community" by Irish media, is being treated for his injuries at a neurological centre, where his condition remains critical, Merseyside Police said.—AFP ■