EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND COMPLEXITY OF RAKHINE ISSUE P-8-9 (OPINON)

NATIONAL

Aid reaches flood victims in regions, states

PAGE-10

PARLIAMENT

2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 8th regular session holds ninth-day meeting

PAGE-2

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 58, 1st Waxing of First Waso 1380 ME www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com Wednesday, 13 June 2018

# Gov't eyes promoting tourism through PPP

## VP U Henry Van Thio attends Myanmar Tourism Conference 2018

Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the opening ceremony of the Myanmar Tourism Conference 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

PROMOTING tourism sector in Myanmar requires more cooperation through the Public-Private Partnership system between the government and the people, said Vice President U Henry Van Thio yesterday at the Myanmar Tourism Conference in Nay Pyi Taw.

He also urged all participants of the conference to make the best and most effective discussions to create a conducive enviroment for the travel sector in Myanmar.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Chairman of the Central Committee for the Development of the National Tourism Industry (CCDNTI), made the speech at the opening ceremony of the Myanmar Tourism Conference 2018.

The ceremony was attended by former President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin, union ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and wife, state/region ministers, departmental heads, diplomats, travel entities and officials.

He also expressed his hope that the national-level conference will support the implementation of the tourism sector development. The coordination meetings of CCDNTI were held twice last year.

> More efforts must be made to attract intra-ASEAN travellers to Myanmar ...

Experts gathered at the conference to explain tour destination management, travel products development, development of small and medium enterprises related to the travel business, travel business market strategy and tax matters, technology in travel business, investment opportunities in training to raise the quality of the travel occupation and the future of the sector.

"The round-table discussion and other discussions would find solutions on how to further develop each sector," said U Henry Van Thio.

The decisions based on the outcome of the discussions would be announced during the future work processes, he said.

He also called for conducting systematic and sustainable development of the travel business, a region-wise travel destination feasibility study, project proposal and brainstorming workshops need to be conducted with experts, relevant authorities and the local people. Long- and short-term projects were to be set and implemented continuously.

SEE PAGE-7

## Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe shares views on int'l peace, security, trade disputes at Future of Asia Forum in Japan

U KYAW TINT SWE, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, delivered a speech in accordance with this year's theme, "Keeping Asia Open- How to achieve prosperity and stability' on the second day of the Future of Asia Forum in Japan yesterday.

In his speech, the Union Minister said as the first ever elected democratic country, Myanmar has been actively involved in the peace and national reconciliation process as a first priority. Myanmar's economy has gradually increased in East Asia and Pacific region; statistically, the current growth rate of 6.7 per cent is expected to reach 7 per cent in 2018.

He also shared the views on international peace and security as well as trade disputes.

SEE PAGE-3

# 2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 8th regular session holds ninth-day meeting

AT the ninth-day meeting of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's eighth regular session held yesterday morning, the Hluttaw made a decision on the second amendment of the Public Servant Bill and Explosive Material Bill, and the Hluttaw representatives discussed the Revenue Appellate Tribunal Bill.

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

### Hluttaw decision on two bills

At the meeting, based on the bill committee's remarks, the decision of the Hluttaw on the second amendment of the Public Servant Bill, sent back with remarks from the President, and the Explosive Material Bill were obtained section by section, and the approval of the Hluttaw was announced.

### Discussion on Revenue Appellate Tribunal Bill

Next, the Revenue Appellate Tribunal Bill, sent by the union government, was discussed by the Hluttaw representatives.

Dr. Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency (11) discussed changing the name of the bill and U Myo Win of Mon State constituency (8) discussed setting the term of the tribunal to three years instead of five. The bill was also discussed by U Soe Thein @ U Maung Soe of Taninthayi Region constituency (10).

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker said the discussion on the bill included amendments and additions to the bills, and it would be more appropriate for the joint bill committee, and if necessary, joint public accounts committee, relevant union-level organisations and the Hluttaw representatives to coordinate and discuss to obtain better amendments.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker announced that if necessary, the bill committee would explain it further and the approval by section will be conducted in the forthcoming Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting.

### Discussion on National Education Policy Commission report

Later, a report on the work conducted by the National Education Policy Commission during the six-month period (2017 October to 2018 April) was discussed by Hluttaw representatives Dr. Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon constituency, Dr Hla Moe of Aungmyay Tharzan constituency, U Kyaw Naing of Yangon Region constituency (12), Dr. Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency, Dr. Than Win of Mandalay Region constituency (1), U Min Thein of Taungdwingyi constituency, U Sein Han of Kanma constituency, U Tin Tun Naing of Seikkyi Khanaungto constituency and Dr. Tin Tin Win of Bago Region constituency (5).—Myo Myint, Hmwe Kyu Zin (MNA) ■

# Second Kayah State Hluttaw's 10th regular session holds second-day meeting

THE second Kayah State Hluttaw's 10th regular session's second-day meeting was held yesterday morning at the Kayah State Hluttaw meeting hall. 95 per cent of the State Hluttaw representatives, including 14 state Hluttaw representatives, four Tatmadaw representatives, a Bama ethnic national representative, totalling 19 Hluttaw representatives attended the meeting.

At the meeting, the State Hluttaw Speaker U Hla Htwe put on record the matter of a Tatmadaw representative leave request made for the day's meeting after the Hluttaw approved it.

In the following question-and-answer session, the Hluttaw representatives raised questions on the plan against foreigners travelling illegally in Kayah State and the action planned against officials manning the inspection gates through which illegal teakwood is being transported.

State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col. Myint Wai replied to the questions. The questions on the rental fees of Skat Dumper bought by the state government in 2014 and a plan to construct Dawnoku-Dawtama Biluchuang River crossing bridge were answered by State Minister for Road, Communication and Electricity U Khin Maung Phyu. The questions on the state government's action over the demonstration against land confiscation held in Loikaw, Kayah State, on 23 April 2018, and the status of the goats, bought and raised by Kayah State fund, and the place from where the goats were purchased was answered by State Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Boss Ko.

A question on the plan to employ an additional specialist in Loikaw People's Hospital was answered by State Minister for Development and Social Affairs Dr. Aung Kyaw Htay. A question on the expenditures incurred under the state government rural development account heading was answered by State Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Teerei on behalf of the State Minister for Planning and Finance.

Next, the Kayah State budget was discussed by six Hluttaw representatives. Hluttaw representative U Aung Naing Oo of Meisei constituency (1) requested the discussion to be continued on the third-day meeting and State Hluttaw Speaker postponed the discussion to 15 June.

Later, the Hluttaw approved the appointment of Tatmadaw representative Maj. Myo Min Htat in place of Maj. Nay Htun, who has been transferred to the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vetting Committee.

The assigning of Tatmadaw representative Capt. Zaw Min Tun as an additional member to the legal study and advisory committee due to a requirement was submitted and approved by the state Hluttaw.

A legal study youth group with 37 persons visited the Hluttaw on a study tour, while the Hluttaw was in session. —Kayah State IPRD ■

# Writer apologises for false information in UEC article

IN the 17 May 2018 edition of the Bullet News Journal (Vol: 2 – No: 44), an article on page 15 with the title "Predictions for the 2018 By-elections, Bullet Hla Swe" written by U Hla Swe contained false information concerning the Union Election Commission (UEC).

U Hla Swe has given false information in the aforementioned article, such as stating that "the budget proposal of Ks1,600 million for the 2018 by-elections seemed to have an excess proposal for Ks616 million included in it"; "the Tatmadaw objected to an NLD member's inclusion in the UEC because the candidate did not have the necessary skills"; and "the UEC did not form an Election Dispute Tribunal to review an complaint letter submitted by the USDP and other 13 political parties".

The UEC called in U Hla Swe at the UEC office building yesterday. At the meeting, U Hla Swe apologised for the false information in his article.

An official apology from U Hla Swe will be included on page 15 of the 14 June 2018 (Thursday) edition of the Bullet News Journal as well.

U Hla Swe also guaranteed that he will not include false information concerning the UEC in the future. —Myanmar News Agency ■

# Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe shares views on int'l peace, security, trade disputes at Future of Asia Forum in Japan

FROM PAGE-1

The future of Asia lies on investing in peace, multilateral system and in protecting the rules-based multilateral trading system.

The Union Minister also responded to the questions raised by the moderator related to aspects of belt and road initiative, peace process, the cooperation between neighbouring countries, the ways and means of maintenance of the small and medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Myanmar to offset the adverse effects of foreign direct investment (FDI).

After the meeting, the Union Minister was interviewed by reporters from Nikkei Inc.

For the bilateral meetings, the working lunch and working dinner between Union Minister and the Mr. Ichiro Aisawa, Chairman of Parliamentary Friendship Union, and officials from Japan Parliament, Mr. Hideo Watanabe, Chairman of Japan Myanmar Association and high-ranking government officials were held.

During the informal meetings, both sides exchanged views on the perpetuation of Japan-Myanmar friendship, the on-going peace process, Myanmar's democratic transition and the latest developments in Rakhine State, cooperation between the two parliaments, development in other sectors such as economic, electricity and energy, sport, Official Development Assistance (ODA), and ways and means to raise the capability and efficiency of human resources.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe (third from left in the front role) poses for the documentary photo together with dignitaries at the working dinner in Japan. **PHOTO: MNA**

# Rakhine State Chief Minister inspects relief operations in Thandwe

RAKHINE State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu inspected the progress of relief operations in Thandwe Township yesterday, following the recent flashfloods in the area.

The chief minister, State Minister Dr. Chan Thar, and other officials met families residing in the Shwe Sandaw Taungchay religious community building temporarily in Thandwe and gave cash donations yesterday.

A total of 80 people from 21 households in Thandwe wards left their homes to seek shelter in the Shwe Sandaw religious community building.

The chief minister and his entourage then inspected the state of flooding along the Thandwe-Gwa road, Thandwe-Ngapali road, and Thandwe-Kinmaw road. They instructed officials responsible to take measures to prevent possible water-borne diseases and healthcare actions related to the floods.

Later, the chief minister and his entourage arrived at Shwe Andaw Pagoda religious community building in Thandwe and donated food and necessities to 160 people from 40 flood-stricken households residing there temporarily.

Military personnel from Thandwe garrison, police officers, firefighters, officials, and the local people are all working collectively to carry out relief and protection operations in the area. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu inspects damage caused by flooding in Thandwe Township yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

# Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe holds meeting with health officials in PyinOoLwin

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe held a meeting with the heads of state and region health departments in PyinOoLwin on 9 and 10 June to discuss swifter healthcare services and promotion of multi-level sector-wise interactions.

During the meeting, the union minister encouraged the participants to discuss any difficulties or restrictions they may face in their work and asked them to share their opinions and advice.

He explained the main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the delegation of more authority to state and region departments concerning their administration, management, staff affairs and finance.

The union minister said the state and region health departments are extensions of the ministry and thus require more support and aid to effectively carry out their tasks.

The ministry will promote health education and update school health and regulations, will remove obsolete practices, promote relations between healthcare providers and patients and their families, open people-centered clinics, eradicate non-infectious diseases, open mobile medical units with basic healthcare providers, and reform the state and region healthcare training teams.

This was followed by officials explaining their policies, progress reports, staff affairs, management, finance, and the establishment processes. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe at the meeting with the heads of state and region health departments in Pyin Oo Lwin. **PHOTO: MNA**

# Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated patrols

FOLLOWING coordination between the two countries, the Myanmar Border Police and the Bangladesh Border Police forces conducted coordinated patrols along the respective sides of the border.

Security forces from the two countries conducted coordinated ground patrol from border posts 41 to 42 on 27 May, from border posts 42 to 43 and from border posts 31 to 34 on 10 June, and from border posts 43 to 44 on 11 June. A total of 40 coordinated ground patrols were conducted. The coordinated ground patrols were conducted 14 times in February, seven times in March, 16 times in May and three times in June. A coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River was also conducted four times. — MNA ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

**ACTING CHIEF EDITOR**
Aye Min Soe,
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

**EXPATRIATE CONSULTANT EDITOR**
Mark Angeles,
markrangeles@gmail .com

**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**
Kyaw Myaing

**SENIOR TRANSLATORS**
Zaw Min,
zawmin.gnlm@gmail.com
Win Ko Ko Aung,
kowink2aung@gmail.com

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**
Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**
Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

**TRANSLATORS**
Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun

**REPORTER**
May Thet Hnin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
mayreporter.mm@gmail.com

**PHOTOGRAPHER**
Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

**COMPUTER TEAM**
Tun Zaw ,
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin

**EDITORIAL SECTION**
(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305

**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**
San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**
( +95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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.

**gnlmdaily@gmail.com**
**www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**
**www.facebook.com/globalnewlightofmyanmar**

MYANMAR DigitalNews
www.mdn.gov.mm

## Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email **ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com** with your name and title.

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.

# Myanma Port Authority advises safe distance between two piers of Yangon-Dala Bridge

By May Thet Hnin

MYANMA Port Authority is not opposed to the Yangon-Dala Bridge construction project, but has just requested the extension of the middle piers for the safety of vessel manoeuvring: U Ni Aung, Managing Director of Myanma Port Authority

The architectural design of Yangon-Dala friendship bridge between Myanmar and South Korea. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

The Myanma Port Authority has requested the construction ministry to keep a safe distance between the two piers in the middle of Yangon-Dala Bridge to avoid a possible ship collision and other accidents.

"The proposed location of the bridge construction area is close to the confluence of the three rivers, and so, it is vulnerable to collision. This being so, we have asked the ministry to widen the gap between the two piers and to keep them close to each bank. This does not mean we object to the bridge construction. We suggested this to the Ministry of Construction to facilitate port handling," said U Ni Aung, Managing Director of Myanma Port Authority.

The Bridge Management Department under the Ministry of Construction has been conducting a feasibility study since the 2012-2013 fiscal year, together with Top Engineering Consultant International Co. Ltd, South Korea's EXIM Bank, and Sumbo Engineering Group. Since then, the Myanma Port Authority also participated in the discussion. According to suggestions given by the Myanma Port Authority between the 2012-2013 FY and the 2015-2016 FY, a cable-stayed bridge having a height of 60 metres should be constructed. A through arch bridge without piers might be preferable upon conditions.

The Ministry of Construction responded that the bridge-tunnel will maximise the cost. If the bridge height is 60 metres, it would be steep, and not ensure traffic safety.

The multi-stakeholders in the project agreed to set a height of 49 metres. Currently, the distance between the two piers is only 251 metres. A series of discussions are being made regarding the distance between the piers.

The construction of the bridge will help enhance the socio-economy of the regions. Ports have been playing a vital role to facilitate the export/import businesses. The degrading of the Yangon river navigation channel and enhancing of the port facility and activity will also enhance the country's export sector.

About 60 ships, including 15 container ships, might pass under the bridge every day. Therefore, it is vulnerable to ship collision, said U Ni Aung.

The proposed location of the bridge construction is near Twantay canal, which sees many types of ships such as general cargo vessels, container vessels, coastal ships, inland water barges, and fishing boats, among others. It is prone to collision.

"We requested the authorities to consider the possibilities of collision prior to the completion of the bridge construction. We will also take prevention and precautionary measures if the project is implemented according to the initial plan," said U Ni Aung.

The Myanma Port Authority has planned to procure an additional nine 5,000-HP-tug boats to ensure the safe manoeuvring of the vessels along the Yangon river. Currently, they have been assisting the vessels with five tug boats with moderate engine power.

The Yangon-Dala Bridge is a friendship bridge between Myanmar and Republic of Korea. The project kicked off in February 2016 and is slated to be completed in 2020. The ground clearing work is underway. The demolishing of the project area, compensation to the landlords and the rehabilitation works are being carried out.

The four-lane bridge will be 1,900 feet long. It is funded by the South Korea and Myanmar governments, bringing in over US$137 million by South Korea and over $30 million by Myanmar's government. ■

# Digital marketing competition to be held on 20 Aug

DIGITAL marketing for a digital entrepreneur competition will be held on 20 August in Yangon.

The competition will be held jointly by Thailand-based Kasikorn Bank (KBank), Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises Development Central Department, operating under the Ministry of Industry, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), Renaissance Institute and the University of Thai Chamber and Commerce.

With the development of digital and mobile technology in Myanmar, digital marketing, which is part of marketing, is important not only for the digital marketing service businesses but also other businesses.

"I don't want people to think digital marketing is only related to young people and not with start-up businesses," said Dr. Aung Thein, chairman of the SME and SMI development committee under the UMFCCI.

The digital marketing for digital entrepreneur competition will be held with the aim to develop digital marketing professionals for Myanmar businessmen, especially SMEs, innovative entrepreneurs and those who want to be businessmen. The first prize winners will be awarded US$10,000 from KBank, while the first, second and third prize winners will be allowed to undertake business matching trips to Thailand.

Before the competition, they will undergo a digital marketing and drawing business plan training course on 29 June. The training course will include the following topics: What is digital marketing in digital era? Ideation, design thinking steps and step zero; hitting success with the business model canvas; marketing a perfect pitch; seeking funds to run a business; and fast-track entrepreneur: experience sharing by Thai and Myanmar SMEs.

Anyone can participate in the competition. Those who want to participate can register with the University of Thai Chamber of Commerce email: kbankbizplan@uttcc.ac.th and KBank Yangon Representative Office email: kbankyangon@gmail.com between 19 June and 20 July.—GNLM ■

# MFF to submit complaint of illegal bran, unpurified rice exports

May Thet Hnin

THE Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) will submit a complaint about illegal bran and unpurified rice exports after compiling the facts, said U Win Kyaing, secretary of MFF.

Bran, paddy and unpurified rice are not allowed to be exported but illegitimate exports have been reported in the market. This being so, the MFF is investigating illegal trade, after compiling the lists. "Unpurified rice includes bran. Some export a mixture of husk and bran to China," said U Win Kyaing.

"Region and state fisheries federations are inspecting this, and they have been asked to submit the complaints not later than 21 June to the MFF," he maintained.

Last year, it was reported that China had purchased paddy, and MFF submitted this case to the government. The commerce ministry responded by taking action against the exporters.

By-products such as husk, bran, broken rice, sesame oil cake and soybean cake, among others, can be used as aquatic feedstuff for the fish farming industry. China's purchase results in shortage and high price of the feed, said Dr Thet Hmu from the Myanmar Aqua Feed Association.

"Agro by-products play a crucial role in the livestock industry. It can harm livestock businessmen. As a consequence, prices will soar. It will also affect the consumers. Therefore, we urge the union and the regional governments to ensure law-enforcement in this case," said U Win Kyaing.

The MFF has already submitted a report to the Myanmar Livestock Federation (MLF). They will team up with the MLF to compile the complaints. ■

Chin State Chief Minister Salai Lian Lwal poses for the photo together with attendees of the workshop on promoting invesment held in Haka on 11 and 12 June. **PHOTO: HAKA DISTRICT IPRD**

# Chin State gov't seeks ways to promote investment

The Chin State government has urged various departments to explore possible sectors for investment in the state and to draw strategies to attract investment to the state. In his opening address during the two-day workshop on promoting the investment sector in Chin State held in Haka on 11 June, Chin State Chief Minister Salai Lian Lwal said the government would explore investment opportunities in the state and would establish business zones.

The workshop was jointly conducted by Chin State Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration, DaNA Facility. Haka in Chin State owned the prospects to build a 5,000-tonne cement plant, according to the survey carried out from 17 October 2017 to 31 March 2018. The cement plant, which is expected to produce 5,000 tonnes per day, can benefit not only Chin State but also the nearby Magway and Sagaing regions by cutting down transport costs, as they currently have to transport cement from far away regions in Myaingkalay in Kayin State and Kyaukse in the Mandalay Region. The limestone mountain has an area of 36.8 square kilometres and houses 511.13 million tonnes of limestone.

During his visit in May, Vice President U Henry Van Thio urged the local authorities to pay attention to minimising the environmental impacts when the factory is established.

He also urged the local authorities to promote community-based tourism businesses and the agricultural sector, as the agricultural products of Chin State are free of chemicals.

The coffee from Chin State is of 96 grade, while the world's top grade and special grade coffees from Pyin Oo Lwin, Ywangan and Thandaung areas are of 84 to 86 grade.—Haka District IPRD ■

# Lack of land in Yangon Region prevents opening of public car trade centre

YANGON Region Minister for Development Affairs U Maung Maung Soe has announced that there is not enough land within the Yangon Region to construct a public car trade centre. This was part of the minister's response to questions raised by U Hla Htay of Mingalar Taungnyunt constituency (1) and U Kyaw Kyaw Tun of Hline constituency (1) during the Yangon Region Hluttaw meeting yesterday.

The minister said that currently the Hline car trade centre and the Thanthumar car trade centre are open, housing 1,200 and 150 cars respectively. He said trade is ongoing and the car dealership sector is developing, with dealers trading 20-30 cars at any given time.

The minister replied by once again stating that there was currently no plan whatsoever to construct a public car trade centre but said that if the public needed one, then the Yangon City Development Committee and ministries concerned would discuss alternative plans.

There are currently 151 car showrooms, with a licence to store vehicles, within Yangon city's boundary. —Htin Paw Win (Kamayut) ■

# The Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State

## Report to the People on the Progress of the Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State (January to April 2018)

(CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY)

Procedures for application of business licenses were simplified to promote trade. Authorities have reduced paperwork requirements for international trade - with only 3 supporting documents now being required for export license instead of 9 documents previously, and only 3 supporting documents for import licenses instead of 11. Company registration fees were also reduced from 500,000 MMK to 250,000 MMK starting from April 1, 2018.

Automatic meteorological instruments were installed in 12 townships - 10 township agricultural departments and 2 townships hosting Danyawaddi naval base in Rakhine State, as a part of the Disaster Risk Management Project for improved climate resilience and early warning of natural disasters, funded by the World Bank. Additionally, 4 earthquake measuring instruments were also installed in four townships of Rakhine State.

Works such as natural cross-breeding of trees and forests on 525 acres across 7 townships, establishment of 300 acres of commercial ironwood plantation, repair of forest roads for 20 miles, preparation of forest reserve boundaries for 90 miles, preparation of plot boundaries for 80 miles, fire prevention for 1,190 acres of forest, expansion of reserve/protected forest area for 602.5 square miles, and 3 skill trainings with 168 participants for trees and forest conservation were also implemented for improved environmental conservation and climate change adaptation.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, the Rakhine State Government is constructing one 500-ton silo for long term dry-storage of paddy; and this work is now 93% completed.

Seed production plantations were also established across Rakhine State including 55 acres of summer paddy, 20 acres of winter peanuts, 50 acres of winter green grams, 2,500 acres of pure variety wet-season paddy, 1,115 acres of peanut zone and 1,060 acres of green gram zone. Additionally, 330 acres of wet-season paddy, 95 acres of green gram, 350 acres of peanut, 20 acres of rubber, 50 acres of cashew nut and 10 acres of sugar cane were also established as model farms across the townships. Research plots were also established for agricultural research including 3 green gram plots, 2 peanut plots and 5 plots for summer paddy cultivation techniques.

Construction of one auxiliary spillway, 2 check dams and 1 creek dam were completed for improved irrigation systems. Construction works for 9 floodgates, 10 check dams, 2 embankments for prevention of saline water intrusion, 4 embankments for freshwater, 1 reservoir and 5 creek dams, as well as upgrade of 9 embankments are currently in progress.

### Citizenship

In this reporting period, a total of 339 people - 87 people that attained 10 years of age and 252 that attained 18 years of age - received their Citizenship Scrutinization Cards, of all the persons who applied to the Central Governing Body for the decisions as to his/her citizenship status in accordance with the Section 65 of 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law. Those who received Citizenship Scrutinization Cards are entitled to enjoy the rights of a citizen prescribed by the laws of the land, in accordance with section 12 of the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law.

Efforts were put in to speed up the national verification process in accordance with the existing laws and regulations. During this reporting period, NV cards issuance alongside with biometric data collection were done for 379 people in Shwezar Village Tract, Myoma (1 Ward and Myoma South Ward of Maungdaw Township, and 1,907 people in Aung Mingalar Ward, Thetkaepyin and Thae Chaung Village of Sittwe Township. As NV Card is the basis for the national verification process, this process was scaled up in Thetkaepyin and Gaungdoteka IDP Camps in Sittwe and Nidin IDP Camp in Kyauktaw as main pilot areas. Arrangements are currently made for NV Card applicants to simultaneously apply for the citizenship scrutinization process.

The timeframe for completing the procedures of national verification process starting from the date of filing the application till issuance of an appropriate type of certificate/card is now set as 5 months.

Applicants who are denied from citizenship can appeal to the Union Cabinet, in accordance with Section 70 (a) of the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law. And the Section 70 (b) of the law prescribes the decision of the Cabinet as final. During this reporting period, three persons who were dissatisfied with the decision of the Central Body and appealed to the Cabinet were granted citizenship by the Cabinet decision after review of the cases again. Although a person is not deemed as a citizen, s/he can live in the country by holding NV cards and following the rules and regulations set out by the State if his/her residency in Myanmar can be verified. Regulations for permanent residency is also now enacted for foreigners who reside permanently in Myanmar.

Leaflets that outline the national verification process and encouraging Muslim communities to cooperate in the process were also distributed between 1 January 2018 and 31 March 2018, as part of public awareness campaigns to revitalize the verification process in Sittwe, Mrauk-U, Ponnagyun, Minbya, Kyauktaw and Maungdaw Townships.

Departmental investigations are carried out for complaints against the verification process, and actions are taken as appropriate if these complaints are verified. Additionally, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the Anti-Corruption Commission also investigate complaints that they receive, and actions are taken in accordance with the laws and prescribed procedures.

### Freedom of Movement

A road map with a timeline and important milestones is currently being implemented to ensure that all people in Rakhine State - regardless of religion, race and citizenship status - enjoy freedom of movement that will bolster socio-economic opportunities, in accordance with the existing laws, rules and regulations. As a result, people holding NV Cards can now enjoy freedom of movement in Maungdaw District. Discussions and coordination among relevant departments and agencies were also held to analyze and remove restrictions on movement as required. During the reporting period, there were 58 people (31 males and 27 females) who travelled out of Rakhine State to Yangon with temporary travel authorization certificate (Form - 4). Discussions to raise awareness with on procedures and regulations governing the movements were also held in Aung Mingalar Ward and Thekaepyin IDP Camp in Sittwe on 04/03/2018 and 05/03/2018 and in Budthidaung and Maungdaw Townships on 27/03/2018 and 28/03/2018, with an aim to contribute towards peace and stability of the Rakhine state through increased interrelations and movements among the communities in State.

No (1) Border Guard Police Command Centre of the Myanmar Police Force, Ministry of Home Affairs is also implementing a security protocol to enable the locals travel freely and safely.

Additionally, a workshop with Rakhine State Government officials, MPs, officials from relevant government departments, and representatives of ethnic minorities - Mro, Khami, Daing Net or Chakkama, Chin (Asho Chin, Laizao Chin, Zhotung Chin, Lawhtu Chin), Maramargyi, Kaman etc. was held at Khaine Thazin Hall, Sittwe, Rakhine State on April 7, 2018, to review any laws and local orders that restrict the rights and freedom of ethnic minorities. It was learnt that the representatives of ethnic minorities attending the workshop were quite satisfied with the workshop proceedings.

### Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Plans are in place to organize a workshop with relevant government officials on 2 June 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw, for developing a 'National Strategy for Closure of IDP Camps in Myanmar' that will outline camp closure processes and timelines. Efforts are also taken to close the IDP camps in Rakhine State the soonest possible, and to promote a peaceful and stable social environment. 50 units of low-cost housing were constructed as a first step for the closure of Taungpaw IDP Camp in Myaypon Township, to which some IDPs were resettled. Another 50 units of housing are currently under construction, as well as other necessary infrastructures like roads and bridges.

Consultations for camp closures were also held with the people living in the IDP camps; and arrangements are currently in progress for resettlement of these IDPs. These consultations took place in Nidin IDP Camp in Kyauktaw on April 4 and 5, 2018, in Thetkaepyin IDP Camp in Sittwe on March 3, 2018, and in Gaungdoteka IDP Camp (1) and (2) on April 6, 2018.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

# Gov't eyes promoting tourism through PPP

FROM PAGE-1

Citing the example of the ASEAN region travel business development, he noted that international tourist arrivals to the ASEAN region were 115 million in 2016 and 125 million in 2017. There was an 8.4 per cent increase from 2016 to 2017.

Of the arrivals, up to 42 per cent was intra-ASEAN travel. Therefore, more efforts must be made to attract intra-ASEAN travellers to Myanmar, said the vice president.

Among the eastern countries, tourists from China, Japan, South Korea and Thailand make up for the top arrivals in Myanmar, while from the west, the top countries were the United States, France, Britain and Germany. "We now need to target the countries with the largest numbers," he said.

Participation in international travel events plays an important role. Having sufficient funds to participate in such events is also a requirement. As the government was developing all the sectors, it had difficulties in allocating sufficient funds for the travel sector development. The private sector was urged to cooperate and coordinate among themselves for the development of the travel sector.

All the countries in the world were making arrangements to make it easier for visitors to visit their countries through ports, airports, and over the land border by relaxing visa requirements such as reducing visa fees or permitting visa-free entry. At the moment, the entry from European countries was not substanital, but an arrangement to relax the visa requirements to increase visitors from the ASEAN+3 countries of Japan, China and Republic of Korea is being made.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio and former President U Htin Kyaw visit the booth displaying travel documentary photos at the Myanmar Tourism Conference 2018. **PHOTO: MNA**

More market promotions must be conducted and international advertisements need to be made for the world to know the country as a travel destination. On the other hand, our hotel and transport rate should not be above the international rates and the service provided should be value-for-money to the visitors.

It was important to have regular visitors and raise the quality of the travel destinations. When new travel destinations were being created, care should be taken to retain our culture and natural resources. When there were more destinations that were attractive and offer much to study and visit, more people would come, stay longer and spend more, he said.

A sustainable travel business was a lucrative business and care should be taken to maintain the peace and stability in the country, as well as the safety of the international travellers. If safety and security were prioritized, it would hinder development, and if the business is prioritized, unnecessary problems could occur. Therefore, arrangements needed to be made and implemented to ensure a balanced development, he stated. All were urged to discuss openly and suggest systematic and realistic programmes for the development of the Myanmar travel destination, and for international and local visitors to visit the country in a better and enjoyable way.

Next, Vice President U Henry Van Thio was presented with a Myanmar Tourism Conference 2018 commemorative gift by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung.

Later, U Henry Van Thio took commemorative group photographs with former President U Htin Kyaw and wife and the attendees at the ceremony.

Following this, the vice president and his delegation viewed travel photographs displayed in international tourism events.

Next, the Myanmar tourism Conference 2018 programmes were continued. The conference was held with the aim to include travel business in the priority economic policy of the state, to showcase the importance of the travel sector, raise and maintain the image of Myanmar, maintain the culture and traditions of the ethnic nationals in the states, protect and conserve the natural environment and share the opportunities in the travel sector with the people. —Myanmar News Agency ■

# NWRC headquarters, Hydro-Informatics Centre to be constructed with World Bank loan

May Thet Hnin

THE National Water Resources Committee (NWRC) headquarters and Hydro-Informatics Centre will be constructed with a loan from the World Bank, said Dr. Khin Ni Ni Thein, secretary of the NWRC advisory team.

The NWRC has already borrowed US$10 million from the World Bank to construct the headquarters and the centre. It is planning to implement the project next year and has already invited tenders to implement the project, with Nippon Koei Company winning the tender. The company is in the process of drawing the design for the construction project.

The four-storey building will be constructed on a 1.05-acre plot on Pyidaungsu Kyaung road, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region. The NWRC headquarters will be opened on the top floor, while the Hydro-Informatics Centre will be housed on the second floor.

The NWRC advisory team office will be on the third floor, while the science museum will be opened on the bottom floor, she added.

The Hydro-Informatics Centre will scientifically calculate water-related disasters after studying the data document. Moreover, the centre will draw a plan for the development of the Ayeyawady river basin and will also train water-related experts.

The NWRC was established by the previous government but was abolished in March 2013. It was re-formed by Vice President U Henry Van Thio, in his capacity as chairman of the NWRC.

The NWRC usually holds a meeting twice a month with 26 advisors, and they discuss enacting the water law. They are conducing a sustainable water resources management programme. ■

# Refresher course for media personnel opens in Kunming

THE first refresher course for media officers and journalists from Mekong region countries was held yesterday at the meeting hall of Yunnan Daily Press Group in Kunming City, Yunnan Province in China.

Director of the Information Office of the Yunnan Provincial Government Li Qian delivered the opening remarks at the ceremony, while Chief Editor of Yunnan Daily Press Group Yang Run delivered a greeting speech.

On behalf of the media staff and journalists, Deputy Director-General from the Ministry of Information (Cambodia) expressed the words of thanks. President of Yunnan Daily Press Group Xu Tiyi then explained the background of Yunnan Daily, difficulties and challenges faced by the media sector and media sector development.

He also discussed and explained the role of the Yunnan Daily and the role of the media in the Mekong region countries. In the afternoon, Editor of Yunnan Daily Zhuang Ruogu discussed and explained online media development in China and challenges of future media, whereas Photo Editor of Yunnan Daily Li Wenjun explained taking photos with mobile phones, video recording, interviewing, recording and taking photos with drones.

Cambodia, Laos and Thailand each sent four media personnel, while Myanmar sent three media personnel to attend the refresher course.—A1 Soe, Myo Thu Hein ■

13 JUNE 2018
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR


# Everyone should understand complexity of Rakhine issue

THE Union Government's firm conviction is that issues of border security and the rule of law between two neighbours can be solved bilaterally in an amicable manner.

The Rakhine issue is complicated; it is not right for the international community to intervene in this issue.

Therefore, the Union Government has dissociated itself from the UN resolutions last year to send a fact-finding mission to investigate the allegations of human rights abuses in Rakhine State. The resolution is not in keeping with the needs of both communities in Rakhine State.

We do not feel it was in keeping with the needs of the region in which the government is trying to establish harmony and understanding, as well as remove the fears that have kept the two communities apart for so long. It is also not in accordance with the situation on the ground and the national circumstances.

> Very few people outside Myanmar are aware of all the historical issues that are involved. Meanwhile, we would like to urge our people in Myanmar to understand what's going on and the government's actions.

The Myanmar government is dealing with human rights issues, particularly, by investigating the complaints of rights violations.

From the beginning, the government has taken the most cautious approach to deal with the issues in Rakhine State, and prevent unnecessary accusations of human rights violations by the international community.

We cannot resolve a problem that has been existing for such a long time overnight. The incumbent government, which took office just two years ago, needs more time.

We realise that the animosity, distrust, fear and hate in Rakhine were rooted in the fact that it is a region where there is very little prosperity and little security. Therefore, the Union Government formed the committee for the rule of law and development in Rakhine.

Since then, the government has been looking for long-term solutions to the complex issues in Rakhine State. Very few people outside Myanmar are aware of all the historical issues that are involved. Meanwhile, we would like to urge our people in Myanmar to understand what's going on and the government's actions. Every individual needs to understand the meaning of human rights. Every country is faced with human rights issues. In dealing with human rights issues, the government alone cannot solve this issue. It also requires the cooperation of our people. We are the ones who must in the long run to preserve the stability and security of our country.

## 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 Maung Hlaing

# Nand I Newspapers

Although my parents were uneduated, they could instil a habit of reading, or a good hobby of reading in me. Due to the dire consequences of the war, they had no access to formal education. However, thanks to the endeavours made by the Buddhist monks, they knew Three Rs--Reading, Writing and Reckoning. In other words, they were able to pursue monastic education--what we call vocational education in Ba-Ka schools today.

Despite the lack of (modern) formal education, the monastic education system inspired their enthusiasm to read a lot. My father had keen interest in reading newspapers which were out of reach for the rural people in those days. As for my mother, she took happiness in reading literary works of fiction written by Maha Swe, P.Moe Nin, and other famous writers. In this way, I think, my fervant wish to read books, periodicals and newspapers took root since the early days of my childhood.

As the dailies hardly reached our small town of Wakema, we had to read the old newspapers brought by those who came from the city of Rangoon (Yangon). I could remember that the paper we mostly read was "the Rangoon Daily" which was published in November, 1946 but the publishing ceased in June, 1972. Although we intermittently read the paper, it could widen our horizon to know what was going on in the world.

When I passed the 3rd. Standard of the monastic education, I moved to Yangon where I was brought up by my uncle who earned his living by working as a tinsmith. He was uneducated too but he read a lot. He was a subscriber to a daily known as the "Kyae-ni-Daily", or the "Red Star Daily", an evening paper. We had to pay only ten pyas per copy. All the news stories, articles some of which were witty and satirical, novels in series and advertisements were so attractive that we could not help waiting for the next issue. At that time, I was only nine years old and the Kyae-ni Daily became my heartthrob.

As a matter of fact, no one can deny the fact that a newspaper is nothing but a "Mirror of an epoch". Besides, it is figuratively designated as a mouthpiece of a government or a people.

The dailies are the portals providing the people with health, educational and other important information released by the government. And in similar vein, they are the platforms where the voices of the people can be heard and desires of the people can be conveyed to the government.

According to the World Book Encyclopedia (N.O), hand written newssheets posted in public places were probably the first newspapers. The earliest known daily newssheet was Acta Diurna (Daily Events), which started in Rome in 59B.C. The world's first printed newspaper was a Chinese circular called Dibao (Ti-pao). The Chinese bagan printing Dibao (Ti-pao) from carved wooden blocks during the A.D.700's.

According to the records, the first newspaper in Myanmar was published in English. It was the Moulmain Chronicle which was published on 3 March, 1836 in Mawlamyine. In the time of Myanmar monarchs, the Yadanarbon Nay-pyi-taw newspaper was published with the guidance of Myanmar king. It was published on 22 April, 1874 in Mandalay in the reign of King Mindon of the late Konbaung Dynasty. The emergence of the old paper the Moulmain Chronicle was followed by so many newspapers--"Myanmar Thandaw Sint" in 1869, "Myanmar Thadin-sar" in 1872, "Lawki Thuta Pyinnya" published by the British Government in 1873, "Myanamr Ah-swe" in 1865, "Zabu Kyet-tha-yay" in 1895, "Taing-lone Zabu" in 1895, "Hanthawady" in 1897 and "Maha Bodhi" in 1902 respectively.

World War I (WWI) broke out between 1914 and 1918. Before the WWI, the youth members of YMBA (Young Men Buddhist Association) published "Thuria" newspaper on 4 July, 1911. "Myanma Alin" newspaper was published even in the year of 1914 when WWI began to break out.

The publishing of the newspapers did not cease even in the period of WWII. These papers were "Bama Khit", "Myanma Alin", "Thuria" "Dawei Daily", "Kambawza" "Greater Asia", "Mandalay Thuria" and "Taing Chit".

During the post-war period and independence period, newspapers were published in Myanmar, English, Chinese, Indian and even in the ethnic languages. The regions where the newspapers were published were Mawlamyine, Mandalay, Dawei, Yangon, Thonze, Sittway, and Pakokku. However, most of the papers were published and distributed in Yangon and Mandalay. Besides, newpapers for youths, students and children have been published as well. The "Lu-ngae-Let-yone" came out on 7 April, 1939. The editor was Myoma Than and the motto was "Do things and give up your life for the nation".

On 18 January, 1940, editor Daw Ma Ma Khin published the "Kyaung Thar", (the Student) newspaper. After regaining independence, "Kalay Thadin-sar" (the Children's Newspaper) emerged with the motto of "For Ko Khway and Ma Khway who will create the future Burma".

In the time of Burma Socialist Programme Party (Government), we had two English dailies: The Working People's Daily and the Guardian and the four Myanmar dailies: Lokethar Pyithu Nayzin, Kyaymon, Botataung, Myanma Alin and Hanthawady. The editiorials and articles had to contribute only to the government policies and reading public became fed up with stereotyped news stories and articles.

Times have elapsed. Reforms that have taken shape after the democratic government came to power include the repeal of censorship on the press, permission for the publication of dailies, and the formation of literary associations. As a result, we can now enjoy reading of various kinds of newspapers including privately owned newspapers and State-run papers.

According to the Mirror Daily (Kyemon) issue on 30-3-2018, we've come to know that the Ministry of Information has already permitted to publish 44 papers--37 privately owned newspapers and 7 departmental newspapers. The seven departmental papers are Mandalay Daily, Yadanarbon, the City, Myanma Alin, Colourful Myawady, the Mirror Daily and the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Among the privately owned newspapers, 4 papers--The Straits Times, New York Times, Myanmar Times and China Daily-are published in English. The Myanmar newspapers being published are the Standand Time, Khit Thit, Democracy Today, 7 Day Daily, Daily Eleven, the Voice Daily, Pyidaungsu Daily, Myanamr Times, Myanmar Thandaw Sint, the Vitoria, and evening paper. Besides, there are newspapers and journals being published in ethnic languages such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine. Shan and Ta-ang (Palaung).

Today, all three State-run dailies in parallel with the privately owned papers are gradually changing in form and substance appearing in a new look and style with a large number of interesting stories. They all are trying their best to be more considerate of the readers' satisfaction while serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

As for the State-run papers, they really are the bridges between the government and the people, concentrating on the things the government would like to inform the people. On the contrary, privately owned papers serve as a mouthpiece for the people. Actually, newspapers have a crucial role in the media industry and are regarded as the fourth pillar in many countries. They are also responsible for serving as a means of communication with the general public, known as the Fifth Pillar.

According to the ups-and-downs of life of media industry, high operating expenses have driven many newspapers out of business. Financial problems have hit hardest at some newspapers, which face special distribution problems as well as increasing competition from electronic media.

In this knowledge age or modern age, we cannot stay away from the papers. They have become so much a part of our lives that reading the papers is the first thing many people do after getting out of bed in the morning. We grab for the papers even before our eyes are fully opened. If there were no newspapers, we would have no way to know more about the developments in the world.

May existing papers be prosperous!

New papers are cordially welcome!

(Note: Names of the newspapers mentioned in this article are transliterated.)

Ref: 1. မြန်မာ့စွယ်စုံကျမ်း၊ အတွဲ -၁၂

2. The World Book Encyclopedia (N.O)

3. စာနယ်ဇင်းနှင့် ခေတ်ကြေးမုံ (1983)

# Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 12th June, 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 13th JUNE, 2018: Rain will be widespread in the whole country with regionally heavy falls in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Southern Shan, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (10 - 15) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong to vigorous monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13th JUNE, 2018: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13th JUNE, 2018: Intermittent rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13th JUNE, 2018: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

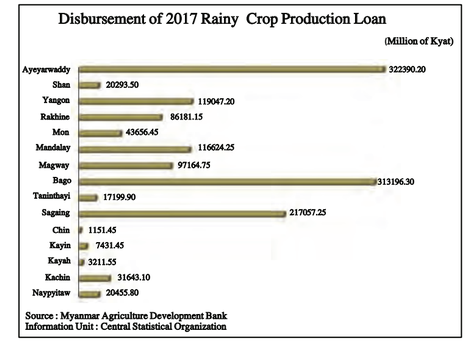
## Monsoon vigorous over Andaman Sea, Bay of Bengal

The monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, according to the Myanmar Daily weather report issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology yesterday.

The forecast for Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and the neighbouring areas for today is some rain, and the degree of certainty is 100 per cent, whereas for Yangon and the neighbouring areas it is intermittent rain, which may be heavy at times, and the degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar coast.

The surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 m.p.h. The wave height will be some 10-15 feet off and along Myanmar's coast.—GNLM ■



# Aid reaches flood victims in regions, states

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement has been providing assistance and support together with the relevant ministries, state/region natural disaster management groups, and regional civil society organisations to those affected by the flooding and inundation occurring recently.

On 11 June in Magway Region, Pwintbyu Township, Chinkon village, a house belonging to a family of six was damaged after an uprooted tree fell on it. A Yepotegyi villager was swept away by the water and died. Due to the rising Mann creek, six houses in No. 3 Ward, Saku Town, Minbu Township, were swept away and 18 people from six households faced difficulties, while a child was swept away and drowned. In Sissno village, Minhla Township, a person was swept away and died while crossing the Sissno creek. Yesterday, over 1,800 houses in 32 villages of 18 village tracts in Kanma Township were inundated. Nine houses were swept away and 2,353 persons from 681 households in 664 houses were temporarily moved to a safe place.

Staffs from Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provide aid to local affected by flooding. **PHOTO: MNA**

Similarly, on 11 June in Ayeyawady Region, Kyangin Township, Batye town, more than 600 houses in two low-lying wards were inundated with water and 305 persons from 123 households were temporarily relocated to monasteries, schools and other places.

The remaining people were moved to the nearby houses of their relatives. Near Inkauk Village between mileposts 5/3 and 5/5 of Kyangin-Batye road, water rose up to 2.5 feet and due to water erosion of Yethaya Creek, a house collapsed and a family of three was moved to their relative's house, it is learnt.

On 11 June in Sagaing Region, Tamu Township, Zaytan Ward No. 9, due to water in-flow, two households with five persons were moved to a safe place. The rising Nanpalaw Creek caused the temporary disruption of river crossing over the Nanpalaw bridge in Ward No. 13, Tamu Township. In Bago Region, due to heavy rain, water flowed into 1,400 houses in seven wards of Paungde Towship and 110 houses in Thaphanseik Village. A 7-foot-high, 350-foot-long wall of a high school beside the Yangon-Pyay road collapsed. Water overflowed onto the Yangon-Pyay road. In Rakhine State, Thandwe Town, four low-lying wards, Nyaungpinkwin Village and Maungswe Village were under 4 feet of water. There was a slight overflow of water onto the Thandwe-Gwa road near Nyaungpinkwin Village. Due to the inflow of water from Thandwe River, 79 persons from 21 households were evacuated and temporarily moved to the Shwesandaw congregation hall.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is providing relief supplies, food and construction material to the affected people and support to the remaining family members of those who died in the flooding and inundation. Cash and supplies worth a total of Ks1,911,871 have been provided to the affected people in Magway Region's Pwintbyu, Minbu and Minhla townships. — Myanmar News Agency ■

# Local government bans noisy exhaust pipes in Myeik

IN order to calm citizens, and to maintain the serenity of city's environment, officials from the Township Development Committee took disciplinary action against owners of motorcycle spare parts shops and cycle repair shops not to sell and not to install noisy exhaust-pipes yesterday morning.

Those who break the law (Section-60) of the Tanintharyari Region's Municipal Law will have judicial action taken against them according to Section-72 of the law.

If violators are convicted they may be fined sixty thousand to six hundred thousand kyats or face a two-year imprisonment sentence or both of these actions, said chairman of Township Development Committee U Myat Ko Ko.

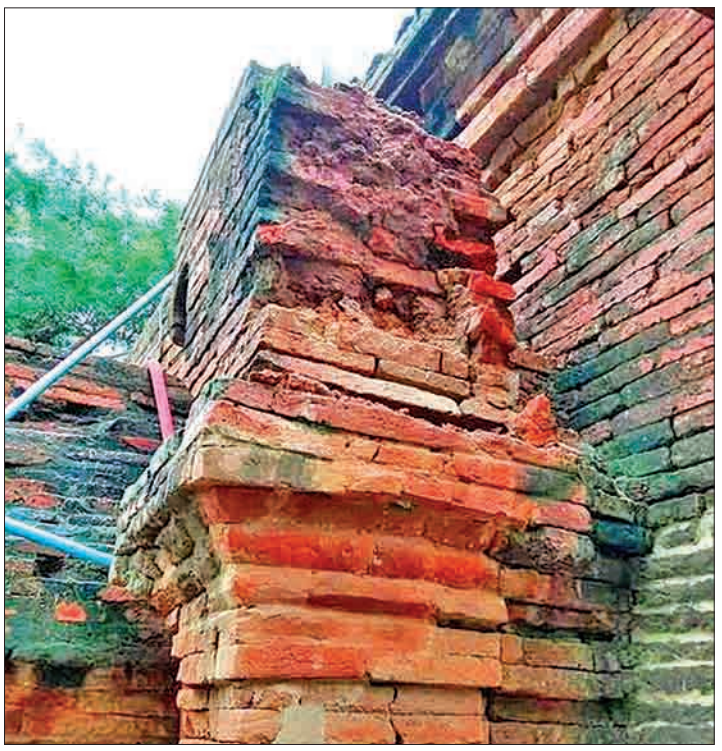
At the meeting, officials from the Township Development Committee and governmental officials discussed laws, rules and regulations regarding motor vehicles in the city to owners of motorbike repair shops and shops owners who sell spare bike parts, attendees also participated in a Q&A session.—Khaing Htoo (IPRD)/ MDN ■

# Flood flattens houses, one child dead

Houses were destroyed in Saku Township in Magway Region and one child was dead due to the flash floods from the Mann creek yesterday, said Township administrator U Kyi Min.

Since the strong currents entered the ward, six houses from Ward-3 collapsed. A toddler, aged one, died when the force of the water swept him out of his house and into large pool water. The fatality occurred at 1:45 pm yesterday.

Due to the flash floods of the Mann creek and Nwargue creek, 139 households from Ward-1 and 101 households from Ward-3 were evacuated and homeowners and family members were taken to regional monasteries.—Myo Myat (Minbu)/MDN



Htee Lo Min Lo pagoda damaged by heavy rains in Bagan. **PHOTO: YE WIN NAING (NYAUNGU)**

# Ancient pagoda's archway damaged by heavy rains

SOME parts of the archway of Htee Lo Min Lo Pagoda in Bagan Cultural Heritage Zone were damaged by heavy rains, according to the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library (Bagan Branch).

"Heavy rains brought by the storm struck Bagan Cultural Heritage Zone yesterday. The severe rains caused a little bit damage to an archway on the east side of Htee Lo Min Lo Pagoda which is located beside a route to old Bagan. Officials from our department have already checked the damages. We will renovate the damaged part of the archway," said U Myint Than, Deputy Director of the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library (Bagan Branch). —Ye Win Naing (NyaungU) ■

# Brexit law faces crucial UK parliament vote

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May faces a knife-edge vote in parliament on Tuesday on her centrepiece Brexit legislation, despite her last-minute warning that defeat risks undermining her negotiations with Brussels.

MPs in the lower House of Commons will vote on a raft of amendments produced by the upper House of Lords, including one at around 1500 GMT that would give parliament an effective veto over Brexit.

Just hours before the vote, the pressure on May cranked up when a pro-EU junior minister quit the government so he could back the veto proposal.

Philip Lee said a choice between "bad and worse" options was not giving MPs a meaningful vote.

Other flashpoints in the parliamentary votes include proposals to keep Britain tightly aligned with the EU's economy.

May has said a government defeat would weaken its hand in exit talks with the EU.

"We must think about the message parliament will send to the European Union this week," May told MPs in her centre-right Conservative Party late Monday.

Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May leaves 10 Downing Street in central London on 12 June, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

The front pages of Leave-backing British newspapers said accepting the amendments would betray the 52 per cent who backed Brexit in the seismic 2016 referendum.

The Daily Express featured the British flag as its front page with the headline: "Ignore the will of the people at your peril."

"The time has come for our elected representatives to decide — are you or are you not the servants of the people?"

The Sun had a front page of British icons including Stonehenge, a fish and chip shop, a London bus and a football, saying "Great Britain or Great Betrayal."

"Remainer MPs have a simple choice: trust the people of Great Britain... or trigger a shameful betrayal."

May's minority Conservative government relies on the support of Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party for a slender working majority in the 650-member Commons.

"I am trying to negotiate the best deal for Britain. I am confident I can get a deal that allows us to strike our own trade deals while having a border with the EU which is as frictionless as possible," she said.

"But if the Lords amendments are allowed to stand, that negotiating position will be undermined."

**'No deal' scenario**

The EU (Withdrawal) Bill is the draft law that would set the legal framework for Brexit and May is worried about the prospect of a rebellion by pro-EU Conservative MPs keen to retain the changes.

Some europhile Conservatives were reported to be backing away, worried that if May was fatally damaged by defeat, it could open the way for a hardline Brexiteer to take over the party and thereby the premiership.

Attention has focused on Tuesday on the so-called "meaningful vote" amendment, which would give parliament the power to decide what to do if it rejects the final Brexit deal.

Lee resigned from the Ministry of Justice to back the amendment, saying parliament should be able to direct the government to change course.

"I cannot support the government's decision to oppose this amendment because doing so breaches such fundamental principles of human rights and parliamentary sovereignty," he said.

"A vote between bad and worse is not a meaningful vote."

Former attorney general Dominic Grieve, a leading pro-EU rebel, has put down a compromise amendment on the meaningful vote, calling for a binding motion to be passed by the Commons setting out how to proceed in the event of a "no deal" Brexit.

"A meaningful vote is not the ability to reverse the decision of the referendum," Brexit Secretary David Davis told BBC radio.

"The end of March 2019, we leave the EU — full stop."

On Wednesday, one amendment on joining the European Economic Area — the single market — will likely fall because the main opposition Labour Party is against it.

"Labour will only vote for a final Brexit deal if it delivers a strong relationship with the single market based on full tariff-free access and ensures no loss of rights and standards," Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said on Facebook.—AFP ■

# Handshakes that shook the world

SINGAPORE — Donald Trump's handshake with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Singapore on Tuesday marked a historic moment — the first meeting ever between a sitting US president and the leader of North Korea.

The US president's often-awkward handshakes with world leaders have sparked ridicule but many hope the one with Kim — the culmination of months of dramatic diplomacy — will lead to durable peace on the Korean peninsula.

Here are some other handshakes that shook the world:

**The Koreas: Kim-Moon (2018)**

On 27 April, 2018, as the world held its breath, Kim Jong Un and Moon Jae-in reached across the Military Demarcation Line that divides the two Koreas and shook hands, the result of a remarkable thaw on the peninsula sparked by the Winter Olympics earlier this year.

Kim then stepped over the border for a summit with the South Korean president, making him the first leader from Pyongyang to set foot in the South since the Korean War ended in an armistice 65 years ago.

The two leaders agreed to pursue permanent peace and the complete denuclearisation of the divided Korean peninsula.

**US, Cuba: Obama-Castro (2013)**

At a memorial service for Nelson Mandela on 10 December, 2013, US President Barack Obama made headlines when he shook hands with Cuba's Raul Castro, the first such public greeting between leaders of the bitter neighbours after decades of enmity.

Within months there was a rapid thaw. Full diplomatic relations were restored in July 2015, followed by once-unthinkable steps to mend ties.

Obama visited Cuba in 2016 — the first such trip by an American president in 88 years.

Washington also relaxed its decades-long embargo on the communist-ruled island, and US airlines resumed direct flights to Havana in November 2016.

**N Ireland: Elizabeth II-McGuinness (2012)**

In a landmark moment in the Northern Ireland peace process, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II met Martin McGuinness, a former top commander in the paramilitary Irish Republican Army during the many years of bloody hostilities with British forces.

The IRA wanted an end to British rule in the province, and for it to be merged with the Republic of Ireland. McGuinness later became one of the figures that helped negotiate an end to the violence.

Then a deputy first minister of Northern Ireland, McGuinness shook hands with the Queen during her 27 June, 2012 visit to the province.

It was a gesture towards reconciliation that would once have been unimaginable, with McGuinness' militant past and British security operations still a source of anger for many.

**Israel, Palestinians: Arafat-Rabin (1993)**

After months of secret negotiations in Norway, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat stood in the South Lawn of the White House on 13 September, 1993 to witness the signing of the Oslo Accords.

And then, in one of the most dramatic moments in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with US president Bill Clinton's arms stretched around both leaders, Arafat and Rabin shook hands.

The abortive process granted autonomy to the occupied Palestinian territories without creating a separate state.

Rabin was assassinated two years later by a Jewish extremist opposed to the peace process, which faltered in the years that followed.

**Egypt, Israel: Sadat-Begin (1977)**

In what is widely considered a major turning point in the recent history of the Middle East, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat arrived in Israel on 19 November, 1977 on a historic visit — the first by an Arab head of state to the Jewish nation.

Images of Sadat shaking hands with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin during the visit were transmitted around the world. The visit led to the first Arab-Israel peace treaty and the formal end to the state of war that had existed between the two countries for 30 years.

Sadat paid for it with his life: he was assassinated by Islamists in 1981.—AFP ■

# Paris suburban train overturns in landslide

PARIS (France) — A suburban train overturned outside Paris on Tuesday after days of downpours caused an embankment to collapse, slightly injuring seven people including a pregnant woman.

The accident happened just before 5am (0300 GMT) as the RER commuter train was heading for Paris between Saint-Remy-les-Chevreuse and Courcelle-sur-Yvette southwest of the French capital.

A spokesman for Paris transport operator RATP said heavy rains caused the collapse of an embankment which led three carriages to derail and tip over.

The line has been closed. "Fortunately, there are only seven slightly injured," Transport Minister Elisabeth Borne told Franceinfo radio.

France has been battered by strong rains and winds for several weeks, with around half of the country under an orange storm warning until at least Wednesday morning.

"Wednesday should mark the end of hostilities to some extent," national forecaster Meteo France joked. Last week four people were killed in flooding that has caused widespread damage.

Weather monitors counted 180,000 lightning strikes in France last month — triple the 60,000 average.

The flood warnings mostly affect the northern half of the country, and several major roads in the Paris region were closed due to flooding Tuesday.

The Catholic pilgrimage site of Lourdes in southwest France has warned it is near the point of flooding due to the swelling of the neighbouring Gave du Pau river.

The site has been forced to shut the pools where pilgrims — often sick people praying for a cure — usually bathe.

In the northwest, the city of Nantes is seeing its wettest June on record with 138 millimetres (5.5 inches) of rain so far, according to Meteo France.

The 10th-century abbey at Chancelade in the southern Dordogne region has also been ravaged by flooding. —AFP ■

# Iran arrests 27 suspects over Ramadan 'terrorist' plot

TEHRAN — Iran's intelligence ministry said on Monday it had arrested 27 members of a "terrorist network" suspected of planning attacks last week to coincide with the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

The group plotted to "carry out terrorist operations in Tehran and some other important cities," the ministry said in a statement on its website.

"They published pictures in cyberspace threatening the honourable nation of Iran with revenge and murder."

It said the attacks were due to take place last week during the Qadr festival and on Jerusalem Day, held each year in solidarity with the Palestinians.

A large number of weapons and ammunition were confiscated, the ministry added.

Iran is a key target for Sunni jihadists, who see its Shiite majority as apostates. Iran has also directly fought the Islamic State group and Al-Qaeda in Iraq and Syria.

Its Revolutionary Guards said on Sunday they had fought off three attempts by "terrorist groups" to infiltrate from neighbouring Iraq in recent days, leaving several dead.—AFP ■

# EU tensions flare over migrants as Macron blasts Italy

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday accused Italy of "cynicism and irresponsibility" over its refusal to take in hundreds of migrants stranded on a rescue ship in the Mediterranean.

Macron told a cabinet meeting that under maritime law, "in cases of distress, those with the closest coastline have a responsibility to respond," spokesman Benjamin Griveaux said.

"If a boat had France as its closest coast, it could land," Griveaux said. "France has done its bit, but what is unacceptable is the behaviour and political instrumentalisation of the Italian government."

Successive Italian governments have accused their European partners of leaving the country to cope on its own with an influx of 700,000 migrants from Africa since 2013.

But Griveaux accused the new far-right/populist government in Rome of lacking solidarity after it refused to allow the migrant rescue boat Aquarius to land with more than 600 people on board.

"You can't create a precedent that will enable one European country to offload onto other European countries," he continued. "We need to show solidarity which Italy has not shown."

The new Italian government has pledged to deport hundreds of thousands of people living in the country illegally and stop boats carrying migrants from landing on its shores.

Macron has faced criticism from some leftist opposition parties and members of his own Republic on the Move party for not offering to take in the 600 people on board the Aquarius.

Spain has offered to take them in, which Macron praised during the cabinet meeting.

A spokesman for Macron's Republic on the Move party earlier said the Italian government's policy was "sickening."

"The position, the line of the Italian government is sickening. It's unacceptable to play politics with human lives which is what is happening at the moment," Gabriel Attal told the Public Senat channel.

"I'm a spokesman for the party, not the government, but I can't imagine that France will not play a role in finding a humanitarian solution for this boat," he said.—AFP ■

**Trademark Cautionary Notice**

Agmor , Inc.,Co., Ltd., a company organized under the laws of Idaho and having its principal office at #4, 246 Briar P1, Belgrade, Montana 59714, UNITED STATES, is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademarks:

NEB
Reg.No.4/3493/2018

Reg.No.4/3494/2018

Used in respect of:
Soil and fertilizer additive for agricultural crops, fruits and nuts; soil conditioning preparations; fertilizers; fertilizing preparations.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademarks or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to the existing laws of Myanmar.

Ong Min U (Advocate) May Phyo Kin (H.G.P)
For. Agmor,Inc., Co., Ltd.
Myanmar Global Law Firm Ph: 09443220023
Dated: 13 June 2018

**CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE**

**M.V FORMOSA CONTAINER NO-5 VOY.NO. ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V FORMOSA CONTAINER NO-5 ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-6-2018 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE**

**M.V BOX EXPRESS VOY.NO. (1845-1846)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BOX EXPRESS VOY.NO. (1845-1846) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-6-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/T.M.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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE**

**M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (570N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (570N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-6-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

# China urges 'full denuclearisation' as Kim-Trump meet

BEIJING — China on Tuesday praised the summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as historic and called for "full denuclearisation" to resolve tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Beijing also suggested that the United Nations could consider easing sanctions if North Korea fulfils its obligations under resolutions that punished Pyongyang for its nuclear and missile tests.

The fact that the two leaders "can sit together and have equal talks has important and positive meaning, and is creating a new history," Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told reporters.

"The crux of the peninsula nuclear issue is a security issue. The most important, difficult part of this security issue is for the United States and North Korea to sit down to find a way to resolution via equal talks," Wang said.

"Resolving the nuclear issue, on the one hand of course is denuclearisation, full denuclearisation. At the same time, there needs to be a peace mechanism for the peninsula, to resolve North Korea's reasonable security concerns."

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi speaks about the summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, during a joint briefing with Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretary-General Lim Jock Hoi at the Foreign Ministry in Beijing on 12 June, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang called on the UN Security Council to "make efforts to support the current diplomatic dialogue, efforts to denuclearise the peninsula, and promoting the process of a political settlement of the Korean peninsula issue."

Easing sanctions on Pyongyang, Geng implied, could be one area for the organisation to explore, noting that the "relevant resolutions" provided for the easing of the penalties "in accordance with the compliance of... (North Korea) and the development of the situation".

Beijing is Pyongyang's sole major ally and main trading partner, but it has backed the UN sanctions.

Despite tensions, the Cold War-era allies have sought to mend ties recently, and Kim borrowed an Air China plane to travel to the landmark summit in Singapore. —AFP ■

# Singapore agreement will end Cold War, S Korea president says

SEOUL — South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Tuesday hailed the outcome of the summit between President Trump and the North's leader Kim Jong Un as a "historic event" that ended the last Cold War conflict.

"I offer my heartfelt congratulations and welcome the success of the historic North Korea-United States summit", Moon said in a statement.

"The 12 June Sentosa Agreement will be recorded as a historic event that has helped break down the last remaining Cold War legacy on Earth," he said.

Moon has made great efforts playing the role of mediator to bring the Cold War foes back to dialogue.

He praised Trump and Kim for their "courage and determination" not to settle for "that outdated and familiar reality but to take a daring step towards change".

He lionized Trump for achieving "a feat that no one else has ever delivered", adding Kim would also be remembered as "a leader who made a historic moment by taking the first bold step toward the world".

"Building upon the agreement reached today, we will take a new path going forward.

"Leaving dark days of war and conflict behind, we will write a new chapter of peace and cooperation. We will be there together with North Korea along the way", he said.

Moon however cautioned that this was "just a beginning and there may be many difficulties ahead".

"But we will never go back to the past again and never give up on this bold journey. History is a record of people who take action and rise to a challenge," he added.—AFP ■

# Malaysian king joins austerity drive with pay cut

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia's king has thrown his weight behind the new government's bid to slash massive debts inherited from the corruption-plagued old regime by taking a 10 per cent pay cut, royal officials said.

Sultan Muhammad V offered to reduce his salary after being touched by members of the public contributing out of their own pockets to a government fund to cut the debt, they said.

An alliance headed by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad won a surprise election victory last month, ousting the scandal-mired coalition that had ruled the country for six decades.

The new government says the country has debts of over one trillion ringgit ($250 billion) after years of misrule by an administration headed by ex-leader Najib Razak, who is accused of having stolen vast sums of public money while in office.

Najib denies any wrongdoing. The royal palace said late Monday that the king — a relatively youthful monarch at 48 — would be taking the cut from the money granted to him by the government until the end of his term in 2021, but did not say how much he earned.

The current king, known for his fondness for four-wheel driving and other extreme sports, has been on the throne since late 2016.

Malaysia is a constitutional monarchy, with an unique arrangement where the throne of the Muslim-majority nation changes hands every five years between rulers of the nine Malaysian states headed by centuries-old Islamic royalty.

Malaysians have so far contributed more than 56 million ringgit to the official fund set up to pay off the nation's debts.—AFP ■

**INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (3/2018)**
**[TENDER NO. MPPE / HSD / T / 1 (2018 – 2019)]**

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, Ministry of Electricity and Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel (752,000 ± 10% Barrels)
2. Tender Closing Date & Time - 11- 7 - 2018, 12:00 Hrs
3. Tender Opening Date & Time - 11 - 7 - 2018, 13:00 Hrs
4. Delivery Time - Aug 2018 to Jan 2019
5. The Open Tender forms, Section(I) Instructions to Bidders and Section(II) Form of Contract for the Supply of High Speed Diesel including Delivery Schedule, Quantity, Details Specification and Tender Terms & Conditions, can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy Website Portal (www.moee.gov.mm) as from 12-6-2018. Tender forms will not be sold.
6. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Proposal with Originial Bid Bond and Commercial Proposal in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise not later than 11-7-2018, 12: 00 hours. Late bids will be rejected. Anys Bid are applied by e-mail or mail cannot be accepted.
7. Bid will be opened on 11-7-2018 at 13:00 hours after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of Bidder's representative. The representatives of bidders need to attend the Tender opening Meeting without absence.

Managing Director
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
No(6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

Contact Phone No.
067-3411487 / 3411280

# ‘Incredibles 2’ set to break more records for Disney

LOS ANGELES — After a glut of lucrative box office juggernauts from its Marvel Cinematic Universe, Disney is looking to break more records with “Incredibles 2,” the long-awaited return of a quirky animated superhero family.

The film — which comes out Friday, a full 14 years after “The Incredibles” — looks set to score the highest debut ever for an animated film at the North American box office.

Experts are predicting a $140 million-plus opening weekend for Brad Bird’s sequel to his own hugely popular original, which would surpass the $135 million debut of its Disney-Pixar stablemate, “Finding Dory” (2016).

“For a very long time, people have been wanting this film,” Samuel L Jackson, who returns as superhero Frozone, told reporters at last week’s glittering premiere in Hollywood.

“I think people who saw the film at a certain age have had kids now, and they’re showing them (the original) so they can bring them to this one.”

Director Brad Bird (C) – shown with Holly Hunter and Samuel L. Jackson – waited a full 14 years to release the sequel to the wildly popular first “Incredibles” film. **PHOTO: AFP**

In the latest adventure, Parr family matriarch Helen (Holly Hunter) is called upon to help bring the world’s hiding superheroes back into the open, while husband Bob (Craig T Nelson) navigates the day-to-day heroics of being a homemaker.

Their children Violet (Sarah Vowell) and Dash (Huck Milner) are back again, along with baby Jack-Jack, whose devastating super powers are about to be unleashed.

It all goes a bit awry — as it always does — when a new villain emerges with a brilliant and dangerous plot that threatens the world.

**‘Free-wheeling’**

“It’s kind of like a spy movie — ultra, uber-sophisticated, kind of 1960s, free-wheeling,” Hunter told a question-and-answer forum at the AMC Century City movie theater in Los Angeles.

“The movie has so many different influences that are directly from Brad’s own passions, his childhood, his parenting. He’s kind of thrown it all into the mix in a really personal way.”

There may be a 14-year gap, but the sequel starts about five seconds after the original ended, with the Parr family donning their superhero masks, ready to face the new threat.

“We left people wanting more at the end of the last film... There was this villain, everyone wanted to see what the outcome was with that fight,” said producer Nicole Grindle.

“But I think that’s something you can do in animation. You can’t do that in live action, just wait 14 years.”

**‘A blast’**

Critics and fans who made it to the premiere were allowed to post social media reactions, with most singling out the Parrs’ scene-stealing baby for praise.

“‘Incredibles 2’ is a blast. It does a great job building on the characters and the world, and it’s super funny and action packed throughout,” tweeted Eric Eisenberg of CinemaBlend.

“I had my doubts, but was thoroughly impressed. Will go down as one of the best titles of the summer.”

Chris Hayner, the associate editor of GameSpot, enthused that the sequel “improves on practically everything” from the original.

“Its visual style is stunning to look at, the characters are fantastic, and the adventure is a blast,” he added.

“There’s a little bit of predictability in the story, but I was so down for this ride.”

Released in 2004, “The Incredibles” won the Oscar for best animated feature and grossed $633 million worldwide, posting one of the largest openings in history for an animated feature.

“The superhero part is secondary to the roles you play within a family,” said Bird, summing up the appeal of the Parrs.

“Every one of us has been the newborn baby, many of us have been the super hyper-energetic 10-year-old or the insecure teenager, and many of us have grown up to be parents.”—AFP ■

# Rose McGowan defends Anthony Bourdain’s choice to commit suicide

LOS ANGELES — Actor-activist Rose McGowan has defended celebrated chef Anthony Bourdain’s choice to commit suicide, saying taking one’s life may be a horrible choice but it is a personal one.

Bourdain, 61, died of suicide last week while he was in France filming an episode of his Emmy-winning CNN food and travel programme.

In a letter by McGowan, who penned the lengthy note on behalf on the globetrotting chef-writer’s girlfriend actor Asia Argento, the “Charmed” alum said people should not blame him or her friend for his suicide.

“I know so many around the world thought of Anthony Bourdain as a friend and when a friend dies, it hurts... Many of these people who lost their ‘friend’ are wanting to lash out and blame. You must not sink to that level. Suicide is a horrible choice, but it is that person’s choice,” she writes.

“Top Gun” star Val Kilmer had called Bourdain “selfish” for leaving his friends and fans alone in the world.

Talking about Argento’s relationship with the chef, the actor said it was “instant chemistry” between the two and how both of them supported each other through thick and thin.

“They laughed, they loved and he was her rock during the hardships of this last year. Anthony was open with his demons, he even wrote a book about them. In the beginning of their relationship, Anthony told a mutual friend, ‘He’s never met anyone who wanted to die more than him’. And through a lot of this last year, Asia did want the pain to stop,” McGowan writes.

But in the end, despite all the happiness the couple shared, Bourdain’s depression caught up with him.

“... Over their time together, thankfully, she did the work to get help, so she could stay alive and live another day for her and her children. Anthony’s depression didn’t let him, he put down his armor, and that was very much his choice. His decision, not hers. His depression won,” she adds.

She said despite belonging to “a strong man doesn’t ask for help” generation, the TV show star reached out for help and “yet he did not take the doctor’s advice”.—PTI ■

# Priyanka Chopra, Nick Jonas’ plus one at his cousin’s wedding

LOS ANGELES — Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas continue to fuel relationship rumours after the actor appeared as the singer’s date for his cousin’s wedding.

They were photographed walking arm-in-arm at Jonas’s cousin’s nuptials near Atlantic City over the weekend, TMZ reported.

The “Quantico” star was wearing a gold dress, the “Jealous” hitmaker looked dapper in a suit with white sneakers, sans socks.

They were also snapped heading to the JFK Airport when they were travelling together for the wedding.

According to the sources, Jonas also introduced Chopra to his older brother Kevin and his wife Danielle.

The duo sparked dating speculations early this month.

Chopra, 35, and Jonas, 25, were photographed for the first time since reports of their alleged relationship went viral on the social media.

They have been spending a lot of time together lately and were seen enjoying multiple dates over Memorial Day weekend.

They first came together when they posed for photos on the red carpet together in Ralph Lauren designs at the 2017 Met Gala.

Chopra and Jonas are yet to comment on their relationship status.—PTI ■

# Trump, Kim hail historic summit; questions over way forward

SINGAPORE — Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un hailed their historic summit on Tuesday as a breakthrough in relations between Cold War foes, but the agreement they produced contained few details about the key issue of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons.

The extraordinary and unprecedented encounter in Singapore saw the leader of the world's most powerful democracy shake hands with the third generation scion of a dynastic dictatorship, standing as equals in front of their nations' flags.

Kim agreed to the "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula", a stock phrase favoured by Pyongyang that stopped short of long-standing US demands for North Korea to give up its atomic arsenal in a "verifiable" and "irreversible" way.

And in a blockbusting press conference after the summit, Trump said the US would halt military exercises with Seoul — something long sought by Pyongyang, which claims the drills are a rehearsal for invasion.

With Pyongyang having declared a moratorium on weapons testing on the grounds its development programmes were complete, the move looked like a tacit acceptance of the "freeze for freeze" proposal pushed by Beijing and previously decried by Washington.

The US stations around 30,000 troops in security ally South Korea to protect it from its neighbour, which invaded in 1950 in an attempt to reunify the peninsula by force.

"We will be stopping the war games which will save us a tremendous amount of money," Trump told reporters, adding that "at some point" he wanted to withdraw US troops from the South.

Both Seoul and US military commanders in the South indicated they had no idea the announcement was coming, and analysts expressed immediate concern.

Ending the drills "is in excess of all expert consensus, South Korean requests, and even a close reading of North Korean demands", said Adam Mount of the Federation of American Scientists.

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un (L) shakes hands with US President Donald Trump (R) after taking part in a signing ceremony at the end of their historic US-North Korea summit, at the Capella Hotel on Sentosa island in Singapore on 12 June, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

## All smiles

The Singapore summit was a potentially legacy-defining meeting for both men — comparable to president Richard Nixon's 1972 visit to China, or Ronald Reagan's 1986 summit with Mikhail Gorbachev in Reykjavik.

This picture taken on late June 11 and released from North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) on 12 June, 2018 shows North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un walking on the Jubilee bridge during a tour in Singapore. **PHOTO: AFP**

But many agreements have been made in the past with North Korea that have later fallen apart, and ahead of the meeting, critics expressed concerns that it risked being more about headlines than substantive progress.

It also legitimised Kim, whose regime stands accused of widespread human rights abuses, critics charged.

In the event, the two leaders showered each other with compliments in the sumptuous setting of a luxury Singapore hotel, a marked contrast from their previous rounds of mutual insults, such as "mentally deranged" and "little rocket man".

Trump said he had formed a "special bond" with Kim, whom he described as "very talented". As well as abuses at home, Kim is also suspected of ordering the assassination of his brother at a Malaysian airport last year.

After a day filled with smiles and handshakes watched around the world, the US "committed to provide security guarantees" to North Korea, while Pyongyang committed to "work towards" denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

Melissa Hanham of the US-based Centre for Nonproliferation Studies said on Twitter that North Korea had "already promised to do this many times," adding the two sides "still don't agree on what 'denuclearization' means."

Asked about the issue — the crux of the summit — Trump said "we're starting that process" which would begin "very, very quickly", but gave no concrete details.

US sanctions would remain in place until Washington had seen progress, he added, before flying out of Singapore bound for the US territory of Guam — towards which Pyongyang had last year threatened to lob missiles.

## We'll meet again

"We'll meet again," Trump said after the signing ceremony, standing with Kim on the verandah where they first met. "We will meet many times."

He "absolutely" would be willing to invite Kim to the White House, and would do so when the time was right, he added.

For his part, Kim — who made headlines the evening before the summit with an nighttime visit to major tourist sites — said the two Cold War foes had vowed to "leave the past behind", pledging "the world will see a major change".

Abraham Denmark of the Wilson Centre in Washington tweeted: "It seems Kim got a huge propaganda win and a metric ton of legitimacy, and the US gave up joint exercises, for little new and nothing in return."

But he added: "The silver lining is that dialogue will continue, and where there is diplomacy there is hope."—AFP ■

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un (R) walks with US President Donald Trump (L) during a break in talks at their historic US-North Korea summit, at the Capella Hotel on Sentosa island in Singapore on 12 June, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

A South Korean newspaper deliveryman collects newspapers in Seoul reporting the summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on 12 June, 2018. South Koreans erupted in applause on June 12 as Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un met in Singapore for what local media billed as the "talks of the century". **PHOTO: AFP**

# Women's football: Myanmar ties 1-1 with Thailand in friendly match

THE Myanmar women's football team drew with the Thailand women's team in an International "A" women's friendly match at the Bangkok Thonburi University Stadium in Bangkok, Thailand, at 5.30 p.m. (MMT) yesterday.

The match was played as a preparation for the AFF Women's Football Championship.

The Myanmar women's football team included goalkeeper Zar Zar Myint and players Ei Yadanar Phyo, Zin Mar Win, Wai Wai Aung, Nge Nge Htwe, Khin Mo Mo Tun, Khin Malar Tun (captain), Khin Moe Wai, Naw Aalo War Phaw, Win Theigi Tun and Yi Yi Oo.

The two teams fought hard but the first half ended with a blank scoreboard. In the second half, Thai footballer Kanjana Sung-Ngoen (No. 21) scored a goal for the Thailand team at the 48th minute and then July Kyaw (No. 19) equalised for the Myanmar team at the 80th minute. —GNLM ■

Myanmar and Thailand women footballers are in action during the friendly match at Bangkok Thonburi University Stadium on 12 June 2018. **PHOTO: MFF**

# MFF Chairman U Zaw Zaw meets AFC President Sheikh Salman

MYANMAR Football Federation (MFF) Chairman U Zaw Zaw, who arrived in Moscow to attend the opening ceremony of FIFA World Cup 2018 and the FIFA Congress, met Asian Football Confederation (AFC) President Sheikh Salman Bin Ibrahim Al-Khalifa in Moscow, Russia, on Monday. During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the development of Asian football. MFF Chairman U Zaw Zaw then met United States Soccer Federation President Carlos Cordeiro and discussed bilateral football friendship and assistance, besides other matters. U Zaw Zaw visited Moscow for the FIFA World Cup 2018 (Russia), along with vice chairmen Dr. Sai Sam Htun (Yadanarbon FC) and U Pyae Phyo Tayza (Yangon United FC). — GNLM ■

# Messi the star attraction as Banega trains apart

BRONNITSY (Russia) — Around 400 eager fans turned out at Argentina's World Cup base camp to catch a glimpse of Lionel Messi and his teammates at an open training session.

A particularly affectionate welcome was reserved for the Barcelona forward, as hordes of adoring young supporters chanted "Messi, Messi" on his way out for an hour-long practice on Monday.

After several days of chilly temperatures in the Russian capital, overcast skies gave way to sunshine, with excited locals packing a temporary stand in Bronnitsy, southeast of Moscow, to follow the action.

Injury had already struck Argentina on the eve of their departure for the tournament, with West Ham midfielder Manuel Lanzini ruled out with a serious knee injury.

Enzo Perez was summoned as a replacement for Lanzini, although the status of Ever Banega for Argentina's first group game against Iceland on June 16 remains uncertain after the Sevilla midfielder trained alone.

The odd Messi mask was spotted in the crowd, while others waved Barcelona flags, as well as those of Argentina.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner was then mobbed by dozens of youngsters at the end of the session as players stopped to sign autographs.

Ernesto Lagorio, Argentina's ambassador to Russia, was at the session at the sprawling training centre, used by several Russian national sports teams, on the banks of the River Moscow. "We came to see our national team, it's the first acquaintance with them, it's been great," Lagorio told AFP.

"We've already been to Bronnitsy several times, we've worked a lot with the authorities and the mayor. He's helped us a lot, it's been in the works for several months." Asked whether he would be attending matches, he replied: "I hope to show up until the final match in July."—AFP ■

Lionel Messi. **PHOTO: AFP**

# Chinese company wins commercial rights to 2021-28 AFC tournaments

BEIJING — The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has entered into an agreement with China's DDMC Sports International Ltd and Fortis Sports AG for the AFC's commercial rights, according to the AFC official website on Tuesday.

The contract covers all the 2021-2028 games including the Asian Cup, World Cup qualification in Asia and the AFC Champions League. DDMC is a Chinese listed company whose businesses cover culture, sports and entertainment.

"The new rights agreement will now secure the financial future of our member associations as well as help the AFC further enhance our competitions and development programs," the AFC President Sheikh Salman Bin Ibrahim Al-Khalifa said.

"It's the first time that Chinese companies dominate the world's top sports (intellectual property) IP exclusive media rights and business interests development," Yi Rentao, chairman of DDMC, said.

Sheikh Salman also reflected on the progress that has been made by Asian football, thanks to the unity of purpose that has existed in the game during the last five years.

He went on to say that with the tournament being played in Russia, it's an important time for AFC teams to show what they are capable of, especially Saudi Arabia, who will face hosts Russia in the World Cup opener.

"Asian football has made and continues to make giant strides.

With this new commercial rights deal, Asian football will stand proud on the world stage as the continent becomes the focal point for the global game," Sheikh Salman added.—Xinhua ■