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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 93, 6TH Waxing of Second Waso 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Wednesday, 18 July 2018



President U Win Myint welcomes Prof. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

President receives Prof. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai

PRESIDENT U Win Myint received Prof. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to the stability, peace and development of Rakhine State, the repatriation process of displaced persons, and the implementation status

of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Union Government, the UNDP and the UNHCR regarding the repatriation of displaced persons. Present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Thaung Tun and Dr. Win Myat Aye, members of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State and other officials.—MNA ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State, and its members in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor receives Chairman, members of Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received H.E. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State, and its members at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw at 10:00 hrs on 17 July 2018. H.E. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai was accompanied by eight members of the Advisory Board.

During the meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Board explained the activities and the work plan of the Advisory Board. They exchanged views on matters relating to the implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Board

issued after the first and second sessions, further measures to address challenges and pursue socio-economic development projects in Rakhine State.

It was the third meeting between the State Counsellor and the Advisory Board since its inception.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye and Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—Myanmar News Agency ■

5th meeting of senior officials of Myanmar-Bangladesh border forces held

The 5th meeting of senior officials from the Myanmar-Bangladesh border forces was held at the Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) headquarters, Dhaka, Bangladesh on 9 July. The meeting was attended by senior officials of the Myanmar Police Force headquarters led by Chief of Police Gener-

al Staff acting Police Brig-Gen Myo Than, senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Myanmar Embassy in Bangladesh and senior officials from the (Bangladesh) Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of

Foreign Affairs led by BGB Additional Director General Brig-Gen Md Anisur Rahman.

At the meeting, they discussed incidents occurring near the border area, illegal border crossings, conducting coordinated patrols along the border line, conducting regional-level,

battalion-level and camp-level information transfers, opening of a border liaison office (BLO), apprehending criminals and fugitives, exchanging friendly visits and building confidence between the Myanmar Police Force, Border Guard Police (BGP) and BGB, and coordinat-

ing between the two countries on security and the rule of law along the borders of the two countries.

The BLO office will soon be opened in Cox Bazar district, Teknaf town, and information on security and the rule of law will be shared and coordinated, it is learnt.—MNA ■



Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Aye Tha Aung offering Waso robes at the Amyotha Hluttaw's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Amyotha Hluttaw's office holds Waso robe offering ceremony

THE Amyotha Hluttaw's office held a Waso robe offering ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The congregation first received the five precepts delivered by Mahawithutarama Zaygone Monastery of Pyinmana, State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kawithara. Then the audience listened to the parittas recited by Sayadaws and Sanghas. After receiving and listening to the Dhamma,

the reverend monks were offered the Waso robes and offertories. Then the Mahawithutarama Zaygone Monastery Sayadaw preached the sermon and shared the merits of the deed.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Aye Tha Aung and family members of the myotha Hluttaw's office.

The ceremony took place at the meeting hall of the Amyotha Hluttaw. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting over the Revenue Appellate Tribunal Bill sent back by the President with comments at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D, second floor meeting hall, yesterday afternoon. The meeting was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Joint Bill Committee Chairman U Aye

Tha Aung, deputy chairmen, secretary, joint secretary and committee members, Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members, officials from the Union Government's Office, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Union Attorney General's Office and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office, it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than delivers the speech at the coordination meeting of the central committee in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Hluttaw meetings' organising central committee, work committees hold coord meeting

THE coordination meeting (3/2018) of the central committee and work committees in charge of organising Hluttaw meetings was held at the Hluttaw Building Zabuthiri Hall yesterday morning.

At the meeting, Mahn Win Khaing Than, patron of the 2018 Hluttaw meetings organising central committee, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, and the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, said that at the forthcoming Hluttaw meeting, one of the main work of the Hluttaw is the discussion and confirmation of bills, including the 2018-2019 fiscal year National Planning and Union Budget Bill according to priority; and other Hluttaw-related works would be discussed. In addition to this, during the forthcoming meeting, the posts of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and

Hluttaw Deputy Speaker would be filled, according to the Constitution and thus this Hluttaw session will be special from among the regular sessions, said the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker.

Next, Hluttaw meetings organising central committee Chairman Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat said that due to the support of union-level ministries and departments, the Hluttaw meetings of the second Hluttaw were successfully held.

In the forthcoming session, too, security, as well as transport, audio/video, voting switches, etc. should be checked to ensure their proper working condition and relevant committees and officials must coordinate so that news of the Hluttaw meetings is available systematically for the media.

Later, relevant union ministers from the committees, Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, central committee secretary Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office Director General and officials explained and discussed work committee-wise works. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then commented on the explanations and discussions, after which the meeting came to a close following the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker's closing remarks.

Present at the meeting were Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein, union ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, work committee secretaries and officials from Hluttaw offices.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than receives Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than received Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State, accompanied by board members, at the guest hall of the Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they openly discussed matters related to the work of the Advisory Board and works by the Hluttaw on Rakhine State affairs. Present at the meeting were Amyotha Hluttaw Dep-



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than meets with Chairman Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

uty Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and officials from the Amyotha Hluttaw Office. —Myanmar News Agency ■

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Need to Distinguish between Politics and Discipline

You are required to distinguish politics from discipline. Nothing will work without discipline. If someone wants to violate a discipline, he must be well convinced of what kind of punishment he deservedly will receive as a consequence. Try your best to have an order changed by keeping discipline. Abide by disciplines before having it changed. This is the difference between politics and discipline.

(Excerpt from BogyokeAung San's speech made at the All Workers' Union and dinner in Natmauk, on 25 March 1947)



Thai delegation from IBERD Foundation calls on Union Ministers U Thaung Tun, Dr. Win Myat Aye

U Thaung Tun, Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), and Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, and Dr. Win Myat Aye, Chairman of the Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, received a delegation led by Mr. Sathit Linpongpan, President of the Institute of Business Economics Research and Development (IBERD) Foundation, and

delegation on 17 July, 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw.

They discussed matters relating to trade and investment promotion between Myanmar and Thailand as well as cooperation in human resources development in Rakhine State. The sectors discussed include renewable energy, fisheries, cold storages facilities, provision of E-wallet services and environmental management for sustainability.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Ministers U Thaung Tun and Dr Win Myat Aye receive IBERD Foundation President Mr. Sathit Linpongpan and delegation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

New school buildings handed over to Ministry of Education

THE handover ceremony of new school buildings, which were constructed with the assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), to the Ministry of Education, was held at No. 9 Basic Education High School, Mingan ward, Sittway town, on 17 July morning.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister for Education; U Nyi Pu, Chief Minister of Rakhine State, Maj-Gen Than Htut, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs, U Soe Aung, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, U Kyaw Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction, Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, Mr. Masayuki Karasawa, Chief Representative of the JICA Myanmar Office, U Aung Than Myint, Rakhine State Education Officer, teachers, students and other officials from related departments.

The ceremony opened with Myanmar school songs sung



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu sprinkles scented water on the stone inscription of the school at the handover ceremony of new school buildings in Sittway. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE**

by the students of B.E.H.S Mingan School. Then, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister for Education, gave the opening speech stating that the schools were damaged by floods and landslides in 2015. Therefore, the Japan government provided 5 billion yen. The Ministry of Education spent 1.5 billion

yen (Ks15 billion) to construct 82 schools. Of the 82 schools, 39 have been constructed in Rakhine State. The 33 schools, including Mingan School in Rakhine State, which were constructed with the assistance of JICA have been 100 per cent completed.

Now, students from Rakh-

ine State can safely and happily access education. For the sustainability of the new schools, we should maintain the schools together.

Then, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, and Mr. Masayuki Karasawa, Chief

Representative of the JICA Myanmar Office, gave speeches, while Rakhine State Education Officer U Aung Than Myint expressed thanks.

Mr. Masayuki Karasawa handed over the documents related to the new school buildings to Rakhine State Education Officer U Aung Than Myint.

The union minister, State chief minister, deputy ministers and Japanese ambassador sprinkled scented water on the stone inscription of the school. The union minister and officials inspected the school building and gave an encouraging speech to the students at the school.

The new buildings were constructed in January 2017 by Hlaing Myint Moe Tun Construction Company. They were completed in September. The construction of two buildings, which is an RC two-storey building with 102x30 foot rooms, cost a total of Ks278.23 million.—Myint Maung Soe ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted 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
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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Meiktila hiking team climbs 6,020 ft.-high mountain

A mountaineering team from Meiktila, Mandalay Region, has successfully climbed the Elephant Mountain, which is 6,020 feet high, in Thazi Township, Mandalay Region, on 15 July at 11am.

The Meiktila hiking and mountaineering team was formed more than five years ago. The team has already climbed the Elephant Mountain four times. The first time, the team climbed the mountain with 15 members, of which only 14 reached the top of the mountain. The second time, the team climbed with 50 members, of which only 48 reached the top.

The third time, the team climbed with over 80 members, of which only 76 reached the top. This year it is remarkable, because the team climbed with 135 members and all the team members successfully reached the top of the Elephant Mountain.

The Meiktila hiking and mountaineering team of 135



Members of Meiktila mountaineering team pose for a photo on Mt. Elephant in Thazi. **PHOTO: CHANTHA**

members made an overnight trip on 14 July to a monastery in Myinsaigon Village. Then, they started the hiking trip at the gathering point on 15 July around 5.30am to climb the Elephant Mountain. The team successfully reached the top of the mountain at around 11am, according to Ko Tun Lwin, per-

son in charge of information from the Meiktila hiking and mountaineering team.

The team's slogan is "Love nature; don't leave anything of your footprints". Therefore, the members of the team did not leave any trash but brought them back in their bags during each hiking trip.

The mountaineering team from Meiktila is planning to climb Myin Ma Hti Mountain in Kalaw Township next August. Then, the team will also climb Victoria (Nat Ma Taung) Mountain in Chin State or Mae Nae Mountain in Hopong Township next September.—Chantha (Meiktila)■

MRA requests government to tackle scarcity of small currency notes

By May Thet Hnin

THE Myanmar Retailers Association (MRA) has requested the government to deal with the scarcity of a lower denomination kyat notes at the 18th regular meeting held between the Vice President U Myint Swe and businessmen on 6 July.

"The scarcity of small currency notes can scale up the commodity prices somehow. Exchange for notes of a lower denomination can be made at the Central Bank of

Myanmar (CBM). However, there are many difficulties on the ground. Bank staff often respond by saying there is a shortage of small notes. We cannot exchange them at the same value, but purchase a bundle of Ks200 notes, giving extra money depending on the market price," said U Myo Min Maung, MRA vice chair.

At present, retailers need to exchange lower denominations from YBS bus owners. However, it does not provide a solution to this problem due to the high demand for small



Small denominations of the Myanmar kyat. **PHOTO: GNLM**

notes.

"We hope private banks provide small notes when withdrawing money. It will help solve this problem to a certain extent. Money exchange at CBM is limited for them," U Myo Min Maung maintained.

The MRA has submitted

many reports to deal with this problem.

An official from the CBM responded to the MRA request at the meeting between the Vice President and traders, saying they will print new small notes, and that money exchange can be made at the CBM. ■

Myeik locals receive free medical checkup, treatment

WITH the guidance of Taninthayi Region government, specialists, assistant doctors and staff from the Myeik General Hospital conducted free medical services to locals at Innlay Myaing Ward, Myeiktaung Village recently.

A public awareness discus-

sion on dengue fever was followed and the Taninthayi chief minister presented the opening remarks.

An official from the regional health department explained about the recent outbreak of dengue fever that has mostly occurred in the township and

the preventative measures that have been carried out.

This year, Taninthayi Region has the highest record of dengue fever, since 2015, and as many as 1046 patients suffered from it.

Five people died of this disease. During the public

awareness discussion, a police captain from No. 35 anti-drug unit talked about the dangers of drug use. Afterwards, the chief minister, specialists and officials inspected the process of the free medical checkups and treatments for locals.—Khaing Htoo (IPRD) ■

MIC re-notifies foreign investors from violating restrictions

By May Thet Hnin

THE Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) has again released an announcement on 16 July, stating that foreign investors carrying out restricted investment activities, under the Myanmar Investment Commission Notification No. 15/2017, need to notify the commission by filling out the stipulated form.

The announcement stated that foreign investors who have been carrying out restricted investment activities must notify the MIC main office or regional and state offices by 29 March 2019 with the stipulated Form-9.

The notice had been released on 6 May 2017, but only a small number of investors gave notice to the office, said U Min Zaw Oo, Director of Policy and Legal Affairs Division of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

"The DICA had already made this clear, but only five or six enterprises notified them. We are announcing it again, as we do not want them to fail to notify the respective office," he maintained.

Section 42 of the Myanmar Investment Law stipulates the following types of investment businesses as restricted investments: investment businesses only allowed to be carried out

by the State; investment businesses that are not allowed to be carried out by foreign investors; investment businesses allowed only in the form of a joint venture with any citizen-owned entity or any Myanmar citizen; and investment businesses to be carried out with the approval of relevant ministries.

"This notice aims to make a list of enterprises in order to know which enterprises are running the businesses and under the approval of which ministries.

At present, this is a move to enforce the law but there has still been no action. The enterprises which fail to notify them might be reviewed later" said U Min Zaw Oo.

Although the notice includes a deadline, foreign enterprises which continue to fail to notify the DICA and respective investment committee offices will be individually alerted.

The Myanmar Investment Commission Notification No. 15/2017 was announced on 10 April 2017, listing nine investment businesses allowed to be carried out only by the State, 12 that are not allowed to be carried out by foreign investors, 22 allowed only in the form of joint ventures with any citizen-owned entity or any Myanmar citizen, and 126 to be carried out with the approval of relevant ministries. ■



Workers carry bags of rice at the Botahtaung Jetty in Yangon on 7 June. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAH

Price of quality rice rises in domestic market

By May Thet Hnin

THE price of quality rice is increasing in the domestic market. A superior variety of rice, such as Pawsan has increased from Ks34,000 to Ks38,000 per bag. Generally rice prices are up by Ks2,000 per bag.

Only the price of quality rice is going up, said U Kyaw Thu Thaung Sein, chair of Shwebo Pawsan Rice Producers Association.

It has been a week since the price of high quality rice has risen. However, there is

no remarkable increase in demand.

The high price is due to lower production at the mills, as some rice mills are mainly producing summer paddy, said U Min Aung, a rice miller from Shwebo Township.

"Paddy fetches Ks1.5 million per 100 baskets, and millers are waiting for the right time to purchase it. Growers also cannot reduce the price. But prices will not keep increasing, as there is no huge demand," he said.

The wholesale price of

quality rice is up by Ks1,000 to Ks5,000 per bag, depending on the rice variety. The rice price is also sharply rising in the retail market.

"The rice price has increased from Ks1,800 to Ks2,300 per bag. Another rice variety has risen from Ks2,000 to 2,800 per bag," said a buyer from the retail market.

It is a temporary rise in the rice market. The market will not face any unprecedented hike over the rice prices, said U Than Oo, secretary of Bayintnaung commodity depot. ■

IKBZ awarded by AB&F for two consecutive years

SINGAPORE-based Asian Banking and Finance (AB&F) awarded IKBZ Insurance Co. Ltd. the Domestic General Insurer of the Year – Myanmar and the Domestic Life Insurer of the Year – Myanmar at the 2018 Insurance Asia Awards held at Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore on 12 July.

Director U Min Thant, assistant general manager Daw Chit Su Tun and senior manager Daw Tint Tint Wai of IKBZ proudly received the awards and Director U Min Thant expressed thanks. The awards—judged by representatives from leading accounting firms, Deloitte, Milliman, Ernst and Young, KPMG, PwC Southeast Asia Consulting—signified that IKBZ, which dominates the largest market share in Myanmar, can facilitate



the needs of the insurance sector and provide insurance payments in immediate and effective ways. It also has the largest insurance branches across the country and the highest insurance premium income compared with other private insurance companies. Being the biggest taxpayer, IKBZ helps support the growth of the country's economy from the insurance sector. IKBZ was awarded many

trophies by leading organisations in 2015, 2016 and 2017. In 2017, it was awarded the Best General Insurer of the Year 2017 and the Best Life Insurer of the Year 2017 by AB&F. This is the second time IKBZ is being recognised by the AB&F. Over 330 executives from over 200 banks and insurance companies from nearly 40 Asian countries attended the event. —GNLM ■

Price of chickpeas rises in Mandalay market

WITH India's sudden demand for chickpeas, prices of the V2 and V7 varieties have soared in the Mandalay market.

In the first week of July, chickpeas fetched Ks57,000 per three-basket-bag for the V2 variety and Ks58,000 for the V7 one. This increased to Ks67,000 for V2 and Ks76,000 for V7 yesterday, said U Soe Win Myint from his namesake depot in Mandalay.

"Normally, chickpeas are demanded by China. However, a sudden purchase order from India drove up the price. V2 and V7 chickpeas are grown as winter

crops. Therefore, they will be harvested in early 2019. The price is likely to rise on demand," he said.

Peas are primarily produced in Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. At present, peas are on the verge of a stock shortage in the growers' hands, and stockpiled only in the hands of warehouse and mill owners.

The Japanese sesame price is Ks165,000 per three-basket-bag, while butter beans fetch Ks135,000 in the Mandalay market.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House) ■

Pyithu Hluttaw's office holds 6th Waso robe offering ceremony

The Pyithu Hluttaw's office held its 6th Waso robe offering ceremony yesterday, at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

First the congregation received the five precepts delivered by Mahawithutarama Zaygone Monastery of Pyinmana, State Ovadacariya Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kawithara.

Then the audience listened to the parittas recited by Sayadaws and Sanghas.

After delivering Dhamma, the reverend monks were offered Waso robes and offertories.

Then the Mahawithutarama Zaygone Monastery Sayadaw preached the sermon and shared the merits of the deed.

Also present at the ceremony were Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker T Khun Myat, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein and family members of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.— Myanmar News Agency



Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein presents offertories to a Sayadaw. **PHOTO: MNA**



CBM Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung inspects Financial Institutions Supervision Department in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

CBM Governor: Follow financial rules and regulations

CENTRAL Bank of Myanmar (CBM) Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung inspected the currency note counting work conducted at the Financial Institutions Supervision Department, Yangon Branch, and remarked on following the financial rules and regulations and conducting and managing systematic cleanliness and security at the

work site.

He then met with personnel from the administration and human resources development department under the Financial Institutions Supervision Department and instructed them regarding management and supervision work, it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Kayin State Chief Minister meets with representative group from Kayin State Youth Affairs Committee

KAYIN STATE government, Chief Minister Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint, met with a representative group from the Kayin State Youth Affairs Committee at the meeting hall of the Kayin State government office on 17 July, in order to discuss the way ahead for the Kayin State Youth Affairs Committee.

At the meeting, the State Chief Minister gave a speech stating that she really appreciated meeting with the youth representatives. She wanted all of the youth to be leaders to guide and organise the public. She was also proud that the youth had basic knowledge of the youth affairs policy and they could explain to the public and participate in the drawing up of the policy. She was also proud that the youth had drawn up the policy, which could be accepted by youth from the whole country. She wanted them to make a further effort in the future.

Then, Nan Htet Htet Lin Soe, secretary of Kayin State Youth Affairs Committee, Youth



Kayin State Chief Minister Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint meets with a representative group from the Kayin State Youth Affairs Committee at the Kayin State government office yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

representative of Kya-in Seik-kyi Township, also gave a brief overview of the history of the youth affairs policy, background, cooperation, configuration, leading ministries, main sectors, requirement of sources and duties and obligations.

The youth representative group also discussed the policy individually. Finally, the State Chief Minister gave the closing

remarks.

The ceremony was attended by Kayin State chief minister, government ministers, officials from related departments and youth representatives from the Kayin State Youth Affairs Committee. The youth affairs policy was officially approved at Union government meeting No. 21/2017 on 8 November 2017.— Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD) ■



Two border guard forces of Myanmar, right, and Bangladesh, left, exchange gifts after a coordinated patrol along the border. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated patrols along border

Border police from Myanmar and Bangladesh conducted coordinated patrols along their respective sides of the border and along the Naf River.

Security forces from the two countries conducted coordinated ground patrols from border posts 54 to 55 on 1 July, from border posts 42 to 43 on 8 July,

from border posts 43 to 44 on 9 July, from border posts 46 to 41 and from border posts 31 to 34 on 12 July, from border posts 34 to 36 and from border posts 47 to 48 on 15 July and from border posts 48 to 49 on 16 July. In addition, security forces from the two countries conducted coordinated naval patrols along the Naf River

on 8 July and 12 July. A total of 63 coordinated ground patrols were conducted. The coordinated ground patrols were conducted 14 times in February, 7 times in March, 16 times in May, 18 times in June and 8 times in July. Coordinated naval patrols along the Naf River were also conducted 10 times, it is learnt.—MNA ■

Two men arrested in Maungtaw for illegal border crossing

Two persons, identified as De Luu @ Dil Mahmed, 55, and Mahmut Fahdu @ Mahmut Farul, 35, from Paung Zar Village, Maungtaw Township, crossed the Naf River and climbed over the Bangladesh-Myanmar border fence at border post 520 near Paung Zar Chaung Wa police post on the evening of 16 July.

The police verbally warned them not to climb over the fence.

As they continued to climb over, the police fired a shot hitting De Luu @ Dil Mahmed in the stomach, after which both of them were caught. De Luu @ Dil Mahmed was sent to Maungtaw People's Hospital for treatment, while Mahmut Fahdu @ Mahmut Farul was sent to Pyin Phyu police station for further investigation.— Myanmar News Agency ■



Mahmut Fahdu @ Mahmut Farul climbs over the Bangladesh-Myanmar border fence. **PHOTO: MNA**



CEO Makoto Takashima presents Dark Blue Ribbon Honourable Award to the representative from the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), Yangon branch. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAAR**

SMBC awarded for education support to Myanmar

THE Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), Yangon Branch was honoured with the Konju Hojo (Dark Blue Ribbon Honourable) Award from the Japanese government for the UNICEF – SMBC Teacher training programme.

The announcement was made by the branch on 16 July from their offices in Strand

Square in Yangon.

The Konju Hojo (Dark Blue Ribbon Honourable) Award is one of the most prestigious accolades. It is awarded to remarkable individuals or organisations who donate personal belongings for public benefit and exceptionally generous financial contributions for the well-being of the public. The award is granted

twice each year. Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation was awarded the Konju Hojo (Dark Blue Ribbon Honourable Mention) through its CEO Makoto Takashima on 31 May, in recognition of its contributions to the education sector in Myanmar.

The SMBC entered into a partnership with Japan UNICEF in November 2015. — GNLM ■

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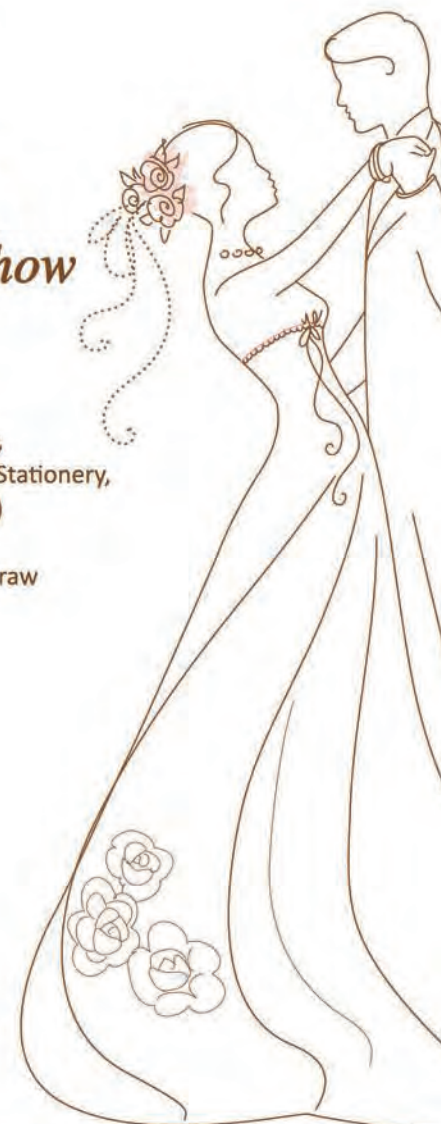
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Negotiations among those of different backgrounds take time, patience

ETHNIC armed organisations that have not signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) held separate talks with the Union Government and the Tatmadaw, one day after the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong. They attended the conference at the invitation of the Union Government.

Both sides were able to discuss issues openly and cordially, and many good possibilities of participating in the peace process materialized.

The meetings can be seen as speeded-up steps towards peace, and it is one of the positive results of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong.

All want to see peace in our country, and are willing to walk together on the path to peace.

Another positive outcome of the Union Peace Conference is that it reached a milestone by signing Part II of the Union Accord.

The conference has brought many positive outcomes for peace in our country.

There were other positive developments during the six-day period of the conference. It was learnt, for instance, that although the Constitution contains the wishes of ethnic nationals, they want to include words that are more exact. Another issue is including matters not included in the Constitution in the Union Accord.

Fourteen points were agreed upon in the third session of the conference, and they were signed into the Union Accord. But no agreement was reached in the security sector this time.

Negotiations for the security sector should be made very cautiously. At the same time, it is very important to have good results in the security sector.

A complete Union Accord needs to have agreements in the security sector.

To resolve this difficulty, the construction and design of our political discussion framework should be reviewed courageously, and we must strive toward creating a better work process.

As negotiations and discussions were held under different backgrounds and differences in envisioning the future, much time and patience is required to achieve good results.

We need much closer cooperation among our groups. To overcome the difficulties, it is important for the main forces to have a common aim for the future. ■

A veteran writer's recollections of Bogoyoke

By Thi Thi Minn

FEELING great sorrow and unceasing grief in his heart, teenager Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay was very sad after reading the shocking poem of an aerial bombing over Yangon City in the *Myanma Alinn* newspaper during the Second World War.

Residing at Thayet Taw Village near the mighty Ayeyawady River, northwest of Nyaung-U, Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay lamented that his dream of visiting Yangon was being shattered due to the bombings in Yangon.

Yangon city dwellers had run away from their homes to safe havens after the series of aerial bomb attacks occurred on 23 December 1941. However, the desire of the 16-year-old Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay to visit Yangon City could not be suppressed.

"I have heard that media guys and writers are very much important and crucial in Yangon. Therefore, I will go to Yangon when I grow up and settle down there. This desire comes deep from inside my heart", he told his peers in his younger days.

First trip to Yangon to pay respects to martyred leaders

His first visit to Yangon was at a time when the whole country was in grief and sorrow over the loss of the nation's independence architect, Bogoyoke (General) Aung San, and other Arzarni (martyred) leaders who were gunned down by conspirators on 19 July 1947. Carrying the sad news in his heart, Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay headed to Yangon. The remains of the fallen leaders lay in state at the Yangon Jubilee Hall for the general public to pay their respects and tribute.

This is how Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay recounted his experience, after traveling to Yangon together with a venerable monk:

"Immediately on arrival in Yangon, we rushed straight to the Jubilee Hall. I saw the remains of the fallen leaders lying in state for the public to come and pay their respects. A person on duty would alert people when to salute, and the waiting mourners would do give their salute one group after another. I also had the honor to salute the fallen leaders, and I was filled with grief at that moment."



"The whole county was in grief, and no sound could be heard in the city of Mandalay. All the newspapers carried headlines similar to, 'Bogoyoke and others have fallen, what are we going to do now?'," remarked U Maung Ga Lay while he was in Mandalay.

Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay is now the 96-year-old U Maung Ga Lay, and he is still excited as he reflects and remembers the brief encounter with Bogoyoke Aung San during his younger days.

Recollection 1

"One day, I heard that Bogoyoke Aung San was scheduled to visit Nyaung-U to deliver an organizing speech. I duly noted the important day. Since I am curious by nature, I went to this place where the mass rally was held," he recounted about his teenage experience.

It was a time when Bogoyoke and leaders were struggling hard to regain the country's independence and the name 'Bogoyoke

Aung San' had become popular among the entire population, he said.

In the evening, the compound of the government state high school in Nyaung-U was all set for the important event, and the crowd was there filled with excitement. On a makeshift stage, Bogoyoke Aung San was flanked by U Kyaw Nyein and U Ba Pe. The first speaker was U Kyaw Nyein, and U Maung Ga Lay quoted what he said: "In a Myanmar traditional orchestra, an unmarried young woman would start entertaining the audience. Therefore, I am the non-married single girl of this show".

Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay was quite eager to see Bogoyoke Aung San, and therefore, he went to the back of the makeshift stage to take a little peep at him. Suddenly, out of the blues, Bogoyoke Aung San appeared at the spot where he was, put out his arms around the teenager's neck and asked "Hey,

what are you looking at?" The now elderly man smiled, recollecting his unforgettable encounter with Bogoyoke, and added, "Bogoyoke had a muffler around his neck".

He also remembered what Bogoyoke said on the stage: "Bogoyoke urged the people to be united and also explained how degrading it was to be subjugated. He expounded that he was fighting for independence of the country and was seeking strong support from the people. I do not remember each and every word, though. Well, Bogoyoke has been assassinated 71 years ago, and that's a long time, right?"

Recollection 2

The second recollection of U Maung Ga Lay was the event in Mandalay, when Bogoyoke came to the city for a political campaign and it coincided with a time Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay was also there. The elderly man remembered, "The location was at Ywar Hine Market near Maha

Myat Muni Pagoda. It was indeed an open wide space with green and shady large tamarind trees."

He continued "At that time a prestigious man from Mandalay had enlisted to compete in the parliamentary election. Bogoyoke heard about it and traveled to upcountry for that matter."

Bogoyoke was scheduled to arrive at 1pm, but he was delayed for two hours and arrived at 3pm. Later, it was learnt that large crowds of people had stopped Bogoyoke on the way and requested

the name of which I have forgotten, printed in bold and large headlines, 'Bogoyoke Aung San praises Mandalay,'" according to U Maung Ga Lay.

Recollection 3

After regaining independence in 1948, U Maung Ga Lay came to Yangon for the second time and joined the literary circle in 1952, putting his heart and soul in his profession. While editing a short story about Bogoyoke Aung San, Thauk Kyar Maung Ga



Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay. PHOTO: CHU

him to deliver speeches for them.

U Maung Ga Lay recounted with much excitement, "As soon as Bogoyoke arrived, large crowds rushed forward to the nearest place from the stage as they wanted to see Bogoyoke as close as possible. I also moved quite quickly towards the stage. There were no security personnel or body guards. His fame had already spread around."

While close aide Bo Htun Hla (Tetkatho Nay Win) stood on guard at the corner of the stage, Bogoyoke stepped out of the car and rushed straight onto the stage like a young student. He waved at the rallying crowd and praised, "Mandalay is behaving better", and the crowd clapped with exuberance.

"Bogoyoke dwelt on many issues, which I don't remember in detail," the elderly man remarked.

"The next day, newspapers in Mandalay, namely *Mandalay Thuriya*, *Ludu* and a third daily,

Lay had daringly edited some paragraphs that might hurt and damage Bogoyoke's reputation, he still remembers that decision with great satisfaction.

He also recounted one funny event of Bogoyoke, written by one U Pu Lay. When Daw Khin Kyi, spouse of Bogoyoke, was feeling dizzy while traveling by car, Bogoyoke had to massage her. While doing that, with a sense of humor, Bogoyoke remarked, "I took her along with me to nurse me, but now I've got to be nursing her".

For nearly 60 years, until now, Thauk Kyar Maung Ga Lay has been producing his *Thauk Kyar* journal. In conclusion, this prolific writer, showing a picture of currency notes with Bogoyoke Aung San's portrait that appeared in *Aung San Mawgun* magazine, wished, "I would like to hold again and spend legal currency notes with Bogoyoke's pictures on them, like we used to do until U Ne Win's time."

Translated by UMT (HK)

Live broadcast of 71st Martyrs' Day ceremony

The 71st Martyrs' Day ceremony will be held at the Martyrs' Mausoleum, Bahan Township, Yangon at 8 am on 19 July 2018.

The event will be broadcast live starting from 7:15 am by Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV), MITV, MRTV Taingyintha, Myawady (MWD), Myanma Radio and the MRTV Webportal Facebook page.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Notifications issued under section 462(a) of Myanmar Companies Law 2017

Yangon, July 17

- In exercise of the powers conferred under section 462(a) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration issues the following Notifications-
 - Notification No.56/2018, Prescribed Forms under the Myanmar Companies Law 2017
 - Notification No.57/2018, Prescribed Fees and Late Lodgement Fees under the Myanmar Companies Law 2017
 - Notification No. 58 /2018, Requirements for Business Associations
 - Notification No. 59/2018, Requirements for Public Companies
 - Notification No.60/2018, Prescribed Model Constitution under the Myanmar Companies Law 2017
- The details of Notifications can be referred on the website of Directorate of Investment and Company Administration www.dica.gov.mm

Directorate of Investment and Company Administration

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 4:00 pm Monday 17th July, 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 18th JULY, 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway regions, Scattered in Mandalay Region, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Shan State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region, Mon and Kayin states and isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (7 – 10)feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Coastal areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18th JULY, 2018: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18th JULY, 2018: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Notification No. 5/2018
5th Waxing of Second Waso, 1380 ME
(17 July 2018)

Statistical bulletin on drug seizures,
acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Abuse Reporting Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Abuse Reporting Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses from 27 June to 14 July 2018 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

No	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of numerous illegal drug trading in Muse	On 9-7-2018, authorities entered House No. (Ta/348), Tun Cherry Street, Zone 4, South Ward, Muse Town and arrested Ma Aye Huan (a) Ma Moe Aung, 33, and Aike Ri (a) Hla Tin, 28, and seized a drug stash. A case was opened and legal action taken in accordance with MaMaSa(Muse) MaYa(Pa) 80/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of increased activity of drug abusers and drug sellers in the evening in Lantaung Village, Putao	On 5-7-2018, authorities arrested Samori (a) Samawri from Lantaung Village-2, Putao, with drugs in her possession. A case was opened and legal action taken in accordance with MaMaSa(Putao) MaYa(Pa) 13/2018, under Section 16-C/21-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received on drug proliferation in Poezargone Village and Phaungpyin Town, Sagaing Region	<p>On 1-7-2018, authorities arrested Than Htwe, 45, from Poezargone Village in possession of drugs and a case opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 38/2018, under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p> <p>Further inspection led to the arrest of Aung Htay, 36, from Poezargone Village in possession of drugs on 7-7-2018 and a case opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 41/2018, under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p> <p>Further inspection led to the arrest of Naing Win, 34, and Than Saung, 43, both in possession of drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 42/2018, under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p> <p>On 9-7-2018, authorities arrested Poe Thar (a) Aung San Min, 48, and Aung Myo Min, 31, both from Tunpin Village, in possession of drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Mawlite) MaYa(Pa) 12/2018, under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p>
4	Information received of U Hla Soe from No.308, Muditha Street, North Okkalapa Township, selling drugs.	On 6-7-2018, authorities arrested U Hla Soe, 53, from No.308, Muditha Street, North Okkalapa Township, in possession of drugs. A case was opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(North Okkalapa) MaYa(Pa) 38/2018, under Section 16-C/22-B of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

5	Information received of sales of stimulant tablets near Shwe Gabar Thingan Shop in Third-Quarter, Ward 9, corner of Moe Maka Street, Hlinethaya Township in Yangon Region.	On 8-7-2018, authorities arrested Zaw Zaw Lin (a) Zaw Lin, 16, Zine Htoon, 17, and Nay Lin Ko (a) Kyu Lay, 16, all three in possession of drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with NaMaSa(Taungyi) MaYa(Pa) 36/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received on U Maung Thein in Bhamo Township, Kachin State, operating a drug business in his plot of farmland to the east of Ngapyawlaw Village.	On 9-7-2018, authorities entered the farmland east of Ngapyawlaw Village and arrested Maung Thein, 58, in possession of drugs. A case was opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Bhamo) MaYa(Pa) 108/2018, under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of a drug purchase with buyers from Pyin Oo Lwin occurring in Sinsargone Village, Nwawhkhio Township, in close proximity to Pyin Oo Lwin.	On 4-7-2018, authorities arrested Ma Shwe Zin, 34, from Sinsargone Village, Tayatkyun Village-tract, Nwawhkhio Township, in possession of drugs. A case was opened against her in accordance with NaMaSa(Doepin) MaYa(Pa) 17/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Further inspection led to the arrest of Kutala, 35, and Hlwan Moe, 25, both in possession of drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with NaMaSa(Doepin) MaYa(Pa) 18/2018, under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Further inspection led to the arrest of Aung Mya (a) Artapha, 43, in possession of drugs. A case was opened against him in accordance with NaMaSa(Doepin) MaYa(Pa) 19/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of Tayokegyi (a) Han Htoo Paing living in No.5/64, Area 5, Mingalar Shwe Baho Ward, Shwe Nyaung Town, Shan State (South), using drugs with ten other people in his home from 2pm to 7pm for the past six months, under the guise of mobile phone repairing.	On 12-7-2018, authorities arrested Han Htoo Paing (a) Tayokegyi, 25, Kyaw Htet Aung, 21, and Sai Thurein (a) Poe Nyo, 18, all three in possession of drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with NaMaSa(Shwe Nyaung) MaYa(Pa) 13/2018, under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of daily drug selling and purchasing in the 4 th floor (left) of Building No. 43, opposite the Hindu Temple in Bawga Street, Ward C, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region.	On 13-7-2018, authorities entered 4 th floor (left) of Building No. 43 in Bawga Street, Thuwanna Ward C, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region and arrested Hla Naing (a) Din Gyi (a) Din Mae, 54, Naing Win Tun (a) Muhtoo and Thet Wai Tun (a) Poe Thar, all three in possession of drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with NaMaSa(Thuwanna) MaYa(Pa) 32/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A/22-B/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10	Information received on retailing stimulant tablets at cost of K1500 per tablet by Cho Gyi, Room No. S-9, Hsinphyu Market, Maunghmuton Ward, Muse, Shan State (North).	<p>On 11-7-2018, local police seized stimulant tablets from Cho Gyi (a) Naing Lin at Room No. S-9, Hsinphyu Market, Kaunghmuton Ward in Muse. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Muse) MaYa(Pa) 82/2018 under the 16 (c) of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Related cases were also discovered.</p> <p>Ma Tin Tin Htay (a) Hteik Tin Hlaing, 42, Room No. 10, in the same compound was also arrested together with the drugs and a case has been opened against her with MaMaSa(Muse) MaYa(Pa) 83/2018 under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Daw Lwan Sein, 50, No. Ta/338, Taung Ward, Region-4, was also arrested along with her husband Khin Maung Lwin (a) Aik Lwin, together with stimulant tablets and a case has been opened against them with MaMaSa(Muse) MaYa(Pa) 84/2018, under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p>



Firefighters and members of the Red Cross take part in a natural disaster preparedness drill in Mrauk U. **PHOTO:MDN**

Mock flood drill held in Mrauk U, Rakhine

THE Rakhine State Fire Brigade organized a natural disaster preparedness drill in a creek in Mrauk U, an ancient cultural heritage zone in northern Rakhine State, yesterday.

The exercise is aimed at carrying out emergency response tasks in the Mrauk U region if natural disasters break out in the area. The firefighters and members of the Red Cross demonstrated how to rescue people using lifeboats and ambulances when natural disasters occur in the area.

47 participants led by regional lawmaker U Oo Kyaw Win, Township Administrator U Maung Thar Sein and Commander of the township fire brigade U San Tun were actively involved throughout the simulations.—Mrauk U IPRD ■

Exported ginger earns higher profit within three months

THE export of fresh and dried ginger earned a higher profit in three months, during the interim period prior to the 2018-2019 financial year. The export value of fresh and dried ginger has increased to Ks120,000 per ton within three months, compared with the same period last year, according to a ginger export trader.

The prevailing price of fresh ginger from Shan, Chin and Rakhine states is over Ks1.1 million per ton, which is an increase of Ks100,000 per ton. Last year, the price of fresh ginger was less than Ks1.1 million per ton.

The price of dried ginger has increased more than Ks1.4 million per ton from over Ks1.3 million per ton last year, an increase of Ks120,000 per ton, said a ginger broker from Aungban Town.

“Myanmar exports ginger to Bangladesh through Sitway. The price of ginger has increased this year, compared with last year. There is also regular demand from foreign countries, he added.—Zar Lin Thu ■

Statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

FROM PAGE-10

11	Information received on retailing drugs in Ngarthae Village in YeU Township, Sagaing Region.	On 8-7-2018, Tin Ngwe, 68, was arrested together with drugs in Ngarthae Village in YeU Township and a case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Tinteyan), MaYa(Pa)1/2018 under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
12.	Information received on selling drugs daily from 8 am to 10 pm in 3/1 Ward in Hlaingthaya Township, Yangon Region.	On 13-7-2018, Naing Ko Htet (a) Taw Kyat was arrested together with drugs in Tharyargon Road, 3/1 Ward in Hlaingthaya Township and a case has been opened against him with MaMaSa (Hlaingthaya) MaYa(Pa)36/2018 under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Following investigation into related cases, Phoe Tar (a) Naing Win, 22, was also arrested together with drugs at Room-2, No. 498/B, Aungmyittar Road, and a case has been opened against him with MaYa(Pa)37/2018 under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
13	Information received on selling stimulant tablets and speciosa by husband of Daw Mu Nge in Maetaw Village, Kyunsu Township, Taninthayi Region.	On 9-7-2018, U Thein Zaw, 36, wife of Daw Mu Nge, Maetaw Village, Kyunsu Township, was arrested together with drugs and a case has been opened against him with NaMaSa(KanMaw) MaYa(Pa) 21/2018 under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
14	Information received on selling of drugs by U Maung Oo of Parhoatgyi Village in Homalin.	On 12-7-2018, Maung Oo (a) Win Naing Oo, 36, was arrested together with drugs in Parhoatgyi Village in Shwedwin Village-tract, Homalin Township and a case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Mongkai), MaYa(Pa)37/2018 under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Following the investigation into related cases, Ma Na Kham Aung, 48, was also arrested together with drugs in Myoma Ward, Kamti, and a case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Kamti), MaYa (Pa) 54/2018, under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far 22 cases have been opened up to 14-7-2018, and 28 men and six women have been arrested with seizures of 95.04 g of heroin, 2600 g of raw opium, 10 g of opium, 30 g of speciosa and 9381 stimulant tablets. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.

4. To seize further drugs and to arrest drug dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Special Information Department for Drugs of the Office of the President through the following contact information.

Contacts
Auto telephone No. – 067-590200
Fax Phone No. – 067-590233
Email Address – antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Thai court dismisses charges against Myanmar migrant workers

A Thai court on Wednesday dismissed criminal defamation charges brought against 14 Myanmar migrant workers by their former employer, a poultry farm, they had accused of labour and human rights violations.

The ruling is considered significant because the workers’ supporters and other social activists say such lawsuits have a chilling effect on whistle blowers.

Activists hailed the move as a rare victory for migrant worker rights in Thailand.

The 14 workers, all from Myanmar, filed a complaint in 2016 against their former employer Thammakaset Farm 2, a poultry farm, which at the time supplied Thai food giant Betagro.

The workers alleged that they had been forced to work 22-hour days without overtime and to often sleep in the chicken sheds with 30,000 hens. They also said their passports had been confiscated and their freedom restricted.

The owner of Thammakaset

Farm 2 filed defamation charges in a turnaround against the workers, claiming their allegations were false and had damaged the farm’s reputation.

Defense lawyer Nakhon Chomphuchat confirmed that Bangkok’s Don Muang Magistrates Court ruled Wednesday that the workers’ claims of abuses were made in good faith and with a basis in the facts, absolving them of responsibility. Had they been found guilty, each defendant could have been given up to 1 1/2 years in prison and a fine of about \$1,000.

Company executives declined to comment on the court’s ruling.

Thailand’s Department of Labor Protection and Welfare has already ordered the company to pay the workers 1.7 million baht (\$50,000) in compensation and damages for their claims of overwork and underpayment, but the money has been held up while the company appeals the case.

Thammakaset also filed a criminal complaint against two of the 14 workers and a Migrant Worker Rights Network coordinator for the alleged “theft” of time cards taken by the workers to show labor officials evidence of their claims about a 20-hour working day. A British labor activist, Andy Hall, who publicised the workers’ claims, was also sued for defamation. A Thai appeals court in May this year overturned a lower court’s conviction of Hall.—GNLM ■

‘Lava bomb’ from Hawaii volcano injures 23 on boat

LOS ANGELES — A projectile from the Kilauea volcano in Hawaii struck a boat carrying people watching lava from the two-month-old eruption, injuring 23, the fire department said.

Thirteen of them required hospitalization and the rest were treated at a harbor when the boat engaged in a “lava tour” returned to the Big Island, also known as Hawaii.

Lava flowing into the Pacific is a spectacular sight, producing a foggy haze known in Hawaii as “laze.”

One woman was in serious condition with a fractured femur.

The total number of people on the boat was not immediately known, the Hawaii County Fire Department said.

In the early morning incident a “lava bomb” punctured the roof of the boat and damaged a railing, the department said. It gave no further details.

“It was an explosion, basically,” said Janet Snyder, a spokeswoman for the county mayor, told the *Tribune Herald* newspaper. “It punctured a hole right through the roof of the boat.”



This handout photograph obtained on 16 July, 2018, courtesy of the US Geological Survey (USGS), shows laze plumes rising where lava pours into the sea on the south margin of the fissure 8 flow of the Kilauea volcano on 15 July, 2018 in Hawaii. **PHOTO: AFP**

She described the boat as “covered with lava.”

The eruption has destroyed hundreds of homes since it began on 3 May. Kilauea is one of the world’s most active volcanos and one of five on the island.

One of the most active fissures, number 8, continues to erupt and its lava has formed a small “island” a few meters from the coast, according to the United States Geological Survey

(USGS).

It is very likely that it is part of the flow of fissure 8 that is entering the ocean, the USGS says.

Lava has engulfed an area of about eight square miles (20 square kilometres) since the volcano began erupting.

Scientists believe that volcanic activity can be a precursor to a major eruption, similar to a Kilauea eruption in the mid-1920s.—AFP ■

Mexico ruling party leader resigns after election rout

MEXICO CITY — The leader of Mexico’s ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party resigned on Monday for “personal reasons” after it suffered a crushing loss in elections that swept the anti-establishment leftist Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador to power.

Rene Juarez, who spent less than three months in the post, oversaw the PRI’s worst election defeat since its founding in 1929.

“Today we have to ask ourselves... what is the real, profound transformation our party needs? I can only conclude that the PRI’s future transformation has to be as big as our current defeat,” he said in a press conference.

He will be replaced by the party’s secretary general, Claudia Ruiz Massieu Salinas, niece of former president Carlos Salinas (1988-1994).

The PRI, long the dominant force in Mexican politics, ruled the country as a one-party state for 71 years, before losing power at the ballot box in 2000 to the conservative National Action Party (PAN).

It convinced voters to give it a second chance in 2012, when

its handsome and charismatic presidential candidate, Enrique Pena Nieto, promised a new PRI of transparency and reforms.

But after six years of corruption scandals, disappointing economic growth and brutal violence fueled by the country’s powerful drug cartels, Mexicans punished the party severely in the 1 July elections.

Lopez Obrador won over 53 percent of the vote, beating his nearest rival by more than 30 points — Ricardo Anaya of the PAN — and crushing the PRI candidate, Jose Antonio Meade, who finished a distant third with 16.4 per cent.

Lopez Obrador’s coalition — led by his recently founded party, Morena — also won a strong majority in both houses of Congress.

The PRI meanwhile saw its numbers plunge from 55 seats to 13 in the 128-member Senate, and from 203 seats to 45 in the 500-member lower house.

The PRI, which rebuilt itself after its defeat in 2000 partly by hanging onto power at the state level, also lost every one of day’s nine governor’s races.—AFP ■

Israel further tightens Gaza blockade over arson kites

JERUSALEM — Israel further tightened its blockade of the Gaza Strip on Tuesday, preventing fuel deliveries through its only goods crossing with the Palestinian enclave after scores of kites carried firebombs across the border to burn Israeli farmland.

The defence ministry announced the move late Monday after saying last week it was closing the crossing to most deliveries, citing the kites and balloons that have for months carried firebombs into Israel from Gaza.

Fuel deliveries will be suspended until Sunday, the ministry said in a statement. The fishing zone enforced by Israel off the Gaza Strip will also be reduced from six nautical miles to three.

The goods crossing, known as Kerem Shalom, will remain open for food and medicine on a case-by-case basis.

“In light of the continued terror efforts of Hamas, Defence Minister Avigdor Lieberman has decided, after consulting with



Palestinian protestors in Gaza prepare an incendiary kite before trying to fly it over the border fence with Israel on April 20, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

the chief of (military) staff, to close Kerem Shalom for the passage of fuel and gas until Sunday,” a statement said.

Islamist movement Hamas, which runs the Gaza Strip and has fought three wars with Israel since 2008, denounced the move.

It had called the initial closing last week a “crime against

humanity”.

Palestinians in Gaza view the balloons and kites as legitimate resistance against Israel’s more than decade-long blockade.

The closed crossing is the only one between Gaza and Israel for goods transport. A separate crossing, known as Erez, is for people.

Gaza’s only other border crossing is with Egypt. That crossing has been largely closed in recent years, but Egypt has opened it since mid-May.

There were reports in the Israeli media of Egypt moving to close its crossing, but no confirmation.

Israeli authorities say the

hundreds of arson kites and balloons sent over the border fence from Gaza have caused major damage to farms in the area.

A spokesman for Israel’s fire service says around 750 fires have burned some 2,600 hectares, estimating the damage at millions of shekels (hundreds of thousands of dollars or euros).

The tightening of the blockade comes after the heaviest exchange of fire between Israel and Palestinian militants in Gaza since a 2014 war on Saturday.

Israel carried out air strikes partially in response to the months of fires started by the kite firebombs, but also over continuing protests and clashes along the Gaza border.

Israel hit dozens of sites it said belonged to militants in the Gaza Strip on Saturday, killing two Palestinian teenagers.

The same day, around 200 rockets and mortars were fired at Israel from the Hamas-run enclave and four Israelis were wounded when a rocket hit a house in the nearby Israeli city of Sderot.—AFP ■

EU, Japan to sign massive trade deal as US puts up barriers

TOKYO, Japan — The European Union's top officials arrive in Japan on Tuesday to sign the single market's biggest trade deal ever and present a united front as Washington upends the international trade order.

EU and Japanese officials say the deal demonstrates their commitment to lowering trade barriers even as US President Donald Trump pushes his protectionist "America First" policy. Trump has unsettled America's allies and provoked the ire of its rivals with bombastic statements, hefty trade tariffs, and threats of a trade war.

EU Council President Donald Tusk and Commission head Jean-Claude Juncker land in Japan Tuesday after talks in Beijing, where they urged calm instead of "conflict" in international trade.

"It is the common duty of Europe and Chi-

na, but also America and Russia, not to destroy (the global trade order) but to improve it, not to start trade wars which turned into hot conflicts so often in our history," Tusk said on Monday in Beijing.

"There is still time to prevent conflict and chaos." The "landmark" EU-Japan deal creates a massive economic zone and stands in stark contrast to Trump's protectionism.

Agreed last December, the deal is "the biggest ever negotiated by the European Union," according to Commission spokesman Margaritis Schinas.

"This agreement will create an open trade zone covering nearly a third of the world's GDP," he said.

The EU — the world's biggest single market with 28 countries and 500 million people — is trying to boost alliances in the face



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (c) shakes hands with European Council President Donald Tusk (l) as European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker (r) looks on at the Prime Minister's Office in Tokyo on 17 July, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

of Trump's protectionist administration.

The EU-Japan deal will send a "strong signal to the world" against US protectionism, EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom said recently.

"At a time when protectionist measures are gaining steam globally, the signing of the Japan-EU

deal today will show the world once again our unwavering political will to promote free trade," Japan's minister for economic revitalisation Toshimitsu Motegi said on Tuesday.

Trump's administration has angered traditional allies like the EU and Japan by imposing trade tariffs, while rattling in-

ternational markets by threatening a trade war with China.

On Sunday, the US president fuelled rising rancour by labelling the EU, along with Russia and China, "a foe" of the United States, and repeating his assertion that the EU has "really taken advantage of us on trade".

EU officials and Japan will also look to present a united front against US tariffs on steel and aluminium, which Tokyo has called "deplorable".

Junichi Sugawara, a senior research officer at Mizuho Research Institute, said Trump's protectionism had "prompted Japan and the EU to speed up negotiations on the deal".

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe "has good relations with Trump, but in terms of trade, Japan has sided with the EU,"

he said.

"Japan and the EU will form a united front against a US threat to impose tariffs on key products such as cars." Under the trade agreement, the EU will open its market to Japan's auto industry, with Tokyo in return scrapping barriers to EU farming products, especially dairy.

The EU is seeking access to one of the world's richest markets, while Japan hopes to jump-start an economy that has struggled to find solid growth.

Talks last year closed the gap on most remaining issues between the two sides, but a dispute resolution mechanism remains to be negotiated.

Abe had been scheduled to sign the deal in Brussels last week, but cancelled his trip after devastating floods that killed more than 220 people.—AFP ■

Five dead in S Korea military helicopter crash

SEOUL — Five people were killed and one injured when a South Korean military helicopter crashed on Tuesday at a marine base in the country's southeast, the defence ministry said.

The helicopter crashed and caught fire during a test flight after repairs at the base in the port city of Pohang, the ministry said in a statement.

"Five of the six crew members on board were killed and the remaining one has been taken to hospital due to injury," it said.

The ministry said an investigation into the cause would be launched but did not specify whether all victims were soldiers.

The helicopter was a domestically made model known as the MUH-1 or Marineon, Yonhap news agency said. —AFP ■

Announcement on Restricted Investment Activities to Notify to the Commission

Myanmar Investment Commission had announced through the newspapers and website (www.dica.gov.mm) to notify the foreign investors who are carrying out the restricted investment activities under Myanmar Investment Commission Notification No.15/2017 to the Commission with the stipulated form on 6th May 2017.

Hence, we would like to announce again that any foreign investors who had invested before the enactment of Myanmar Investment Law (2016) and have been carrying out the restricted investment activities under Myanmar Investment Commission Notification No.15/2017 shall notify to Myanmar Investment Commission or Region and State Investment Committee Office by 29th March 2019 with stipulated Form-9.

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M.V SOUL OF LUCK VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SOUL OF LUCK VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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.

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (094N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Cardi B leads nominations at MTV Awards

NEW YORK — Fast-rising rapper Cardi B on Monday topped nominations at the MTV Video Music Awards, outpacing Jay-Z and Beyoncé who were recognized for their ornate work filmed at the Louvre.

Cardi B, who in little more than a year has become one of the most prominent women in the male-dominated world of hip-hop, received 10 nominations for the awards show that will take place on 20 August in New York.

The Bronx native born as Belcalis Almanzar was in the running in both hip-hop and Latin categories as well as Artist of the Year and Best New Artist.

The 25-year-old, who recently became a mother, was nominated for Video of the Year as the featured artist on “Finesse” by funk revivalist Bruno Mars. The video pays tribute to “In Living Color,” the trailblazing African American television comedy show of the early 1990s.

Cardi B scored a runaway success last year with “Bodak



Cardi B was in the running in both hip-hop and Latin categories as well as Artist of the Year and Best New Artist.—AFP PHOTO: AFP

Yellow,” a song in which she touches on her former life making ends meet as a stripper, but was controversially passed over at the latest Grammy Awards — which Mars dominated.

Beyoncé and Jay-Z were nominated for eight awards, all for “Apeshit,” the meticulously attired and tightly choreographed production shot at the Louvre, opening with music’s first couple standing

like a painting in front of the Mona Lisa.

“Apeshit” was part of the surprise album “Everything is Love” by “The Carters,” who celebrated their marriage in soulful hip-hop after a rough

patch that was thoroughly aired in previous music.

Childish Gambino and Drake each received seven nominations. Childish Gambino, the hip-hop alter ego of actor Donald Glover, received all his nods for “This is America,” his much-discussed meditation on the contemporary political landscape of the United States.

The video for “This is America,” directed by Hiro Murai, depicts Glover in acts of violence that reflect gun massacres and racism in the United States, complemented with dancing in homage to African traditions.

The MTV Video Music Awards each year draws an A-list of celebrities but, unlike the more formal Grammys, is more closely watched for its pop culture moments than for the suspense on the winners.

Previous scenes at the VMAs have included Lady Gaga sporting a dress made of meat, Britney Spears and Madonna locking lips and Kanye West declaring his aspirations for the White House.—AFP ■



Indian star Priyanka Chopra. PHOTO: PTI

Priyanka and Nick enjoy double date with Joe Jonas, Sophie Turner

LOS ANGELES — Indian star Priyanka Chopra and singer Nick Jonas were spotted enjoying a dinner date in London.

Priyanka, who turns a year older tomorrow, was spotted spending some quality time with Nick and his brothers Joe and Kevin.

Joe’s fiancée, “Game of Thrones” star Sophie Turner, was also present.

According to E! online the

group dined at the 34 Mayfair in London before heading over to the Ritz Casino to top the night off.

Priyanka first met the “Jealous” singer’s family when she attended his cousin’s wedding as his date in June and the two celebrities have since grown inseparable.

Two weeks ago Nick, 25, also met Priyanka’s family while on a trip to India.—PTI ■

Johnny Depp, ex-managers settle financial lawsuit

LOS ANGELES — Johnny Depp has reached a settlement with his former business managers, his representatives said Monday, allowing the Oscar-nominated American actor to avoid a trial over his finances that promised paparazzi fervour.

A spokesperson said Depp, 55, was “pleased” with the confidential agreement reached with The Management Group, the company that handled his business affairs for nearly two decades.

He had sued the organization in January 2017 for \$25 million, accusing TMG of mismanaging his finances, taking out loans without his approval, and concealing his ruinous finances.

Beverly Hills-based TMG had filed a countersuit against the Oscar-nominated actor seeking unpaid fees and damages. The group alleged Depp’s lavish overspending had brought him to the edge of financial ruin, having dropped millions on a yacht, luxu-



According to the magazine *Rolling Stone*, American actor Johnny Depp’s \$650-million fortune has nearly all evaporated. PHOTO: AFP

ry cars, private planes and wine.

The agreement comes just before the trial was due to begin in August. “The lawsuit taken out against The Management Group — and the subsequent settlement — is a further demonstration that Johnny is determined to take firm action to protect his personal and artistic reputation in the interests of his family and his career,”

Depp’s spokesperson said in the statement announcing the deal.

According to the magazine *Rolling Stone*, Depp’s estimated \$650-million fortune has nearly all evaporated. Depp and actress Amber Heard, 32, reached an out-of-court settlement in 2016 to end their 18-month marriage, agreeing that he would pay her \$7 million.—AFP ■

Rolls-Royce unveils hybrid flying taxi at Farnborough

LONDON — British engine maker Rolls-Royce revealed plans this week to develop a hybrid electric vehicle, dubbed the “flying taxi”, which takes off and lands vertically and could be airborne within five years.

The London-listed aerospace giant, which is based in Derby in central England, showed off the plans at the Farnborough Airshow for the first time, as other players also rush into the market segment.

Rolls said it hoped to manufacture a prototype version of its electric vertical take-off and landing (EVTOL) vehicle within the next 18 months, and could potentially take to the skies in the early 2020s.

The Rolls-Royce EVTOL plane will seat four or five people, with a flying range of 500 miles (805 kilometres) and a top speed of 200 miles per hour.

“In this market, you will see something like this flying within three to five years, and we will demonstrate the system in two years,” said Rob Watson, head of Rolls-Royce’s electrical team.

“At the end of next year we will be flight ready,” he told AFP at the group’s Farnborough chalet. The hybrid vehicle, which has so far cost single-digit millions of pounds to develop, will use a traditional gas turbine engine with an electrical system wrapped around it.

Rolls-Royce is also researching an all-electric product but that is not as advanced as the EVTOL offering. “There is an emerging market for all-electric planes but we believe that you need a level of requirement that an all electric system cannot really provide today,” Watson told AFP.

Hybrid propulsion

“So, all-electric is the way



The Rolls-Royce EVTOL plane will seat four or five people, with a flying range of 500 miles (805 kilometres) and a top speed of 200 miles per hour. **PHOTO: AFP**

to hop around within a city, but if you want to travel 200 or 300 miles, if you want to run London to Paris, then you are going to want to run something that will give you that range.

“So we think you will see hybrid propulsion systems starting to make this market.”

Rolls-Royce is not alone in the hybrid “flying taxi” marketplace.

Other companies researching the sector include US taxi-hailing company Uber, the Google-backed Kitty Hawk project, Lilium Aviation in Germany, Safran in France, and Honeywell in the United States.

The aerospace sector’s push into electric propulsion has drawn comparisons with the automotive industry, where electric cars are gaining ground in terms of popularity and performance.

“Think of it like the car industry. Historically everybody had an internal combustion engine. Over time you add more electric capability to it and then you start to see electric cars,” added Watson. “In the same way, we are introducing a hybrid propulsion system into this market

because we think it gives you that range and capability.”

Potential disruptor

David Stewart, aviation and aerospace adviser and partner at Oliver Wyman, told AFP that the aerospace sector was facing pressure to become more environmentally friendly.

“I think that electrical propulsion is a potential disruptor to the way things are powered,” said Stewart, who will speak at Farnborough on Tuesday.

“We are quite a long way for electrical power to be a replacement for kerosene, but never say never.” He cautioned that Rolls-Royce’s flying taxi concept was in reality a development platform to test the new technology.

The real market opportunity will likely be a scaled up version of 10-15 seats that can serve a wider variety of applications, according to Stewart. Watson added: “Over time you’ve got more electrical capability for bigger and bigger aircraft — and that’s really what we are thinking about today.

“We are learning today about the technology that we will need tomorrow.”—AFP ■

Gene-editing damages DNA more than previously thought

PARIS — A revolutionary gene editing technique hailed as the future of disease eradication and mooted for a Nobel prize may be less precise and cause more cell damage than previously thought, researchers said on Monday.

Lab experiments using mouse and human cells revealed that the CRISPR-Cas9 technique “frequently” caused “extensive” gene mutations, a study team reported.

“This is the first systematic assessment of unexpected events resulting from CRISPR-Cas9 editing,” said Allan Bradley of the Wellcome Sanger Institute in England, where the team conducts research.

The research showed that “changes in the DNA have been seriously underestimated before now,” said Bradley, who co-authored a study published in the journal *Nature Biotechnology*.

The mutations have not been shown to be harmful, nor benign.

“It is important that anyone thinking of using this technology for gene therapy proceeds with caution and looks very carefully to check for harmful effects,” Bradley said in a statement issued by the institute.

First unveiled about six years ago, CRISPR-Cas9 allows scientists to insert, remove and correct a faulty sequence on a strand of DNA in a cell with pinpoint precision.

It has raised hopes that one day disease-causing genes could be removed or altered before a baby is even born.

In recent years, CRISPR-Cas9 has repeatedly been predicted to win the Nobel chemistry prize.

CRISPRs — clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats — are part of the immune defence system in

bacteria, used to hone in on the exact spot on the genome where the cut should be made.

Cas9 is a protein used as “scissors” to snip through the faulty gene, which is then replaced or fixed by the cell’s own DNA repair mechanism.

‘Safety implications’

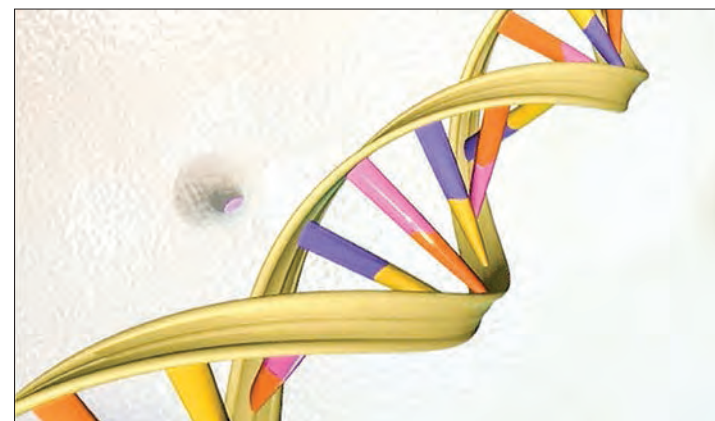
The technique’s safety has not yet been proven, and it is not approved for use in human therapy. So far, researchers have used it to improve hearing in mice going deaf and to fix a disease-causing mutation in cloned, early-stage human embryos. But the new finding raises “safety implications,” the team said.

They found “large genetic rearrangements such as DNA deletions and insertions” in cells, which could lead to important genes being switched on or off and causing dangerous changes. The research also showed that standard tests do not pick up damage to DNA caused by CRISPR-Cas9.

Experts not involved in the study said it was unclear how such large, unintended changes were not noticed before.

But, “the results give no reason to panic or to lose faith in the methods when they are carried out by those who know what they are doing,” said Robin Lovell-Badge of The Francis Crick Institute, a biomedical research centre in London.

For Francesca Forzano, a consultant in clinical genetics and genomics with the Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust, the work showed that CRISPR-Cas9 “is much less safe than previously thought” and that safety-monitoring techniques were “not entirely adequate”. More research is needed before any clinical application of the method is considered, said Forzano.—AFP ■



CRISPR-Cas9 is a revolutionary gene-editing technique which allows scientists to insert, remove and correct DNA within a cell with pinpoint precision. **PHOTO: AFP**

Chinese scientist invents novel tool to measure behavior of electrons

NEW YORK — A Chinese scientist working in the US has invented a novel tool to measure the behavior of electrons in materials, which can improve the performance of devices in electronics, chips, IT, sensors and energy.

The project has been verified by experiments from both the industry and the academia,

including data from General Motors and Columbia University, and will potentially be used by IBM, professor Shuang Tang told Xinhua on Saturday in New York City.

The result was reported in Tang’s article *Extracting the Energy Sensitivity of Charge Carrier Transport and Scattering*, which was published on July 13

by *Scientific Reports*, an online sub-journal of *Nature*.

The project has been under research for four years, finished partially at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and SUNY Poly, a campus built jointly by New York State government and frontier industrial companies, including IBM and GlobalFoundries, Tang said.—Xinhua ■

Bolt poised for surprise trial with Aussie football club

SYDNEY — Usain Bolt is on the verge of sealing a deal to trial with the A-League's Central Coast Mariners, the Australian club said on Tuesday, as the sprint legend pursues his dream of playing professional football.

Eight-time Olympic champion Bolt, 31, who retired from athletics after August's World Championships in London, is an avid Manchester United fan who has long dreamt of playing top-flight football.

The 100m and 200m world record-holder trained with Norwegian club Stromsgodset last month and Bundesliga club Borussia Dortmund in March.

The planned arrangement will see him take part in a six-week trial starting next month at the Mariners' base in Gosford, some 75 kilometres (47 miles) north of Sydney, chief executive Shaun Mielekamp said.



Usain Bolt is trying to launch a career in football. **PHOTO: AFP**

A season-long deal could follow if it goes well, he told commercial broadcaster Channel Seven.

Football agent Tony Rallis, who has been working on the deal, told Sky Sports Radio's Big Sports Breakfast on Tuesday it

has been agreed "in principle... subject to a couple of benchmarks".

"Mainly, a trial, and of course marquee funds support from (governing body Football Federation Australia)," he said, adding that the arrangement was not a gimmick.

"Once the FFA comes back and says that they'll be part of the process, we're going to the trial... This bloke's an ambitious athlete. The A-League needed a hero, and we got superman."

Mielekamp said his club had been working on the agreement for four to five months, and there was still "some work to do".

"But fingers crossed things might play out, but the most important thing is we wait to find out and see how good a footballer he is first.

"If all goes well, who

knows? He may be playing in the A-League this season."

Mielekamp said reports of Bolt's performance at the European clubs he has trialled with have been "pretty good", and that "every time he trains, he improves significantly".

"He has a very good left foot, and time will tell at what level he is at and if it fits the A-League... it would only be big if he could play and go really well," he said.

"If he comes in and he is not up to the level, it could have a detrimental effect."

Bolt has dominated sprinting since taking double individual gold at the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

The charismatic sportsman went on to win a further six Olympic golds and pick up 11 world titles. The A-League season starts in October.—AFP ■

Record scorer Cahill retires from Australia duty

SYDNEY — Australia's all-time leading goal-scorer Tim Cahill retired from international football Tuesday, ending an illustrious career that has taken him to four World Cups.

The 38-year-old, who scored 50 international goals in 107 appearances, last played for the Socceroos when he came off the bench for their final group game against Peru at the World Cup in Russia.

"Today's the day that I'm officially hanging up my boots on my international career with the Socceroos," Cahill tweeted.

"No words can describe what it has meant to represent my country. Massive thank you to everyone for the support throughout all my years wearing the Australian badge."

The former Everton striker, one of the finest players to come out of Australia, did not say if he would continue playing club football.

He joined his former club

Millwall in the English Championship on a short-term deal in January after quitting Australia's Melbourne City in a bid to secure more game time before the World Cup.

Governing body Football Federation Australia chief executive David Gallop hailed Cahill as a "genuine legend of our game and for a long time has been a great ambassador for football".

Ex-teammates and Socceroo fans paid tribute to the tireless player and praised his leadership on and off the field, using the Twitter hashtags #ThanksTim and #ThanksTimmy.

"When he put an Australian jersey on, he just had a knack of scoring goals and getting us out of trouble," former Socceroos great Archie Thompson told commercial broadcaster Channel Nine Tuesday.

"He contributed in making football a brand and in making the Socceroos a brand."

Cahill, born in Sydney

to a Samoan mother, started his international career playing for Western Samoa under-20s and only became a Socceroo in 2004 after an intense lobbying campaign to world body FIFA.

Two years later in Germany, he became the first Australian to net a goal at the World Cup, going to score in two further tournaments in 2010 and 2014.

In 2007, he also became the first Australian to score at an Asian Cup, and he helped the Socceroos win the Asian title for the first time in 2015.

Before his stint at City, Cahill spent 14 years in England with Millwall and top-flight outfit Everton, scoring more than 100 goals, before signing for the New York Red Bulls.

Cahill, known for his prodigious vertical leap and trademark goal celebration, when he uses the corner flag as a punching bag, also played for China's Shanghai Shenhua and Hangzhou Greentown.—AFP ■



Belgium's French assistant coach Thierry Henry gestures on the sideline during their Russia 2018 World Cup play-off for third place match against England at the Saint Petersburg Stadium in Saint Petersburg on 14 July, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Thierry Henry quits TV to focus on coaching

PARIS — Retired France and Arsenal star Thierry Henry said on Monday that he was quitting as a football analyst with British broadcaster Sky Sports to focus on a coaching career.

Henry, who had worked for Sky since 2015, has also been an assistant to Belgium manager Roberto Martinez since 2016 and helped lead the team to third place at the World Cup.

"Over the last four years I have had some extremely rewarding coaching experiences in football," Henry wrote on Instagram and Twitter.

"These experiences have only made me more determined to fulfil my long-term ambition

to become a football manager.

"I have decided that I must leave Sky Sports to enable me to spend more time on the pitch and concentrate on my journey to achieving that goal."

Henry gained his coaching licence working with Arsenal's youth team but opted in 2016 to focus on his work for Sky rather than take a job at the club.

France's all-time leading goalscorer, was a member of the squads that won the 1998 World Cup on home soil and Euro 2000 alongside Didier Deschamps, who on Sunday was crowned world champion for a second time as manager of France.—AFP ■