

■ NATIONAL

Vice President inspects renovation of ancient pagodas and religious edifices in Bagan

► PAGE 9



■ NATIONAL

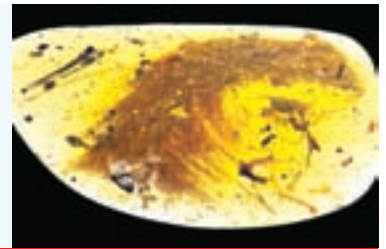
470 suspects still under investigation in northern Maungtau attacks

► PAGE 3

■ SCIENCE

Remarkable feathered dinosaur tail found in chunk of amber

► PAGE 2



Vol. III, No. 238, 11th Waxing of Nadaw 1378 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Saturday, 10 December 2016

Rakhine State Government, UNHCR deliver aid to villages in northern Rakhine

THE aid from United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reached conflict areas in Rakhine State yesterday while the Rakhine State Government is speeding up its distribution of aid relief to villagers in the area.

Officials of the UN body and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu visited the villages in Maungtau Township yesterday and delivered humanitarian aid relief supplies from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees-UNHCR to the villagers.

During the trip, U Nyi Pu and Mr Christopher Carter, the Assistant UN Resident Representative, distributed kitchen utensils and household goods to 27 families with 150 people in Shwebaho Village in Gawduthara Village-tract and to 20 families in Myaung Village in Duchiyartan Village-tract.

Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Nyi Pu also held talks with Mr Itaru Furuta, an officer at the UN World Food Programme (WFP), at his office on Thursday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to sending aid relief to conflict areas in Maungtau.

Regarding the aid supply to Maungtau, Chief Minister U Nyi Pu said that Rakhine State Government did not block aid relief supplies from any international organizations.

The State Counsellor has instructed the government to speed up aid supplies to the area-



Mr Christopher Carter delivers aid to villagers from Muslim community in Maungtau in northern Rakhine.

PHOTO: INFORMATION TEAM OF THE STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE

as to be able to sufficiently supply the humanitarian aid relief to the areas, he added.

WFP launched distribution of aid relief to Maungtau today, according to the Rakhine State

Information and Public Relations Department.

The government allowed United Nations agencies to resume aid delivery to Maungtau on November 9; however, access

to some villages in the area was restricted by "security reasons".

Kofi Annan, the former United Nations Secretary-General and chairman of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine

State, visited the northern areas of Rakhine State last weekend and observed the situation there.

"We had the opportunity to hold a high-level discussion. We were told that humanitarian access will be given for aid to reach the needy," Mr. Annan told reporters in Yangon on Tuesday.

Mr Kofi Annan called for stability in the state to effectuate development of the region, which has been the site of several armed attacks on police outposts.

With the assistance of the National Disaster Management Committee, the Rakhine State Government provided humanitarian aid relief to 1,288 households in 19 villages in Maungtau Township for the third time on 8th December.

One day after Mr. Annan's remarks, Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, held a coordination meeting with the Rakhine State Government and aid groups of the government office in Sittway, calling on aid groups to strike a proper balance between security and freedom in providing aid to the two communities in conflict areas in northern Rakhine State.

The Union minister also stressed the need to make efforts to ease tensions between the two communities while providing humanitarian aid to make fair efforts in accordance with the law.

See page 3 >>

Legal action to be taken against the Independent Daily for fabricated news on State Counsellor

At such a time when false accusations are being made against Myanmar over human rights, some international media are describing false news on Myanmar intentionally. On the Online page of the Independent Daily Edition—<http://theindependent.sg> on December 5, there was a news under the headline "Aung San

Suu Kyi laughs out at Rohingya genocide allegations while in Singapore."

Concerning the reporting of a wrong report, the State Counsellor Office's Information Committee announced yesterday that responsible officials of the republic of the Union of Myanmar will respond to the Independent Daily

according to the law and procedures of Journalism.

In meeting with Myanmar citizens in Singapore, Myanmar language was used as the medium of communication, but the video file referred to by the Independent Daily was the false one posted on Youtube, subtitled in English by the google account

named Haikal Mansor. It is one of the unconfirmed sources of the news and the propagandist fighting Myanmar with false news. As regards the invented videos posted on Youtube by the said account, contact will be made Google Inc., Although conscientious Myanmar citizens and responsible correspondents

made critical comments, the Independent Daily failed to insert a corrigendum, not abiding by the media ethics. Kumaran Pilla is the publisher-cum-editor of the Independent Daily, claiming that Theindependent.sg is a media describing latest news in Singapore.

See page 3 >>

Pyithu Hluttaw

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 3rd regular session's 14th meeting held

PYITHU Hluttaw held on December 9 approved to table a motion submitted by Dr A Zin Latt of Shwebo constituency, calling for the Union Government to implement the project of taking effective action against sales of unhygienic foodstuff contaminated with chemical dyes in the markets across the country including school snack-stalls, with a national level suppression team comprising responsible departments.

Dr Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health, replied to the question raised by Dr Khin Soe Soe Kyi of Pyay constituency, "Pyay General Hospital has two specialist doctors each in the departments of medicine, surgery, pediatrics, OG department with one each at eye, ear, nose and throat, orthopedics, radiography departments. Civil assistant surgeons have been appointed more than before. As the whole nation, more forensic doctors are needed, hence education of forensic medicine to all medical assistants in the year 2015. There will be over 2000 specialist doctors and over 300 doctors holding doctorate de-

gree in the years 2016 to 2018. Arrangements have been made to produce more specialists and doctorates."

Union Minister added, "Building of patient care units needed for Pyay General Hospital are under construction and building for CT Scan was built in the fiscal year 2015-2016. Arrangements for installing transformer and electric wiring were under way. And budget grant for the laboratory and blood bank is to be submitted."

After the Union Minister replied to the question raised by Daw Tin Tin Yi of Kyunzu constituency with the question raised by U Myint Lwin of Twante constituency replied by U Kyaw Myo, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communication.

At the end of the meeting, Dr Myint Htwe replied to questions raised by U Khun Than Htoo of Sisai constituency, U Min Naung of Pinlebu constituency, Sai Maung Pwint of Tanyang constituency and U Phone Myint Aung of Daik U constituency and U Wan Hla of Nangyun constituency.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Amyotha Hluttaw

2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 3rd Session's 14th Meeting Held



Dr Aung Thu. PHOTO: MNA

DR Aung Thu, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Irrigation replied to the question raised by U Tet Tun Aung, of constituency 2 in Rakhine State, "A two-mile-long rough road and 4 concrete bridges are targeted to be built in Pauktaw township with a budget allotment of K 80.04 million by the department of rural areas development for the fiscal year—2016-2017, at the meeting held in the meeting hall of the Amyotha Hluttaw on December 9.

In addition, the Union Minister replied, "There will be no arrangement for building the bridge spanning the creek between Setnoe and Nattaung villages in the village-tract of Kyauktaung as any allotment for building the bridge was not included in the



U Win Khaing. PHOTO: MNA

budget allotment by the department of areas development for the current financial year, with plans to be implemented according to their respective years."

U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Construction, replied to the question raised by U Win Maung of constituency 6 in Magwe Region, "Salin creek's current is always changing, moving into the direction of Sinphyukyun with its bent current at present. Now arrangements are being made to consult with department of water resources and riverine development for making River Training to protect the town from erosion of the creek.

Depending upon the Hydrographic survey on the creek near Nwetame bridge, River Training will be implemented. At the time



U Tet Tun Aung. PHOTO: MNA

when the water current becomes normal after watching the findings of the water training for one year, Nwetame bridge will be upgraded as the two-way concrete bridge. For the construction of Monechaung Bailey Bridge, permission of K 2000 million of the Union lump sum fund was submitted."

Dr Aung Thu and U Win Khaing, Union Ministers, replied to the queries raised by U Min Oo of constituency 6, Bago Region, U Kyaw Swe of constituency 11 in Magwe Region and Daw Htu May of constituency 11 in Rakhine State respectively.

15th Meeting of 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 3rd Regular Session will be held on December 12, it was learnt.—*Thura Zaw (MNA)*

Death toll in fighting against KIA, TNLA, MNDAA, AA totals 29

A total of 29 were killed by the KIA, TNLA, MNDAA and AA armed groups in the fighting that occurred starting from 20 November.

The death toll included 15 police, one militia and 13 civilians while 49 including two

service personnel and 47 civilians were injured during these clashes.

Out of 49 looted assorted arms belonging to the Myanmar Police Force, nine were recovered and 40 have been lost.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Myanmar to attend Global Entrepreneurship Congress in South Africa

WITH the assistance of the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) Myanmar, selected Myanmar entrepreneurs will take part in the Global Entrepreneurship Congress and Study Tour in South Africa and Kenya next year to create new business links among other countries. The GEC 2017 will take place from 13 to 16 March next year in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and other start-up experts from more than 160 countries will gather together at the annual congress to identify new ways of helping founders start and scale new ventures.

The GEN Myanmar will also arrange a study tour to connect Myanmar entrepreneurs and ecosystem participants with their counterparts in two of the hottest entrepreneurship hubs in Africa - Johannesburg, South Africa and Nairobi, Kenya.

"Startups are a powerful engine for economic growth. That's why the GEN Myanmar is inspiring and supporting the local startup community," said Win Ko Ko Aung, Program Manager of the GEN Myanmar, who hopes that local entrepreneurs can learn much from global entrepreneurs and bring that knowledge and experience back home.—*GNLM*

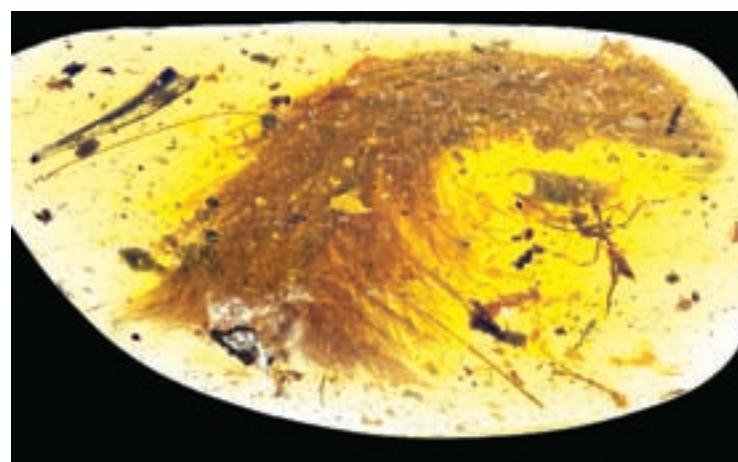
Remarkable feathered dinosaur tail found in chunk of amber — fossilized resin

WASHINGTON — Some 99 million years ago, a juvenile dinosaur got its feathery tail stuck in tree resin, a death trap for the small creature. But its misfortune is now giving scientists unique insight into feathered dinosaurs that prospered during the Cretaceous Period.

Researchers said on Thursday a chunk of amber—fossilized resin—spotted by a Chinese scientist in a market in Myitkyina, Myanmar, last year contained 1.4 inches (36 mm) of the tail of the dinosaur, complete with bones, flesh, skin and feathers. The dinosaur itself was no more than 6 inches (15 cm) long, about the size of a sparrow. "This is the first of its kind," said paleontologist Ryan McKellar of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in Canada, one of the researchers involved in the study published in the journal *Current Biology*. "I'm blown away."

The scientists suspect the tail belonged to a type of two-legged, bird-like dinosaur called a maniraptoran, one of several groups of dinosaurs that possessed feathers. Birds, which first appeared about 150 million years ago during the Jurassic Period, evolved from small, feathered dinosaurs.

The researchers used sophisticated scanning and microscopic observations to study the tail. They



A chunk of amber - fossilized resin - spotted by a Chinese scientist in a market in Myitkyina, Myanmar, last year shows the tip of a preserved dinosaur tail section in this image released by the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in Canada on 8 December 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

determined it boasted a chestnut-brown upper surface, with a pale or white underside, a pattern known as countershading.

"We're seeing feathers still attached to the tail, and we can see how they attach, the shapes that they have down to the micrometer scale, and things like pigment patterns within the feathers," McKellar said. The tail consisted of eight vertebrae, soft tissue and feathers exquisitely preserved in three dimensions. McKellar said getting its tail stuck in resin "would have been a game-ender for that particular animal. They don't drop their tails like some lizards." The tail's anatomy

enabled the scientists to rule out that it belonged to a bird because it was long and flexible and lacked a pygostyle, fused vertebrae that in birds support the tail feathers.

The discovery also sheds light on the evolution of feathers. The ones trapped in the amber were more primitive than those of birds, lacking much of the central shaft seen in bird feathers.

Amber has long been a boon to paleontologists. Numerous creatures have been found entombed in amber, including insects, lizards, amphibians, mammals and birds, as well as plants including flowers.—*Reuters*

Rakhine State Government, UNHCR deliver aid to villages in northern Rakhine

>> From page 1

With the assistance of the National Disaster Management Committee, the Rakhine State Government on 8th December.

Authorities distributed relief aid supplies which included

322 bags of rice, 644 vises of cooking oil, 210 vises of beans, 644 vises of salt and 644 vises of dried fish to the families in 14 village-tracts, said the Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office.—GNLM



Chief Minister U Nyi Pu delivers aid from UNHCR to a Muslim woman in a village in Maungdaw. PHOTO: INFORMATION TEAM OF THE STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE

#	Township	Village-tract	Hamlet	# of Individuals	# of Households	Type of NFI to be distributed
1	Maungdaw	Gow Du Thar Ya	Shwe Baho	150	27	Kitchen set, Tarpsulin, Core NFI kit, Sanitary kit, Sleeping mat, Blanket, Bucket, Jerry Can
2	Maungdaw	Du Chee Yar Tan	Ming Ywa (Ashay Ywa)	56	10	Kitchen set, Tarpsulin, Core NFI kit, Sanitary kit, Sleeping mat, Blanket, Bucket, Jerry Can



Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and UN Official Mr Christopher Carter meet villagers from local community during their visit to villages in northern Rakhine. PHOTO: INFORMATION TEAM OF THE STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE

MNDAA armed group member arrested



Wu Quin Chan.
PHOTO: STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE

WHILE conducting a security operation, the government forces arrested a member of the MNDAA armed group in Laukai in north-eastern Shan State yesterday.

During the interrogation, Wu Quin Chan said he is the platoon commander of the 29th battalion of MNDAA and he is from Nyophyinsapar Village, Lonhtan Village-tract in Laukai.

He was a service personnel of the MNDAA before fightings take place between the Tatmadaw and the MNDAA broke out.

When the fightings oc-

curred in 2015, he fled to China and was arrested by the MNDAA troops in July and conscripted into service for the MNDAA between Nampkyar and Tarshinminkhant.

He did recruitment work for the MNDAA, touring around Shinpinkaing Village, Namkhonhaw Village, Tarkyukyaing Village and Kyartimaw Village in Konkyan Township.

He was arrested by the government troops on his way back home.

Action will be taken against him in accordance with the law.—Myanmar News Agency

One detainee in Maungdaw hospitalized

WHILE being detained at the Maungdaw Myoma Police Station, U Mammud Sarlain, whose health deteriorated during the detention, has to be hospitalized to

Maungdaw People's Hospital on Thursday evening, according to the Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office.—Myanmar News Agency

470 suspects still under investigation in northern Maungdaw attacks

A total of 575 suspects for 9th October violent attacks and subsequent attacks have been detained by security forces so far.

The suspects have been accused of being involved in ambushes, raids with the use of force

and planting landmines.

Among them, 88 have been sentenced, 10 have been released, one has been released on bail and 6 have died. The rest, 470 suspects are still under investigation.—Myanmar News Agency

Legal action to be taken against the Independent Daily for fabricated news on State Counsellor

>> From page 1

Question & Answer session between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor, and Myanmar Citizens in Singapore on 1-12-2-16

Question: We saw difficulties being encountered by the new government particularly those regarding the fabricated news. We totally support the government led by our mother-like leader. Now I want to ask you how you think of the trouble makers and their subversive actions by fabricating stories. Are our aims and objectives likely to be successful? Which preparations are we necessary to make? Let us hear your stance

and conception presently so as to reduce our worries. (Questioner is a Myanmar citizen who loved her since at the age of 8, and supported since 1996.)

Answer by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi: "It will be a help to us as long as you know they are fabricating the news. Their noises will be nuisance for them, if we do not believe them and fall for their invented stories. I want to say that there will never become a problem. But one thing is that there is no government that does not err. So, I hereby request you all to suggest of our government needs to amend our modus operandi." (Unofficial translation)—Myanmar News Agency



Archived images from the now-deleted Independent Daily. PHOTO: INFORMATION TEAM OF THE STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE



Hawkers are staging a protest to be relocated at their original places. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

Hawkers from four downtown townships in Yangon stage a protest

Hawkers from four downtown townships took to street in front of the city hall in Yangon yesterday morning and revealed their difficulties.

They chanted slogans “Let hawkers sell as usual,” “Launch investigation into corruption at the night market,” “Let hawker sell their goods at former places in accordance with rules and regulations,” and “Stop destruction and seizing of hawkers’ possessions.”

The night market, recently created for hawkers in Yangon, cannot accommodate all hawkers, according to a stall owner at the night market.

“We have over ten thousand hawkers in the four downtown townships. Only one night market cannot accommodate all of

us. What we want is to allow us to sell our goods at our former places in accordance with rules and regulations concerned. Action can be taken against hawkers who fail to follow the rules and regulations,” Ko Kyaw Kyaw Soe, a fruit seller at the night market told the Myanmar News Agency.

Yangon City Development Committee opened the night market on 23 November near the junction of Sule Pagoda Road and Strand Road with a ceremony, and hawkers from Kyauktada, Pabedan, Latha and Landamadaw Townships were forced to move to the night market. Authorities said they moved the hawkers there to prevent disturbances for pedestrians and pleasantness of the city.

Hawkers have been allowed to set up their stalls from Aung Yadana street in Lanmadaw Township to Pansodan Road in Kyauktada Township and from Maha Bandoor Park Road to Strand Road from 3 pm to 11 pm.

Each hawker is required to pay a registration fee of only K 500 for a period of one year without other fees. About 6,000 hawkers had to draw lots to get one of about 1,600 stall places in the night market and the rest were allowed to set up their stalls in numbered streets with causing disturbances to the residents of the streets.

Authorities have banned hawkers on main road in downtown Yangon as it led to traffic jams.—*Ko Moe*

Prohibited chili powder seized in Hpa-an

KAYIN State township of Hpa-an Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on 6 December seized 1,918 packs of chili powder, the brand of which are prohibited by the government.

A combined team comprising officers and staff from the township general administration department, the state FDA, the consumers’ affairs department, the police, and township development committee searched for the illegal products in the market on Tuesday.

“In fact, the FDA has already released a list of 61 chili and masala brands that should not be consumed because of their harmful effects. After one week, the inspectors will check again in the market. If they find the

banned brands again, they will take action against the shopkeepers,” said Dr. Maung Maung Thiha Htway, in charge of the Kayin State FDA.

“The government has banned 61 brands of chili powder which contain Aflatoxin B1, which is harmful to consumers, but these chili brands are still being sold in the market. So, the Kayin state FDA decided to seize and destroy those chili powder brands.”

Store owners pleaded ignorance on the matter.

“I don’t regularly read the newspapers, so, I didn’t know there were banned brands. If I had known, I would not have sold them. The inspectors told me to destroy all these chili powders. I will obey their orders,”

said a shop owner from Hpa-an Thiri market.

Aflatoxin, a secondary product of mould, is known as “anti-nutritional” as it binds proteins, vitamins, and minerals so the body will not be able to absorb nutrients. Aflatoxin can also stunt growth and lead to “kwashiorkor,” a debilitating, often fatal disease of nutritional deficiency in children. If ingested over a prolonged period of time, the poison can inhibit the immune system, cause mutation of DNA on the cellular level and become carcinogenic, the FDA said.

Among the 61 brands of chili powder prohibited by FDA are U Ngwe Soe and Shwe Kyi, Kaung and Shwe Yadi from Mawlamyine.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

K 5-billion worth stimulant tablets seized in Naf River

PATROL ships in the Naf River found a suspicious boat on Thursday evening and tried to halt it but it refused to stop, forcing the security forces to open warning fires to stop it.

Myint Oo of Soemekyi Village and Thein Tun Win (a) Nyiche and Hla Aung Tin of Kaihee Village in Pauktaw Township, were detained to-

gether with one shotgun, 42 rounds of bullets, eight 12-volt bullets, and 2.5 millions of stimulant tablets bearing YW letters worth K 5 billion.

Action will be taken against the three suspects in accordance with the law, according to the Information Committee of the State Counsellor’s Office.—*Myanmar News Agency*



The three suspects are seen with drugs and weapons seized. PHOTO: MNA

Crime NEWS

Traffic fatalities on the rise in Taungoo

NEARLY 120 people died in 865 traffic accidents in Taungoo District over the past 11 months, while over 650 individuals sustained injuries, according to the district traffic police.

Although non-fatal injuries decreased by over 130 compared with last year, traffic fatalities rate far exceeded last year’s total of 92. In 2015, a total of 428 road accidents occurred in six townships in Taungoo District, leaving 92 people dead and 785 others injured.

The high death toll in road accidents is the result of a combination of drivers and pedestrians who fail to abide by traffic safety rules and regulations, a police officer said.

To reduce road-related deaths, traffic rule enforcement efforts have been made throughout the district, with the result that the number of traffic rule violators have significantly decreased since September, when the project was implemented, police said.—*Kyi Thar*

Stimulants seized in Mabein, Taunggyi

An anti-narcotic suppression squad searched a house owned by Kyaw Zin Oo and seized 2,835 stimulant tablets at No 288, Thazin Street, Pyi Taw Tha Ward, Taunggyi on 8 December.

On the same day, Police forces from Mabein Township Police Station searched a house

owned by Maung Myo, 36, living at Melzali village, Mabein Township and seized 11,550 stimulant tablets.

Police filed charges against them under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Kyaw Zin Oo seen together with the drugs seized. PHOTO: MNA

LOCAL Business

Citizen investment in tourism reaches over \$630m this year: DICA

MYANMAR'S citizens invested over US\$630 million in hotel and tourism sector this year, according to the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration (DICA).

Until the end of November, the investment value of existing local enterprises from 95 different projects in the industry hit \$635.692 million in total.

Tourism sector is included in the top five of the public investment list, representing 11.37 per cent of total citizen investment, according to DICA's figure of citizen investment of existing enterprises sector-wise.

The citizen investment mostly went to transport with 18.35 %, followed by real estate development with 18.11 %, manufacturing with 17.62 %, hotel and tourism with 11.37 %, construction with 7.08 %, industrial estate with 4.85 %, power with 3.85 %, mining with 1.16 %, livestock and fisheries with 0.54 %, agriculture with 0.43 % and others with 16.64 %.

The country earned over 7.8 billion dollars investment through 957 development projects in all sectors.

Myanmar Investment Commission recently announced that it will deal with investment proposals in accordance with the new Myanmar Investment Law that will come into effect starting from 1 January next year.

The commission will continue its functions, accepting proposals submitted by some investors even before the enactment of Myanmar Investment Law.

MIC granted 72 foreign investments worth over US\$2.122 billion and 31 local investments worth \$455.535 million this year.—*Khine Wah*



A tour guide talks to a couple of tourists in downtown Yangon. PHOTO. PHOE KHWAH

Petrol price goes up in Minbya due to shutting down of filling stations

THE PRICE of petrol continues to go up in Minbya, a town in Rakhine State, after filling stations came to a halt this month, according to local operators.

Petrol price has increased to about Ks2,000 per litre from Ks800 in black market especially downtown starting from 8 December with the result that some businesses stopped their production.

"Because of scarcity of petroleum, the fare for use of public transport

system is also rising in the town," said U Ko Ko, a local developer, adding that some businessmen import the fuel from MraukU Township to sell them at a higher price.

Filling stations in wards were forced to close after a meeting between residents and authorities who gathered after the last blaze that happened at a filling station on 25 November.

"We, owners of filling stations, decided to halt

the operations until the coming Sunday," said U Tun Tun, fuel station owner in Kinseik Ward.

Twenty petrol operators are now searching the new site only outside the town to sell fuel and engine lubricants.

They eye a 1.8-acre of farmland beside Minbya-MraukU road located between Minbya Town and Thedan Village.

Other sellers are also finding new places beside Minbya-Myebon road and

Minbya-Pauktaw road.

Currently, an acre of farmland outside the town is worth over Ks20 million, locals say.

There are seven large-scale filling stations and almost 70 small-scale ones in Minbya, which yearly experiences the danger of fire.

Local people wish filling stations to go on the outskirts of the town to reduce the possible risk of dangerous fire.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

One stop service centers aim to offer hotel licensing service without delay

SEVERAL one-stop-service centers are planned to be established in Yangon in January next year to offer hotel licensing service to applicants without delay, according to the Yangon Region government.

The authorities target to open the centers not only at the Yangon Region Government Office but also at the shopping malls

next month as a pilot project, Daw Naw Pan Thinza Myo, Yangon Region minister for Kayin Ethnic Affairs, said at the responsible tourism forum held on 7 December.

At the initial stage, the regional authorities are making negotiations with four shopping malls to install the centers.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Zoning areas for industrial zone to be announced in January, 2017

IN a bid to attract more investors to Myanmar, zoning areas for the industrial zone in which entrepreneurs will enjoy the benefits of a tax exemption period will be announced in January, 2017, according to Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC).

Setting areas for the industrial zone will be mainly focused on townships and the industrial zones will be set as zone 1,

2 and 3.

"The areas for the industrial zones have not been officially released yet but are slated to be announced in January. We have received the opinions from the region and state government", said U Aung Naing Oo, the secretary of MIC.

The prioritised sectors are designed to attract more investments in 2017. The formulation of new zones is still under discussion, it is learnt.

Under the existing Foreign Investment Law and the Myanmar Citizen's Investment Law, investors receive a five-year tax break. In the new investment law, tax exemption will be granted from 3 to 7 years depending on the type of investment and its location, it is learnt.

There were a total of 72 permitted foreign enterprises making investments of US\$2,122.383million as of the first week of December in the current fiscal year and 31 permitted Myanmar Citizen Investment projects with investments of US\$456.535million.

China topped the list of countries with the most FDI in Myanmar, followed by Singapore and Thailand. The investments are mostly in the manufacturing sector, it is learnt.—*Myitmakha News agency*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Rescue operations near end in Indonesia's quake-stricken Aceh

PIDIE JAYA (Indonesia) — Indonesian officials said on Friday search and rescue operations were nearing an end three days after a powerful earthquake hit the northern province of Aceh, killing 100 people and leaving thousands homeless.

Wednesday's 6.5 magnitude earthquake, which toppled dozens of buildings and injured hundreds of people, was the worst disaster to hit the region since the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

"We believe we have found 99 per cent of the victims," said Sutopo Nugroho, spokesman of the national disaster management agency.

The agency revised the death toll down to 100 from 102.

Hundreds of people in Aceh's Pidie Jaya regency held Friday prayers

outside mosques that had been reduced to rubble.

Many residents of the town of 140,000 have been sleeping in shelters and relief workers have been handing out food, water, and blankets.

President Joko Widodo visited survivors, including many getting treatment for broken bones in hospitals and tent clinics.

The province of Aceh, on the northern tip of Sumatra island, has declared a two-week state of emergency and the central government has pledged aid for recovery efforts.

A 26 December, 2004, earthquake and tsunami killed more than 120,000 people in Aceh.

In all, the 2004 tsunami killed 226,000 people along Indian Ocean shorelines.—Reuters

Tainted homemade rice wine kills 15 at funerals in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH — Fifteen people have died and at least 78 have been hospitalised in recent weeks after drinking toxic rice wine at a series of funerals in Cambodia in the past five weeks, officials said on Friday.

Rice wine sales were banned in Kompong Chhnang Province, about 90 km (55 miles) from the capital, Phnom Penh, after villagers became sick from drinking methanol-tainted wine, said Sorin Tiravuthy,

director of the provincial hospital.

The first death was reported on 3 November but villagers continued to consume the same rice wine at a different funeral, Tiravuthy said.

Rice wine is a staple in Cambodia, where it is consumed at weddings and funerals.

Home-brewed wine has led to fatalities in the past. The drink, which is relatively inexpensive, can

be lethal if not mixed properly.

Tiravuthy said he had lost count of the number of people being hospitalized after drinking bad rice wine.

"At health centres, people are continuously coming in. I don't know how many now," Tiravuthy told Reuters.

Cambodia's Health Minister Mam Bunheng said on Friday the tainted wine included above-normal quantities of methanol

and urged people to stop consuming improperly made rice wine.

Methanol, the simplest form of alcohol, is closely related to ethanol, the type of alcohol normally found in spirits, beer and wine. Home distillation can concentrate the level of methanol, which is highly toxic.

At least 18 people died in Cambodia's northeastern Kratie Province last year after drinking methanol-tainted rice wine.—Reuters

South Korea's President Park impeached in parliamentary vote

SEOUL — South Korean lawmakers voted overwhelmingly on Friday to impeach President Park Geun-hye over an influence-peddling scandal, setting the stage for her to become the country's first elected leader to be pushed from office in disgrace.

Members of parliament voted by a higher-than-expected 234 in favour and 56 opposed in the secret ballot, meaning more than 60 of Park's own conservative Saenuri Party members backed the motion to remove her. The votes of at least 200 members of the 300-seat chamber were needed for the motion to pass.

The Constitutional Court must decide whether to uphold the motion, a process that could take up to 180 days. Under the constitution, Park's duties will be assumed by Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn on an interim basis until the court rules.

"I solemnly accept the voice of the parliament and the people and sincerely hope this confusion is soundly resolved," Park said at a meeting with her cabinet.

"I will be responding calmly under the procedures laid out in the constitution and the law to the impeachment review by the Constitutional Court and the investigation by the special prosecutor."

Park, who faces investigation by a special prosecutor, said this week she would wait for the Constitutional Court's ruling, resisting demands that she step down immediately.



South Korean President Park Geun-hye speaks during an address to the nation, at the presidential Blue House in Seoul, South Korea, on 29 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Cheers erupted outside the chamber of the domed parliament building when the vote was announced. People held signs saying "Victory for the People" and "New Republic of Korea".

Earlier, anti-Park activists scuffled with police as they tried to drive two tractors up to parliament's main gate, where more than a 1,000 protesters had congregated.

Choi Jung-hoon, a 46-year high school maths teacher, joined the rally outside parliament with his wife and daughters, age 7 and 18 months.

"I wanted my kids to be here, making history, at a historic moment, and show we people can win," he said.

Park, 64, is accused of colluding with a friend and a former aide, both of whom have been indicted by prosecutors, to pressure

big businesses to donate to two foundations set up to back her policy initiatives.

Park, who is serving a single five-year term that was set to end in February 2018, has denied wrongdoing but apologized for carelessness in her ties with her friend, Choi Soon-sil.

Mass rallies have been held in the capital, Seoul, every Saturday for the past six weeks to press her to quit. Opinion polls show overwhelming public support for her impeachment.

Kang Dong-wan, a professor at Dong-A University in Busan, said the large impeachment vote from Park's own party was probably a result of rising crowds at weekly demonstrations demanding Park's ouster.

"It looks like more from the ruling Saenuri Party gave their support than many had expect-

ed after realizing that the party could collapse if the bill doesn't get approved," Kang said.

Prime Minister Hwang, whose post is largely ceremonial, will assume interim presidential powers while the court deliberates.

He takes the helm at a time of heightened tension with North Korea, and said after the vote that the chances of a provocation by Pyongyang were high. Various agencies, including the Finance Ministry and financial regulators, planned emergency meetings later on Friday.

South Korea's economic outlook is also worsening, in part because of the internal political uncertainty, as well as worry about the impact of US President-elect Donald Trump's policies on trade and foreign affairs.—Reuters

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Chief Editor - Khin Maung Aye

ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Deputy Chief Editor - Aye Min Soe

dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Expatriate Consultant Editor

Mark Angeles

markrangeles@gmail.com

Senior Translators

Khin Maung Oo, Myint Win Thein

editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Editor

Ye Htut Tin (Local News)

editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

International Editors

Tun Tun Naing (Editor)

intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor)

Translators

Khaing Thanda Lwin,

reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Hay Mar Tin Win,

translator@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Ei Myat Mon

Chief Reporter

Tun Aung Kyaw,

reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Computer Team

Tun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team), Thein Ngwe,

Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,

Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win, Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin

Circulation

San Lwin (+95) (01) 8604532, Hotline - 09 974424114

Advertising inquiry

01 8604530, Hotline - 09 974424848

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

Statement by Myanmar National Human Rights Commission on the occasion of the International Human Rights Day which falls on the 10th of December 2016 (No. 15/ 2016)

1. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission stands together with the international community in commemorating this historic occasion of the International Human Rights Day which falls on the 10th of December 2016.

2. The Commission considers this the appropriate moment to mention some of the Human Rights Promotion and Protection activities carried out by the Commission on this auspicious occasion of the International Human Rights Day which is deemed important for people all around the world and all Human Rights Institutions.

3. The Commission assumed the Chairmanship of the Southeast Asia National Human Rights Forum (SEANF) in 2016 which is on a rotational basis. The Commission successfully conducted (2) Working Group

Meetings in Yangon and the 13th Annual Meeting of the Forum in Nay Pyi Taw. The Commission was able to issue a statement on the Rights of the Older Persons at this Forum. In addition to this Southeast Asia National Human Rights Forum, the Commission has successfully cooperated with the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) and the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) on human rights issues. Moreover, the Commission was able to organize, in cooperation with other human rights organizations, namely OHCHR and Lutheran World Federation (LWF), to hold a workshop on the Rights of the Minorities and also a workshop on the Universal Periodic Review Process respectively.

4. The Commission

made recommendations to the Government to be a State Party to the International Convention on the Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). A thorough study was also made by the Commission on one of the conventions adopted by ASEAN, namely, the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children. During its tenure as the Chair of the SEANF by MNHRC, this Convention was discussed at the Annual Meeting among the member states of the Forum. The Commission also made recommendations to the Government to become a party to this Convention.

5. As part of its mandate, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission has been handling complaints that were received by the Commission. A total of 495 complaints were

received for the period starting from 1st of January 2016 to the present point in time and they have been reviewed in accordance with the Procedures. Field Investigation trips have also been undertaken with regard to certain complaints. During 2016, the Commission inspected the police detention centers and prisons in Hkamti and Loikaw Townships and prisons, police detention centers and places of confinement in Myitkyina Township. Prisons, police detention centers, labor camps and places of confinement in Taungyi also underwent inspections by the Commission. In Taungoo, the prison, labor camp and police detention center were also inspected. Prisons in Katha, Shwebo, Myingyan and also the Aing Kaloung agricultural labor camp in Taikyí Township were also

visited as part of the inspection trips. Hmawbi township police detention center also underwent inspection. For each of these inspection visits, based on the findings, the Commission made recommendations to the authorities concerned and statements were issued. At present, the Commission is cooperating with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law to set up a Computerized Complaint Handling System.

6. In 2016, the Commission undertook as part of its promotional activities, grass-root level human rights educational talks and workshops for the township level government officials in 20 townships covering Yangon Region, Mandalay Region, Ayeyarwaddy Region, Nay Pyi Taw Council, Shan State, Kayah State and the Mon State. In addition,

the Commission was able to hold (7) Human Rights Workshops for the police officers and Human Rights subjects were also imparted in the trainings conducted for the Military Officers at the National Defense College, Staff College and the Defense Services (Army), Combat Training Schools. On the flip side, the Commission gave lectures on Human Rights at all levels of officer trainings conducted at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar) and Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar). Arrangements have also been carried out to conduct Human Rights Workshops for prison officials in Yangon and Mandalay Regions with the cooperation of Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI), during December 2016.—
The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

Invitation for Bids

Date	12 December 2016
Loan/Grant No. and Title	3199-MYA: Maubin - Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project
Contract No. and Title	MP G1 Laboratory and Field Testing Equipment for soil, concrete and asphalt
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	30 January 2017, 10:00 AM (Myanmar time)

1. The Government of Myanmar has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of **Maubin-Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project**, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing for payments under the contract named above. Bidding is open to bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.

2. The Ministry of Construction, Department of Highways (“the Purchaser”) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of laboratory and fieldtesting equipment for soil, concrete and asphalt to equip the **National Road Research Laboratory** under MOC in Yangon. The equipment includes standard test equipment, as well as advanced, automatic equipment for triaxial testing, marshall mix testing, and Hamburg wheel tracking test. Equipment must be products of internationally renowned manufacturers, with proven reputation for quality and service. The bidding will be in lots:

- **Lot 1 Laboratory equipment for concrete testing**
- **Lot 2 Laboratory equipment for soil testing**
- **Lot 3 Laboratory equipment for asphalt testing**
- **Lot 4 Equipment for field testing**

Bidders may bid for a single lot or any combination of lots. The delivery period is 24 weeks.

3. Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:

- Successful completion as main supplier within the last 5 years, of at least 1 contract for supply of similar goods with value at least the following values:
Lot 1 US\$ 60,000
Lot 2 US\$ 100,000
Lot 3 US\$ 40,000
Lot 4 US\$ 40,000

“Similar goods” are defined as any laboratory or field testing equipment, scientific instruments, or information technology or telecommunications equipment.

4. National Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB’s Single-Stage: One-Envelope procedure and is open to all bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.

5. To obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Documents, bidders should contact:

Director, PMU, Maubin - Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project
Room 502, Building 2B, Bagan Housing, 334 / 344 Anawrahta Road, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 9 861 5172, +95 9 5058066
Fax: +95 1 222 361
E-mail: pmuloan3199mp@gmail.com

6. To receive the Bidding Documents in English, eligible bidders should write to the address above requesting the Bidding Documents for Contract MP G1 Laboratory Testing Equipment for soil, concrete and asphalt. The bidding document is free of charge, and will be sent by email. No liability will be accepted for the loss or late delivery of the document.

7. Deliver your bid

- to the address above
- on or before the deadline: 10:00 AM (Myanmar time) on 30 January 2017
- together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document.

Electronic submission of Bids is not permitted. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of bidders’ representatives who choose to attend.

8. The Ministry of Construction, Department of Highways will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Crystal Jade Culinary Concepts Holding Pte. Ltd., a company incorporated in Singapore and having its registered office at 180 B Bencoolen Street, #11-01 The Bencoolen, Singapore 189648 is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

CRYSTAL JADE

Reg. No. 4/8221/2013
(5 August 2013)

CRYSTAL JADE

Reg. No. 4/8220/2013
(5 August 2013)

CRYSTAL JADE

蘭翠
Reg. No. 4/8216/2013
(5 August 2013)

CRYSTAL JADE

蘭翠
Reg. No. 4/8217/2013
(5 August 2013)

All in respect of “Confectionery; almond confectionery; biscuits; bread; bread (ginger-); bread rolls; buns; cake paste; cakes; cakes (flavourings, other than essential oils, for-); cakes (rice-); candy for food; chocolate; cookies; edible chocolate and candy decorations for cakes; fondants (confectionery); foods (farinaceous-); fruit jellies (confectionery); meat pies; noodles; pancakes; pastries; pasties; peanut confectionery; pies; pizzas; pralines; puddings; sandwiches; sugar confectionery; sushi; sweetmeats; tarts; waffles; mooncakes; dumplings; tea cakes; breakfast cakes; sauces [condiments]; chilli sauces and pastes; seasonings; soya sauces; spices; condiments; dim sum [pastry]; spring rolls; prawn rolls; spring roll pastries; crepes; glutinous rice balls with sesame, peanut, and red bean fillings; ice-cream; beverages namely tea, coffee, tea-based beverages, coffee-based beverages; custard; chocolate-based beverages and cocoa-based beverages; snack foods made of flour or rice; rice or flour crackers flavoured with seafood, including prawns, crab, cuttlefish and fish, all included” in Class 30; and

“Café services; cafeteria services; canteen services; catering services; cocktail lounge services; restaurants; self-service restaurant services; snack-bar services; all included” in Class 43.

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

Daw La Min May, H.G.P

For Crystal Jade Culinary Concepts Holding Pte. Ltd.,
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd

Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 10 December 2016 lmm@kcyangon.com

Opinion

Write for us

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

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

All media outlets responsible to be straightforward and unbiased

Tha Sein

MOST recently, some media outlets including CNA and Al Jazeera described false news stories based on unreasonable statements made by John McKissick from the UN-HCR based in Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh. As a matter of fact, John McKissick should fulfil his mandate in a professional and prudent manner. More to the point, as an international civil servant, he should be under a moral obligation and weigh his words carefully before he speaks. His act should not leave the country and the people of Myanmar with discord, distrust and incitement. Otherwise, his professionalism and ethics will

be questioned extensively.

Mr. Kofi Annan, the former UN Secretary-General and current chairman of the Rakhine State Advisory Commission, during his first visit to Rakhine State, said they did not find any oppression between the two communities. During his second visit to the state also, he told a journalist that the Rakhine incident is not genocide whereas one of the commission members said they did not find any human rights violation between the two communities during a press briefing. Their statements met with a mixed reception from people of various strata. It was a very considerate move and made a real dif-

ference to the Myanmar people, who really hope more would follow suit.

When it comes to the incident which cast a pall on the dawn of peace and stability in Rakhine State, State Counselor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has said that we are brave enough to take drastic, legal action against the perpetrators within the framework of the law, given the gravity of the problem and its potential impact on the country's democratization.

Dissemination of politically fabricated news by some foreign broadcast stations and social media platforms was aimed at nothing but harming the government's efforts to-

wards restoring peace and stability in the state and damaging the country's image. To be more specific, it virtually casts a shadow over the country's hope for democratic changes.

To refute widespread rumours about human rights abuse in the state, the government is taking systematic steps in its area clearance operations, taking into account undesirable consequences. Towards this end, all printed and electronic media are responsible to be straightforward and unbiased in presentation of the prevailing situations in the state with an intelligent and informed opinion. Only then, will the objective of the government be met.

Women's Participation in Cooperatives

Htun Tin Htun

SUSTAINABLE, successful and significant cooperatives need women members' active involvement and productive contributions to the cooperatives' socio-economic activities. It is important to recognize the strengths and capabilities of women members of cooperatives. Although the reasons for low female participation in agricultural cooperatives in Paraguay and elsewhere are multifaceted, cultural norms and biases are important factors that contribute to women's marginalization in rural communities around the world. Anne-Brit Nippierd states, for example, that the primary constraint to women's active participation in cooperatives "is the traditional role of women in society and the prevalent misconception that women's reproductive and domestic responsibilities constitute their main role" (2002).

Participatory decision making is important for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of cooperatives. Cooperation, Coordination, Collaboration and Compromising are 4Cs required to apply for development communication in cooperatives.

Women who want to pursue leadership roles must contend

with not only the "general perception in many agricultural communications that leadership roles are for men" but also obstacles such as limited time availability, lower educational levels, and limited comfort with public speaking (Aris 2013).

Attitude towards women must be changed for advancement, betterment, comfort, development and enhancement (ABCDE) of the capacities and capabilities for the improvement of women's quality of life at the grassroots level.

In its work in rural Paraguay, ACIDI/VOCA has encountered two perceptions: women are not farmers, and women cannot be good cooperative leaders. A gender analysis conducted by ACIDI/VOCA found, for example, that "most women in rural Paraguay perform the same agricultural activities as men, but they describe this work as "helping" [their husbands], not as agricultural work" (Ochoa 2012). The vast majority of these women state they are housewives rather than producers when asked what they do.

Right woman in the right place principle should be followed in management functions (planning, organizing, leading and controlling) of the cooperative socio-business enterprise. Practice makes perfect. Participatory decision making, plan-

ning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation are main elements of participatory cooperative development. Additionally, women in Paraguay who do decide to actively participate in cooperatives have to "prove" to the male majority that they can succeed if they want to take on any leadership role.

The president and founder of a small women's committee stated, for example, that she was mocked when she decided to form this agricultural organization. Other cooperative leaders "said that the co-op would fail because it would be made up of women who would just argue with each other" (ACIDI/VOCA 2014).

There are many women who can efficiently and effectively manage the small to large business in the world. Active and altruistic, bold and brave, committed, diligent, efficient, fervent, gentle, honest, industrious, judicious, knowledgeable, liberal and loving, merciful and magnanimous, nice and natural, open and outstanding, professional and proactive, qualified and quick, resilient and reliable, straightforward, trustworthy, unanimous, visionary, wary and willing, x, young and youthful, zealous women members can surely make differences in cooperatives.

Data collected by CDP show

that among the 12 registered cooperatives that are program participants, women comprise only 17 per cent of registered members.

It is well noted that time has now come to change the attitude towards women who can fully and better perform their duties and responsibilities. Paraguayan national statistics indicate that average female membership in agricultural cooperatives is slightly higher at 19 per cent (OBSECOOPY 2014). Rates of leadership in Paraguayan cooperatives are generally even lower. Among CDP beneficiary cooperatives, women make up only 7 per cent of elected leaders. A census of Paraguayan cooperatives carried out in 2012 revealed that of the 45 agricultural cooperatives surveyed, only one had a female president (OBSECOOPY 2014).

Cooperation among cooperatives is one of the cooperative principles to be adhered to and to implement accordingly. Income generation activities need to be explored, implemented and expanded to make cooperatives economically successful, financially viable and socially serviceable. Manduvira is a multiservice cooperative with two types of operations: (1) organic, fair-trade sugar production and commercialization and (2) savings and

credit. In 2013 Manduvira's total revenue was \$5,947,978—91 per cent from sales and 5 per cent from financial services.

Manduvira provides a wide array of services and support for its members, including the following: banking; credit; technical assistance for sugarcane production; processing and marketing of members' sugar; organic and fair-trade certification; and social services such as medical and dental clinics, computer education, and school supplies. Currently, Manduvira has 1,738 members, 53 per cent of which are producers.

Impacts, Outcomes and Outputs, produced by the implementation of planned activities/process (Plan, Do, Review) using optimum inputs (resources) and Results-Based Management techniques are intended results of cooperative enterprises.

The other members use Manduvira's savings and credit services. Of the sugar produced, 95 per cent is exported and sold to 19 countries around the world, including the United States, Canada, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as others in Europe and Latin America. Recently, the cooperative inaugurated its own sugar processing plant. This is the first factory in Paraguay to be built by an organized group of small farmers.

The processing plant will enable the cooperative to scale up its production and will increase the incomes of its members by reducing production costs.

The Senior General receives API director

DEFENCE Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a delegation from American Jewish Committee's Asia Pacific Institute (API), led by Mrs Shira Loewenberg at Bayintnaung Yeiktha yesterday afternoon.

API is based in New York in the United States of America.

During the meeting, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing discussed matters relating to the background history of Myanmar, the United States and Israel, the ways of survival of Jews, the survival of Israel and the contribution of Israelites across the world towards global

development.

Later in the afternoon, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a delegation of the Centre for Humanitarian dialogue (HD Centre) led by its executive director Mr David Harland. HD Centre is based in Geneva in Switzerland.

During the meeting, Mr David Harland explained how they have been involved in resolution of conflicts in Syria, China, Malaysia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

The Senior General also explained the true situation of Rakhine State affairs.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with API director Mrs Shira Loewenberg at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

MLM system using companies to have action taken according to existing law

THE companies which are using Multilevel marketing (MLM) system will have action taken according to the existing laws including Goods and Services Law, Income Tax Law and Commercial Tax Law, according to Major-General Aung Soe, Deputy minister for Home Affairs.

"Currently, we haven't had a special law for taking action against those using the MLM system but we will take action against them according to the existing laws," he added.

The deputy minister statement came in response to a query from a Hluttaw representative.

"Does the government have a plan to prohibit and take action against those companies exercising the MLM system," asked U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo, the Hluttaw representative from

Hlaing township on Thursday at the 2nd Hluttaw meeting Third regular session.

The companies using MLM systems target the students and are selling their products at a higher price than the street price.

Those who can afford to spend money and do not have a regular job, those who are gullible and those who are greedy are working for the companies using MLM system, he added.

The authorities took action against three companies which distributed their products by using MLM system under section 5 (H) of Emergency Provisions Act in 2009-2010.

The authorities have confiscated the products, property and monetary assets in addition to liquidation of their companies.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Vice President inspects renovation of Bagan pagodas and religious edifices

VICE President U Myint Swe inspected ancient pagodas and religious edifices damaged by a recent earthquake in Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone yesterday.

Director-General U Kyaw Lwin Oo of the Archaeology and the National Museum Department reported to the vice president on compiling records of damaged artifacts in accordance with the international norms, renovation of damaged pagodas and religious edifices in their original styles, temporary measures to prevent further damages to pagodas hit by the earthquake and arrangements for foreign tourists to visit damaged sites.

After hearing the reports, the vice president gave instructions on systematic collection of records, seeking advice from experts from UNESCO and the international community, cooperation with experts for designating the zone as a world heritage site, meeting structural standards, making renovation tasks success, transparent statistics for expenditures and taking long-term approach to renovation of ancient pagodas.

Then, the vice president viewed round the damaged pagodas including the Alodawpyay, Sularmani, Arnanda, Thabbinnyu, Maha Gugyi, Mingalar and Lawka Nanda pagodas and inspected temporary shelters,



Vice President U Myint Swe and officials inspect damages at a pagoda in Bagan which was hit by a 6.8 magnitude earthquake on 24 August 2016. PHOTO: MNA

scaffoldings, refilling cracks, buttressing, belting, removing damaged parts to reduce weight and maintenance of murals before fulfilling the needs.

Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone, where ancient pagodas and religious edifices can be seen in only one place, has

been in existence for more than one thousand years and it is not only the pride of the entire nationals of Myanmar but also an attraction for foreigners across the world but unfortunately, it was hit by an earthquake of 6.8 magnitude on 24 August, 2016.—*Myanmar News Agency*

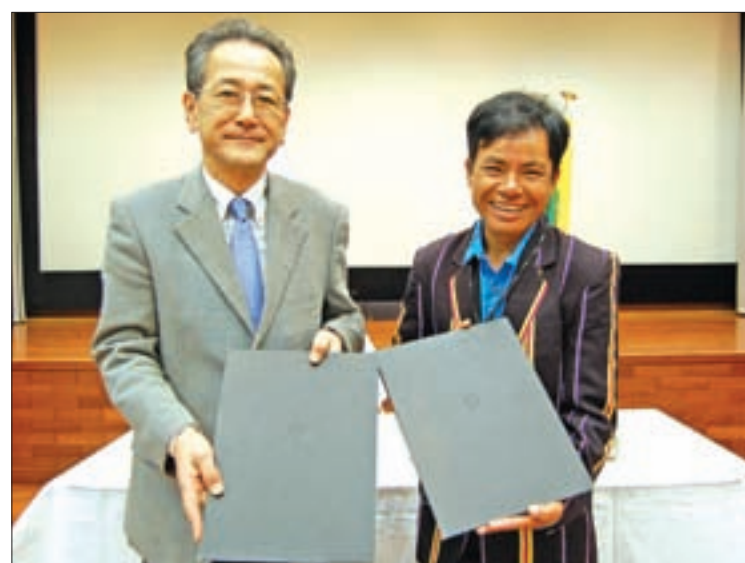
Japan Grants US\$719,857 for five projects for construction of schools in Bago Region, Ayeyawady Region and Chin State

MR. Tateshi HIGUCHI, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, and Chairpersons of the School Construction Committees concerned signed the grant contracts for five projects on Thursday.

Under these contracts, Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme will provide a total of US\$ 719,857 to five projects for construction of schools.

The projects include construction of Nga Pyaw Taw Village Basic Education Primary

School in Letpadan Township, Bago Region, construction of Kyon Taing Village Basic Education High School in Wakema Township, Ayeyarwady Region; construction of Auk Yin Village Basic Education Primary School in Kanpetlet Township, Chin State; construction of Lailinpi Village Basic Education High School in Matupi Township, Chin State and construction of



Mr Tateshi Higuchi, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, and an official from Chin State exchange notes after signing the contract for construction of schools in Chin State. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Sakhai Village Basic Education Middle School in Matupi Township, Chin State.

The grant contracts except 2 are to assist the ones out of 493

flood affected schools requested by the Myanmar Government for the reconstruction and rehabilitation.—*GNLM*

Syrian government forces press attack in east Aleppo

ALEPPO/BEIRUT — Syrian government forces pressed an offensive in Aleppo on Thursday night and into Friday with ground fighting and air strikes, Reuters witnesses, rebels and a monitoring group said, part of a push to retake all of the city’s besieged rebel-held east.

“Helicopters, warplanes and rocket bombardment like every day. Nothing has changed,” a Turkish-based official with the Jabha Shamiya rebel group told Reuters, describing the situation as of 9:30 am on Friday.

The official added that despite the bombardment, “the guys are steadfast”.

Syrian government

and allied forces have in the last two weeks driven rebels from most of their territory in what was once Syria’s most populous city. The rebels have controlled the eastern section since 2012, and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said in an interview published on Thursday that retaking Aleppo would change the course of the civil war across the whole country.

A military source told Reuters: “Until now 32 neighbourhoods have been liberated out of an original 40 in east Aleppo... The advance is going according to plan and is sometimes faster than expected.”—Reuters

Chaos, desperation at first UN aid distribution inside Mosul



An Iraqi boy holds the hand of his sister as they wait to receive aid outside a distribution point run by United Nations agencies at Zahra district, east of Mosul, Iraq. PHOTO: REUTERS

MOSUL (Iraq) — Iraqi police fired shots in the air and threatened to whip crowds with a hose as residents tried to overrun the first distribution of aid by UN agencies inside Mosul on Thursday, a scene of the desperation in areas retaken from Islamic State.

The distribution aimed to reach 45,000 people in total at several locations but showed the challenges for humanitarian organisations seeking to alleviate acute shortages of water, food and fuel.

As word of the aid spread, residents of the Zuhour neighbourhood flocked to a boys’ primary school chosen as a distribution point — men queuing to one side of the main entrance and women on the other. Fifty-six year old Saad Salih came in an electric wheelchair but the battery was flat and there is no power in Mosul to re-charge it, so a neighbour

pushed him along. “We need everything,” Salih said. “The disabled should have priority. It’s hard for us.”

The men queued in relative order, but the women crushed against the door and tempers flared. “We can’t push them back because they are women,” said one of the policemen controlling the crowd. Another brandished a section of hose, threatening to hit anyone who tried to push through.

Eventually, the organizers began to let people in small groups, but could not control the flow as hundreds surged forward against just a handful of men pushing to close the gate.

They burst through, and began climbing over the walls and pushing in through the exit until the police, firing shots in the air and wielding long sticks, managed to regain control.—Reuters

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

Invitation for Bids

Date	12 December 2016
Loan/Grant No. and Title	3199-MYA:Maubin - Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project
Contract No. and Title	MP G3 Rotary drilling machine for geotechnical survey with accessories
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	9 January 2017, 10:00 AM (Myanmar time)

1. The Government of Myanmar has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of **Maubin-Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project**, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing for payments under the contract named above. Bidding is open to bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.

2. The Ministry of Construction, Department of Highways (“the Purchaser”) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of a rotary drill to equip the **National Road Research Laboratory** under MOC in Yangon. The equipment is one unit of portable rotary drilling machine for geotechnical investigation with nominal depth capacity of at least 50m, hydraulic feed of drill rods, and machine weight including engine of 290 – 370 kg, together with core barrels and diamond bits. Equipment must be products of an internationally renowned manufacturer, with proven reputation for quality and service. The bidding will be in a single lot. The delivery period is 24 weeks.

3. Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:

- Successful completion as main supplier within the last 5 years, of at least 1 contract for supply of similar goods with value at least US\$ 60,000.

“Similar goods” are defined as any laboratory or field testing or survey equipment, or drilling equipment.

4. National Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB’s Single-Stage: One-Envelope procedure and is open to all bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.

5. To obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Documents, bidders should contact:

Director, PMU, Maubin - Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project
Room 502, Building 2B, Bagan Housing, 334 / 344 Anawrahta Road, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 9 861 5172 , +95 9 5058066
Fax: +95 1 222 361
E-mail: pmuloan3199mp@gmail.com

6. To receive the Bidding Documents in English, eligible bidders should write to the address above requesting the Bidding Documents for Contract MP G3 Rotary drilling machine for geotechnical survey with accessories. The bidding document is free of charge, and will be sent by email. No liability will be accepted for the loss or late delivery of the document.

7. Deliver your bid

- to the address above
- on or before the deadline: 10:00 AM (Myanmar time) on 9 January 2017

Electronic submission of Bids is not permitted. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of bidders’ representatives who choose to attend.

8. The Ministry of Construction, Department of Highways will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

Invitation for Bids

Date	12 December 2016
Loan/Grant No. and Title	3199-MYA:Maubin - Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project
Contract No. and Title	MP G2 Pavement condition survey equipment (FWD, Car-mounted roughness meter, Benkelman beam)
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	23 January 2017, 10:00 AM (Myanmar time)

1. The Government of Myanmar has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of **Maubin-Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project**, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing for payments under the contract named above. Bidding is open to bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.

2. The Ministry of Construction, Department of Highways (“the Purchaser”) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of Pavement condition survey equipment to equip the **National Road Research Laboratory** under MOC in Yangon. The equipment includes Pavement condition survey equipment (FWD, Car-mounted roughness meter, Benkelman beam). Equipment must be products of internationally renowned manufacturers, with proven reputation for quality and service. The bidding will be in lots:

- Lot 1 FWD equipment**
- Lot 2 Pavement roughness profilers, Benkelman beam**

Bidders may bid for a single lot or any combination of lots. The delivery period is 24 weeks for Lot 1, 4 - 12 weeks for items in Lot 2.

3. Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:

- Successful completion as main supplier within the last 5 years, of at least 1 contract for supply of similar goods with value at least the following values:

Lot 1 US\$ 100,000

Lot 2 US\$ 100,000

“Similar goods” are defined as any laboratory or field testing equipment, scientific instruments, or information technology or telecommunications equipment.

4. National Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB’s Single-Stage: One-Envelope procedure and is open to all bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.

5. To obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Documents, bidders should contact:

Director, PMU, Maubin - Pyapon Road Rehabilitation Project
Room 502, Building 2B, Bagan Housing, 334 / 344 Anawrahta Road, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +95 9 861 5172 , +95 9 5058066
Fax: +95 1 222 361
E-mail: pmuloan3199mp@gmail.com

6. To receive the Bidding Documents in English, eligible bidders should write to the address above requesting the Bidding Documents for Contract MP G2 Pavement condition survey equipment. The bidding document is free of charge, and will be sent by email. No liability will be accepted for the loss or late delivery of the document.

7. Deliver your bid

- to the address above
- on or before the deadline: 10:00 AM (Myanmar time) on 23 January 2017
- together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document.

Electronic submission of Bids is not permitted. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of bidders’ representatives who choose to attend.

8. The Ministry of Construction, Department of Highways will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SCHEDULE

YANGON TO BANGKOK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
TG-304	09:50	11:45	Daily	
TG-2302	15:00	16:55	Daily	
TG-306	19:45	21:40	Daily	
PG-706	6:15	8:30	Daily	
PG-702	10:30	12:25	Daily	
PG-708	15:20	17:15	Daily	
PG-708	18:20	20:15	3	
PG-704	20:00	21:55	Daily	
8M-335	7:40	9:25	Daily	
8M-331	16:30	18:15	Daily	
UB-017	15:10	19:20	1,3,5	
UB-017	17:50	19:20	2,4,6,7	
UB-019	8:05	9:35	7	
UB-019	6:30	8:00	1,2,3,4,5,6	

YGN TO DMK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-251	8:30	10:15	Daily	
FD-256	13:25	15:10	Daily	
FD-254	17:30	19:05	Daily	
FD-258	20:05	21:55	Daily	
DD-4231	08:00	9:50	Daily	
DD-4235	12:00	13:45	Daily	
DD-4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	
SL-201	11:00	13:00	Daily	
SL-207	20:05	21:45	"Daily"	

YGN TO CAN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-711	20:30	01:05+1	5	
8M-711	8:40	13:15	2,4,7	
CZ-3056	11:25	16:15	3,6	
CZ-3056	17:30	22:35	1,5	

YGN TO SIN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-231	8:20	12:50	Daily	
SQ-997	10:35	15:10	Daily	
MI-515	14:20	18:50	1,5	
MI-519	17:35	22:10	Daily	
MI-522	15:45	20:15	4,6	
MI-533	13:10	20:15	2	
3k-584	19:15	23:50	2,5	
3K-582	11:15	15:50	1,3,4,5,6,7	
TR-2823	9:45	2:15	Daily	
UB-001	7:30	12:00	Daily	

YGN TO NRT				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
NH-814	21:45	06:50+1	Daily	

BANGKOK TO YANGON				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
TG-303	7:55	8:50	Daily	
TG-2301	13:15	14:10	Daily	
TG-305	17:50	18:45	Daily	
PG-701	8:50	9:40	Daily	
PG-707	13:45	14:35	Daily	
PG-703	18:25	19:15	3	
PG-703	16:45	17:35	Daily	
PG-705	20:30	21:45	Daily	
8M-336	10:40	11:25	Daily	
8M-332	19:15	20:00	Daily	
UB-020	11:00	11:30	7	
UB-018	20:20	20:50	Daily	
UB-020	9:15	9:45	1,2,4,5,6	

DMK TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-251	7:15	8:00	Daily	
FD-255	12:05	12:55	Daily	
FD-253	16:20	17:00	Daily	
FD-257	18:05	18:55	Daily	
DD-4234	10:25	11:15	Daily	
DD-4230	6:20	7:05	Daily	
DD-4238	19:30	20:15	Daily	
SL-200	9:05	10:00	Daily	
SL-206	18:15	19:05	"Daily"	

CAN TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-712	2:45	4:20	6	
8M-712	14:15	15:50	2,4,7	
CZ-3055	8:50	10:25	3,6	
CZ-3055	14:40	16:30	1,5	

SIN TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-232	13:50	15:20	Daily	
SQ-998	07:55	09:20	Daily	
MI-522	11:00	12:20	4,6	
MI-518	15:15	16:40	Daily	
MI-516	12:00	13:25	1,5	
MI-533	11:00	12:20	2	
3K-583	17:05	18:35	2,5	
3k-581	8:55	10:25	1,3,4,5,6,7	
TR-2822	7:20	8:45	Daily	
UB-002	13:15	14:45	Daily	

NRT TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
NH-813	11:00	15:40	Daily	

YGN TO ICN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KE-472	23:30	7:50	Daily	

YGN TO KUL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
AK-505	8:30	12:45	Daily	
AK-503	19:30	23:45	Daily	
8M-501	7:50	11:50	1,3,5	
MH-741	12:15	16:30	Daily	
MH-743	15:45	20:05	1,4,6,7	

YGN TO KMG				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-416	12:15	15:45	Daily	
MU-2032	15:20	18:40	2,4,5,6,7	
MU-2012	12:25	18:40	3	

YGN TO TPE				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CI-7916	10:45	16:15	1,2,3,4,6	

YGN TO PEK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-906	23:50	0550+1	3,7	

YGN TO HAN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-956	19:10	21:30	1,3,5,6,7	

YGN TO SGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-942	12:10	15:00	2,3,4,5,7	

YGN TO HKG				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KA-251	1:10	5:45	1,2,3,4,6,7	
KA-251	1:30	5:55	5	
UB-8027	9:45	14:15	1,5,7	

YGN TO DOH				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
QR-919	8:15	10:55	1,4,6	

YGN TO CNX				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-724	13:10	15:05	Daily	

YGN TO DAC				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
BG-061	16:15	18:00	1,3,6	

MDL TO DMK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-245	12:45	15:00	Daily	

ICN TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KE-471	18:45	22:25	Daily	

KUL TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
AK-502	6:55	8:00	Daily	
AK-502	17:50	19:00	Daily	
8M-502	12:50	13:50	1,3,5	
MH-742	13:40	14:50	1,6,7	
MH-740	10:05	11:15	Daily	

KMG TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-415	10:45	11:15	Daily	
MU-2031	14:00	14:30	1	
MU-2011	08:15	11:25	3	
MU-2031	13:55	14:30	2,4,5,6,7	

TPE TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CI-7915	7:00	9:45	1,2,3,4,6	

PEK TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-905	19:30	22:50	3,7	

HAN TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-957	16:50	18:10	1,3,5,6,7	

SGN TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-943	9:35	11:10	2,3,4,5,7	

HKG TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KA-250	21:45	23:30	1,2,3,5,6,7	
KA-252	22:50	00:30+1	4	
UB-8028	15:15	16:55	1,5,7	

DOH TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
QR-918	20:40	6:25	3,5,6	

CNX TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-723	11:40	12:35	Daily	

DAC TO YGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
BG-060	12:45	15:30	1,3,6	

DMK TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-244	10:50	12:15	Daily	

MDL TO SIN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MI-533	15:20	20:15	2	
MI-522	13:40	20:15	2,6	

SIN TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MI-522	11:00	12:50	2,6	
MI-533	11:00	14:25	2	

MDL TO BKK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-710	14:05	16:30	Daily	

BKK TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-709	12:00	13:20	Daily	

MDL TO KMG				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MU-2030	14:05	16:45	Daily	

KMG TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MU-2029	13:20	13:15	Daily	

NYT to BKK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-722	20:25	22:35	2	
PG-722	19:30	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7	

BKK TO NYT				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-721	18:25	19:35	2	
PG-721	17:00	19:00	1,2,3,4,5,7	

AIRLINE CODES

8M = Myanmar Airways International
BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines
MH = Malaysia Airlines
MU = China Eastern Airlines
NH = All Nippon Airways
SQ = Singapore Airways
PG = Bangkok Airways
UB = Myanmar National Airlines
VN = Vietnam Airline
3K = Jet Star
AI = Air India
CI = China Airlines
DD = Nok Airline
KA = Dragonair
MI = Silk Air
TG = Thai Airways

AK = Air Asia
CA = Air China
CZ = China Southern
FD = Air Asia
KE = Korea Airlines
QR = Qatar Airways
TR = Tiger Airline

DAY

1 = Monday
2 = Tuesday
3 = Wednesday

4 = Thursday
5 = Friday
6 = Saturday
7 = Sunday

Inmarsat switches to Arianespace for satellite launch after SpaceX delays

LONDON — British satellite company Inmarsat will switch to using Ariane-space from rival SpaceX to launch a new satellite to provide broadband connectivity to air passengers, it said on Thursday.

The S-band satellite had been scheduled to launch with technology billionaire Elon Musk's SpaceX but Inmarsat said setbacks to SpaceX's launch schedule prompted it to turn to Arianespace instead.

Inmarsat said on Thursday that European-owned Arianespace will launch the S-band satellite in mid-2017.

SpaceX has been forced to delay December rocket launches until January as an investigation continues into why one rocket burst into flames on 1 September.

SpaceX has a backlog of more than 70 missions for NASA and commercial customers, worth more than \$10 billion.

No-one at SpaceX was

Staff at satellite communications company Inmarsat work in front of a screen showing subscribers using their service throughout the world, at their headquarters in London, in 2014. PHOTO: REUTERS

immediately available to comment on the loss of the contract, the value of which was not revealed by Inmarsat.

Inmarsat said that it still planned to launch a

different satellite, the Inmarsat-5 F4, with SpaceX during the first-half of 2017, adding that it looked forward to working with SpaceX in future.

Inmarsat plans to

use the S-band satellite for providing air passengers with connectivity, as part of the European Aviation Network project with Deutsche Telecom.

—Reuters

In fossil rarity, tumour found in 255-million-year-old beast

WASHINGTON — Scientists examining the jawbone of a saber-toothed, mammal-like beast that prowled Tanzania 255 million years ago have come across a remarkable fossil rarity: one of the oldest-known tumours.

University of Washington researchers on Thursday described a benign tumour composed of miniature tooth-like structures they found embedded next to the root of the creature's enlarged canine tooth while studying an unrelated aspect of the jaw.

The animal was a member of an extinct group of four-legged carnivores called gorgonopsians that mixed mammal-like and reptile-like traits. They reached up to 10 feet (3 meters) long and appeared early in the evolutionary lineage that led to mammals. The jawbone came from one of the smaller gorgonopsian species.

Gorgonopsians were among the top predators of their time, thriving from about 270 million to 252 million years ago when they were wiped out during Earth's worst mass extinction at the end of the Permian Period. Their demise came roughly 20 million years before the first dinosaurs.

When the researchers sliced into the mandible fossil from Tanzania's Ruhuhu Valley, they found a benign dental tumor called a compound odontoma that grows within the gums or other jaw soft tissues. When people get one, surgery is sometimes used to remove it.

"There was no indication that there was a tumor in this jaw. It looked normal before we cut it open.

It was pure luck that we found the tumor," University of Washington paleobiologist Megan Whitney said.—Reuters



Hillary Clinton speaks to the Children’s Defence Fund in Washington. PHOTO: REUTERS

Clinton calls ‘fake news’ a threat to US democracy

WASHINGTON — Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called “fake news” a danger that must be addressed quickly, in a rare public appearance on Thursday, a month after she lost the presidential election in a campaign marked by a flood of such propaganda.

“We must stand up for our democracy,” Clinton said during a tribute to retiring Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid, referring to what she called “the epidemic of malicious fake news and false propaganda that flooded social media over the past year.”

Clinton urged action from both the private and public sectors to combat the false reports.

“It’s now clear that so-called ‘fake news’ can have real-world consequences.

This isn’t about politics or partisanship. Lives are at risk. Lives of ordinary people just trying to go about their days, to do their jobs, contribute to their communities,” she said.

Clinton herself has been a target of fake news, with internet postings claiming that a pizza restaurant in Washington was fronting a child sex ring run by Clinton.

On Sunday, a North Carolina man wielding an assault rifle fired a gun inside the restaurant, located in northwest Washington just a few miles from Thursday’s ceremony, according to police, who said the suspect told them he had come to “investigate” a fake news report.

Clinton’s appearance at the Thursday event, packed with mostly Democratic elected officials including Vice President Joe Biden, was greeted with a standing ovation and raucous applause.

Clinton, also a former senator who served with Reid, made a wry reference to the relatively low profile she has kept since Republican Donald Trump won the Nov. 8 presidential election, referring to “a few weeks of taking selfies in the woods.” She indirectly acknowledged her defeat as she began her tribute to Reid: “This is not exactly the speech at the Capitol I hoped to be making after the election.”

The new US president delivers an inaugural address on 20 January, standing on a large platform erected every four years on the west front of the Capitol building.—Reuters

Conjoined twins who faced each other separated in California surgery

LOS ANGELES — Conjoined 2-year-old twin girls who were separated at a California hospital this week were recovering in stable condition after 17 hours of surgery, officials said on Thursday.

Separation surgery is performed about five times a year in the United States, with doctors successfully handling one last month in Memphis, Tennessee, on twin sisters born in Nigeria.

The operation on Erika and Eva Sandoval, who faced each other, was done at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, part of the Stanford University health system in Palo Alto, California.

The surgery was challenging because they shared much of their lower body and had one liver, one bladder and three legs, hospital officials said in a statement.

In video provided by the hospital, the surgical team was shown gathered around the twins, forming a circle with their arms around each other before beginning the procedure.

The team, in the surgery started on Tuesday completed early on Wednesday, divided the bladder into two separate organs. It also split the liver to give half to each child, the statement said.

The girls each have one leg, with doctors using the third leg for reconstruction, taking its skin and muscle to close one child’s abdominal wall, officials said. The girls are expected to remain in the intensive care unit at the hospital for two weeks. They are sharing a hospital room in separate beds.

“Seeing them now in the ICU, you look at them and think ‘You’re missing your other half’ but we know that this is the right path for them: to be independent, have the chance to succeed and explore on their own everything the world has to offer,” the twins’ mother, Aida Sandoval, said in a statement. Most conjoined twins die in the womb, and about half who are born alive do not make it past a day.—Reuters

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this credit to eligible payments under the contract for which this bidding document is issued.

DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Ref No	Description of Goods or Services	Quantity	Units
G.65	GSM	70 Units	
G.67	AIR CONDITIONING	70 Units	
G.68	DRINKING WATER COOLER	35 Units	
G.71	CAMERAS	40 Cameras	
G.72	WATER QUALITY TESTING KITS	20 Kits	
G. 76	SOFTWARE		
	“TEAM VIEWER” host license - premium version	1 host licence	
	MICROSOFT “Windows 10 – Pro” licenses	54	
	MICROSOFT “MS PROJECT” Licenses	20	
	MICROSOFT “WINDOWS SERVER” licenses	17	
	“NANO CAD PRO” Licenses	15	

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the address below (in person) and clearly indicate one or more of the Reference number above. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive a INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ). Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address below at the latest the dead line, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

The goods will be contracted in 6 (Six) separate contract. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the “Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011.

Please submit Expression of Interest and Sealed Quotations to:U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Director General, Department of Rural Development, Office No.(14), Nay Pyi Taw.

For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067409071/ Email: unioncddprocurement@gmail.com

For more information on the NCDD Project please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA No of the financing agreement is No H814MM. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contract for the supply and installation of diesel generators and current stabilizers for fifteen (15) regional offices and twenty (20) new townships. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Reference Number: G 66 – SUPPLY and INSTALLATION of DIESEL GENERATORS and ELECTRIC CURRENT STABILIZERS for 15 Regional Offices and 20 New Townships

Reference No.	Lot No.	Item No.	Description	Quantity
G 66	1	1	Turnkey supply and installation of a Diesel Generator and Electric Current Stabilizer set in each of the 15 Regional Offices and 20 New Townships	35
Supply of the material for pre installation inspection			Yangon Regional DRD Office, No 245, Thanlyetsun Street, Botataung Township, Yangon. (tel. 09-73100744):	
Turnkey supply and installation to Township and Regional Offices (Project Sites)			Regional Offices:Sittwe, Mintat, Myintkina, Loikaw, Hpan, Malawmyine, Myeik, Taunggyi, Yangon, Pathein, Bago, Magway, Monywa, Mandalay, Naypyitaw. New Townships: Ngaputaw, Pantaung, Hparsaung, Baw-lakhe, Loikaw, Shartaw, Maisae, Matupi, Saw, Hteelin, Pauk, Paung, Nahtogyi, Pyinmana, Pyawbwe, Yamethin, Kunchankone, Kyauktan, Moekaung, Hsesi.	

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the address below (in person) and clearly indicate the reference number above. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ). Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address below at the latest at the dead line of **Monday 9 January 2017**, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

The goods will be contracted in 1 (one) contract. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the “Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Director General, Department of Rural Development, Office No.(14), Nay Pyi Taw.

For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067409071/ Email: unioncddprocurement@gmail.com.

For more information on the NCDD Project please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

John Glenn, first American to orbit Earth, dies at 95

WASHINGTON — John Glenn, who became one of the 20th century's greatest explorers as the first American to orbit Earth and later as the world's oldest astronaut, and also had a long career as a US senator, died in Ohio on Thursday at age 95.

Glenn, the last surviving member of the original seven American "Right Stuff" Mercury astronauts, died at the James Cancer Hospital at Ohio State University in Columbus, said Hank Wilson, a spokesman at the university's John

Glenn College of Public Affairs, which Glenn helped found.

Glenn was credited with reviving US pride after the Soviet Union's early domination of manned space exploration. His three laps around the world in the Friendship 7 capsule on 20 February, 1962, forged a powerful link between the former fighter pilot and the Kennedy-era quest to explore outer space as a "New Frontier."

President Barack Obama, who in 2012 awarded Glenn the nation's highest

civilian honour, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, said: "With John's passing, our nation has lost an icon."

"When John Glenn blasted off from Cape Canaveral atop an Atlas rocket in 1962, he lifted the hopes of a nation," Obama said in a statement. "And when his Friendship 7 spacecraft splashed down a few hours later, the first American to orbit the Earth reminded us that with courage and a spirit of discovery there's no limit to the heights we can reach

together."

President-elect Donald Trump said on Twitter the United States had lost "a great pioneer of air and space in John Glenn. He was a hero and inspired generations of future explorers."

As the third of seven astronauts in NASA's solo-flight Mercury program to venture into space, Glenn became more of a media fixture than the others and was known for his composure and willingness to promote the programme.—Reuters



STS-95 Payload Specialist John Glenn positions himself to take photos from the Space Shuttle Discovery's aft flight deck windows on Flight Day 3 in this NASA handout image dated on 31 October 1998. PHOTO: REUTERS

Invitation for Bids

Date: 9th December 2016

Loan Agreement No.: MY-P4 dated 5th September, 2014

IFB No.: MR/BD/104

1. The Government of Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of the Yangon-Mandalay Railway Improvement Project Phase I. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for Package CP104: Rolling Stock.
2. Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement. The Eligible Nationality of the Bidders shall be Japan in the case of the prime contractor. In case where the prime contractor is a joint venture, such joint venture will be eligible provided that the nationality of the lead partner is Japan, that the nationality of the other partner is Japan and/or the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and that the total share of work of Japanese partners in the joint venture is more than fifty percent (50%) of the contract amount.
3. Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications now invites sealed Bids from interested eligible Bidders for the design, execution and completion of Rolling Stock (Diesel Electric Multiple Unit) ("the Works"). International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with JICA's Single-Stage Bidding Procedure.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the head office of Myanma Railways at the address shown below, during office hour from 09:30 a.m. to 16:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Address : Tender Office, Myanma Railways Head Office, Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station Compound, Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Telephone : +95-67-77011
: +95-67-77024
Facsimile number : +95-67-77012
: +95-67-77164
Electronic mail address: gmmne.rail@mrt.gov.mm ,
dgmpplan.rail@mrt.gov.mm
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of United States Dollar one thousand (1,000 US\$). Unless Bidder's eligibility is confirmed the Employer will decline to provide any Bid information.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address above on or before 14:00 p.m. on 9th March 2017 and must be accompanied by a bid security of Japanese Yen one hundred and twenty five million (JPY 125,000,000).
7. Technical Bids will be opened in the presence of prequalified Bidders' representatives who choose to attend. The opening of Technical Bids will take place on 7th April 2017, at 14:00 p.m. at Myanmar Railways Head Office Conference Room, Nay Pyi Taw.
8. If Bidder is only one, the Employer may consider returning his Bid unopened.

Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications
Managing Director

Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station Compound,
Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Telephone : +95-67-77011

: +95-67-77024

Facsimile number : +95-67-77012

: +95-67-77164

Electronic mail address: gmmne.rail@mrt.gov.mm, dgmpplan.rail@mrt.gov.mm

Invitation for Prequalification

Date: 9th December 2016

Loan Agreement No.: MY-P4 dated 5th September, 2014

IFP No.: MR/PQ/104

1. The Government of Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received ODA Loan (Loan Agreement dated 5th September, 2014) from Japan International Cooperation Agency toward the cost of the Yangon-Mandalay Railway Improvement Project Phase I (hereinafter referred to as "the Project"). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this Loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract resulting from the bidding for which this prequalification is conducted.
2. Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications, (hereinafter referred to as "the Employer") intends to prequalify suppliers and/or firms for the procurement of rolling stocks under the Project; namely the Package CP104: Rolling Stock (hereinafter referred to as "the Contract").
Brief description of supply under the Contract:
Numbers: 4 train sets of 6-car each (total 24 cars)
Type of car: diesel electric multiple units (DEMU)
Maximum operating speed: 100km per hour
Place of delivery: Insein DRC Depot, 15km away from Yangon
Purpose : operating on the Yangon Mandalay railway line
3. Invitation for Bids is made on the same date of the Invitation for Prequalification for the simultaneous process of Prequalification and Bids.
4. Prequalification will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Applicants from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement. The Eligible Nationality of the Applicants shall be Japan in the case of the prime contractor. In case where the prime contractor is a joint venture, such joint venture will be eligible provided that the nationality of the lead partner is Japan, that the nationality of the other partners is Japan and/or the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and that total share of work of Japanese partners in the joint venture is more than fifty percent (50%) of the contract amount.
5. Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the Prequalification Documents at Tender Office in the head office of Myanma Railways at Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station Compound, Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, during office hour from 09:30 a.m. to 16:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.
6. A complete set of the Prequalification Documents may be purchased by interested eligible Applicant(s) on the submission of a written Application to the address above and upon payment of non-refundable fee of United States Dollar One Hundred (US\$ 100).
Unless eligibility of Applicant is confirmed the Employer will decline to provide any Prequalification information.
7. Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address above by 14:00 p.m. 9th March 2017 and be clearly marked "Application to Prequalify for Yangon-Mandalay Railway Improvement Project Phase I: Package CP104: Rolling Stock."
8. If Applicant is only one, The Employer may consider returning the application unopened.

Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications

Managing Director

Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station Compound,

Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Telephone: +95-67-77011

Advertise with us. Hotline: 09-974424848

'La La Land,' 'Moonlight' among AFI's best films of 2016

LOS ANGELES — Modern musical "La La Land," independent drama "Moonlight" and sci-fi movie "Arrival" were among the diverse genres selected as the year's best films by the American Film Institute (AFI) on Thursday.

AFI's top 10 films and television shows of the year were announced ahead of next week's Golden Globe nominations and Screen Actors Guild nominations, and help shape the contenders in Hollywood's annual awards season. The list also includes Denzel Washington drama "Fences," Mel Gibson's war movie "Hacksaw Ridge," Western heist story "Hell or High Water," grief drama "Manchester By the Sea," Martin Scorsese's "Silence," Clint Eastwood's "Sully" and Disney animated film "Zootopia."

"La La Land" and "Moonlight" are being touted by awards pundits as frontrunners in the Os-

cars best picture race.

The AFI list is compiled by critics, scholars, TV and film artists. The winners will be celebrated at a lunch on 6 January. Among the year's best TV shows were HBO's medieval fantasy saga "Game of Thrones," crime mini-series "The Night Of" and political comedy "Veep."

Other shows were FX's 10-part series "The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story," spy thriller "The Americans" and Donald Glover comedy "Atlanta."

Netflix's summer hit "Stranger Things" and British period drama "The Crown" also made the list, alongside NBC's family saga "This Is Us" and AMC's "Breaking Bad" spin-off, "Better Call Saul."

The AFI gave special recognition to ESPN's five-part documentary series "O.J.: Made in America." —Reuters



Cast members pose as they arrive for the gala screening of the film 'Moonlight', on the second night of the 60th British Film Institute (BFI) London Film Festival at Embankment Garden Cinema in London, Britain, on 6 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS



Actor Samuel L. Jackson accepts the Albert R. Broccoli Britannia Award for Worldwide Contribution to Entertainment at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Los Angeles' Britannia Awards in Beverly Hills, California, on 28 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Samuel L. Jackson honoured at Dubai International Film Festival

DUBAI — Hollywood actor Samuel L. Jackson has been honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Dubai International Film Festival for his contribution to cinema.

The "Pulp Fiction" and "The Hateful Eight" actor was among a host of movie stars and producers attending the festival's opening on

Wednesday.

"I don't know if it's too early ...It happens when it happens," Jackson said on the red carpet. "I will continue to go out there and do the things that I do and who knows, maybe I'll get a second lifetime achievement award."

The 13th edition of the Dubai festival runs until 14 December. —Reuters

Art imitates life for Will Smith in 'Collateral Beauty'

NEW YORK — Art imitated life for Will Smith when it came to making "Collateral Beauty," a movie that explores how the deepest of losses can reveal moments of wonder.

Smith plays Howard, a New York advertising executive whose perfect life is shattered by the death of his 6-year-old daughter. While Smith was working on the film, his own father was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

"I had this screenplay and I'm doing all this research about a guy who experiences death. At the time, my father was given six weeks," Smith told Ellen DeGeneres on her Thursday talk show. The film opens in US movie theaters on 16 December.

"So, you know, the performance for me and the movie for me and the ideas are so deeply personal," he added. Smith's father, Willard Carroll Smith, lived longer than expected but died in November.

Smith heads an ensemble cast that includes Helen Mirren, Keira Knightley, Edward Norton and Naomie Harris, all of whom try to get through to Howard using unorthodox methods.

"Our biggest challenge in terms of making the movie was trying to find the right balance, you know, the right tone between humor and drama. I call it a screwball drama because it's this wacky story with these very dramatic moments," director David Frankel told Reuters. —Reuters

Fantasy meets tragedy in surreal 'A Monster Calls'

NEW YORK — A teenage boy's struggle with his mother's terminal illness takes a surreal turn when he finds comfort in a giant talking tree monster in the emotional fantasy drama "A Monster Calls."

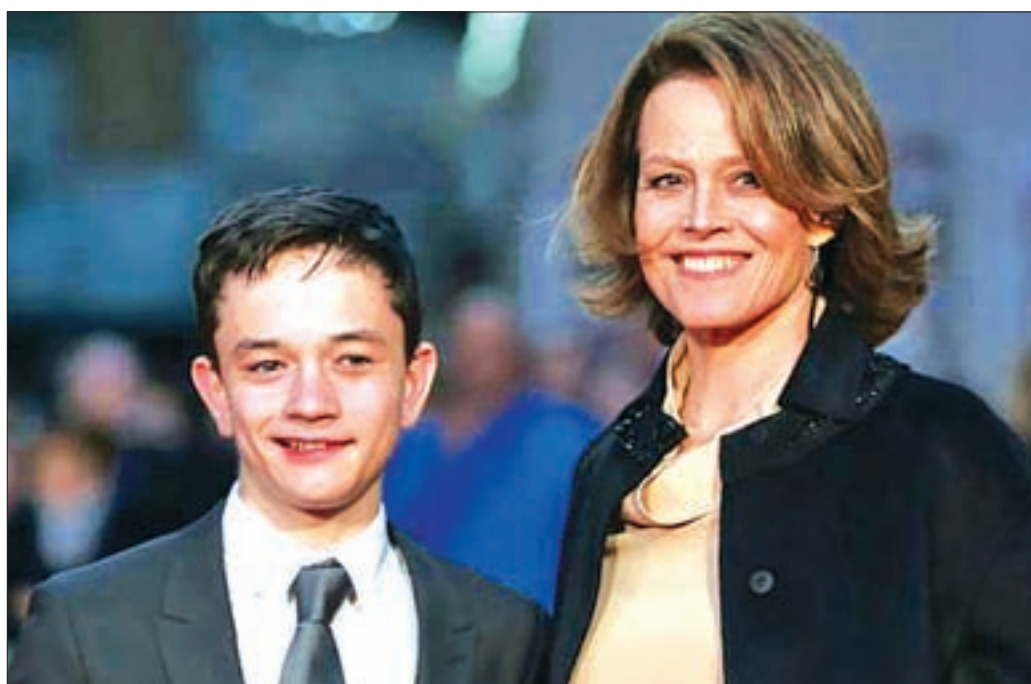
The film is already attracting awards buzz for its young Scottish star, Lewis MacDougall, who plays Conor, a quiet, artistic teenage boy who becomes a target for the school bully.

"I guess really I would use experiences in my own life to try and understand what Conor is feeling," MacDougall, 14, told reporters at the New York premiere on Wednesday.

MacDougall has been nominated for two critics awards by US groups as well as a Spanish Feroz award.

The film, which also stars Liam Neeson, Sigourney Weaver and Felicity Jones, is adapted from the children's book of the same name by Patrick Ness.

Director J.A. Bayona incorporated watercolor animations to illustrate the stories of good and evil. —Reuters



Sigourney Weaver poses with co-star Lewis MacDougall as she arrives for the gala screening of the film "A Monster Calls", on the second night of the 60th British Film Institute (BFI) London Film Festival at Leicester Square in London, Britain, on 6 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS




အဆင့်တန်းမြင့်မြင့်ငွေပေးချေမှု

မြန်မာပြည်၏ ပထမဦးဆုံးသော mastercard Credit Card ကို

CB Bank တွင်ရယူနိုင်ပါပြီ ...



 www.cbcbank.com.mm

 CBBankMyanmar

Tel : (95)01 378905, (95)01 370145



Mkhitaryan sparkles as United reach Europa last 32

LONDON — Manchester United are warming to the task in the Europa League as they booked a spot in the last 32 with a 2-0 win over Zorya Luhansk on a freezing night in Ukraine on Thursday.

Goals from Henrikh Mkhitaryan, who made a mockery of his two-month exile from the starting line-up with a superb individual effort, and Zlatan Ibrahimovic secured an easy win that banished memories of their earlier group stage struggles.

The victory confirmed United in second place in Group A behind Turkish side Fenerbahce who ended Feyenoord's qualification hopes with a 1-0 away win over the Dutch side.

Premier League Southampton, however, were dumped out after a 1-1 draw at home to Hapoel Beer Sheva that was enough to send the Israeli side into the next round as Group K runners-up.

United, who could now view the competition as their best route into the

Champions League with their Premier League form continuing to disappoint, needed only a draw to progress but never looked in danger of suffering an upset.

Mkhitaryan, who joined United for 25 million pounds from Borussia Dortmund in the close season, may finally have won over manager Jose Mourinho after he danced through the heart of the defence to slot home his first goal for the club early in the second half.

The Armenian, a con-

stant thorn in Zorya's side, looks to have regained the confidence that helped him score 23 goals for Dortmund in all competitions last season.

"I was waiting a long time for this goal," Mkhitaryan told BT Sport. "My next goal has to be at Old Trafford because I want to score at home."

Ibrahimovic netted in the 88th minute after latching on to a Paul Pogba through ball, his seventh goal in his last six games in all competitions.—Reuters

Disrespectful Infantino won't answer my calls — Blatter

LONDON — Disgraced former FIFA president Sepp Blatter says successor Gianni Infantino has showed him no respect by failing to return his phone calls.

Blatter, 80, lost his Court of Arbitration (CAS) appeal on Monday against a six-year ban for ethics violations, imposed amid the biggest corruption scandal to hit world soccer's governing body.

CAS ruled he had authorised payments to former France international Michel Platini, then the European football boss, worth over \$2 million that amounted to "undue gifts" and therefore violated FIFA's code of ethics.

Blatter told the BBC's World Football programme that he has met up with fellow Swiss

Infantino, who took over as president in February, to discuss "questions that should be solved" at FIFA.

"After his election we had a very good contact and he stopped at my house and we had a chat," said Blatter. "I told him I have a list of questions that should be solved in FIFA which has not been solved before."

"[Infantino] said, 'I will work on that', and he never came back. I have asked him, I have sent him a letter and I have his personal number and I was told that it's still correct."

"Never, never an answer, never," said Blatter. "I have never seen in any company that the new president ... was not paying respect to the old president." —Reuters



Former FIFA President Sepp Blatter. PHOTO: REUTERS

Moenchengladbach defend club doctors after Dominguez retirement

BARCELONA — Borussia Moenchengladbach's medical staff did everything "humanly possible" to help Alvaro Dominguez, the club's sporting director said on Thursday, following the defender's retirement due to injury.

Dominguez, 27, hung up his boots this week due to back problems and criticised the club in Spanish daily *Marca* for failing to

recognise the severity of his injury.

"We are there for Alvaro," Max Eberl told reporters.

"Unfortunately Alvaro is making serious allegations which we can neither understand nor comprehend. We of course have full understanding for his emotions after such a grave decision. But I can say this, that our doctors did everything medically

and humanly possible to help him."

Former Atletico Madrid defender Dominguez, who joined Moenchengladbach in 2012, said he was considering taking legal action against the German club for failing to spot the severity of his back troubles.

"In May I stopped playing because of my back, but since February I had strong pains that got

worse every day. I had tests and they (Moenchengladbach) told me not to worry, to take an injection and the pain would pass," Dominguez told *Marca*.

"I'm considering all my options and I'm in the hands of good lawyers in Germany. I don't feel I need to win a court case, I just want people to recognise no-one should be treated like I was."

The Spaniard said he

sought medical advice in Madrid in the close season and saw an independent specialist in Germany who advised him to undergo surgery. He said the club pleaded with him to avoid having the operation.

Dominguez also said Moenchengladbach did not pay him his full salary for six weeks while he was injured and only agreed to pay for 30 per cent of his treatment.

"They were within their rights so there was nothing I could do. I felt like I had been there when the club needed me and they had left me hanging after I'd sacrificed myself for the team and then felt like I was dying of pain at home," he added.

"I sacrificed my health for the team and they only thought about saving six weeks of my salary. It was all surreal to me." —Reuters



We are specialize in Construction, EPC, MEP, Foundation Engineering, Interiors Fitting out, Steel Works, Real Estate Development & Investment, Trading and Consultancy Services.

