

**PARLIAMENT**

Gov't urged to speed up implementation of mechanised farming system

**PAGE-2**

**NATIONAL**

Judicial reform is ongoing, says Union Chief Justice

**PAGE-11**

**LOCAL BUSINESS**

Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association to apply for licence to import pure gold blocks

**PAGE-5**

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 298, 9<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tabodwe 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Friday, 9 February 2018



**in**  
Picture

## Final examinations for basic education schools underway

Students leave a school after sitting for the second day of final examinations in Yangon Region basic education schools. The examinations held during the 2017-2018 academic year are the final examinations for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades.

**PHOTO: ZAW GYI (ARTICLE ON PAGE-6)**

## Chin State residents urged to cooperate for development

Vice President U Henry Van Thio has urged local authorities in Chin State to give priority to effective prevention of poaching and conservation of natural environment before the development of ecotourism.

He made the remark during his visit to Khonumthung (Nat Ma Mountain) National Park in Chin State yesterday.

He also urged authorities and locals to cooperate in the conservation of wildlife and flora and fauna, as the park contains many of the world's endangered species, including birds and orchids, and to educate the local people about environmental conservation.

Afterwards, the Vice President arrived in Khonumthung (Nat Ma Mountain) National Park where Director General of Natural Resources and Environment Department Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw gave a presentation. State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai and Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin provided additional explanations.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio and party went on to Mindat Township Aye Sakhan Village, where they were greeted by traditional dances of the local people.

**SEE PAGE-2**

**SEE PAGE-3**

## Gov't will effectively carry out rehabilitation of displaced people: Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye

THE Government is planning to establish the Department of Rehabilitation in order to effectively carry out the comeback of the

displaced people in the country.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye made

the remark at the Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw in his answer to a question raised by an MP, adding that the

efforts of the new department would also be helpful for the peace-making in the country.

**SEE PAGE-2**



**'BEST BANK IN MYANMAR'**

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## Pyithu Hluttaw

## Gov't urged to speed up implementation of mechanized farming system

THE seventh session of the second Pyithu Hluttaw held its 15<sup>th</sup>-day meeting yesterday morning, where questions on the farm sector were asked and answered, the Myanmar Historical Commission bill tabled, and a discussion was held on a motion urging the government to establish one-acre plots for the rapid implementation and success of a mechanised farming system.

First, six Hluttaw representatives, U Than Soe of Thazi constituency, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency, U Sai Kyaw Moe of Mongpan constituency, Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, Dr. Daw Khin Nyo of Dedaye constituency and U Kyaw Soe of Bamauk constituency raised questions, which were answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw.

Next, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko tabled a motion on the Myanmar Historical Commission bill and the Pyithu Hluttaw bill committee read and explained its report on the bill.

The Hluttaw speaker then



U Than Soe. PHOTO: MNA



Daw Mi Kun Chan. PHOTO: MNA



U Sai Kyaw Moe. PHOTO: MNA



Daw Cho Cho. PHOTO: MNA



Dr. Daw Khin Nyo. PHOTO: MNA



U Kyaw Soe. PHOTO: MNA

requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to table an amendment to the bill to register their names.

A motion urging the government to accelerate the establishment of one-acre plots for the rapid implementation and

success of a mechanised farming system was debated by several MPs.

In his discussion on the mo-

tion, U Hla Kyaw said the government had developed more than 62,300 acres of systematic farmlands from the fiscal years 2011-2012 to 2017-2018. The work for developing systematic farmlands includes water egress/ingress channels and creating a level one-acre rectangular field, which is costly. Depending on the farmland situation, these works cost from Ks1.2 to Ks2 million per acre. As farmers are unable to incur the expenses, the government is establishing such farmlands free of cost. Because of the high acreage of farmland areas, it will be difficult to incur these costs in the long run. Based on the experience of implementing systematic farmlands so far, the priority is to get the consensus of farmers who own small plots to develop an area. Even if there is a consensus, there are some who are against this, and they need to be persuaded, replied the Deputy Minister.

Hluttaw then agreed to put the motion on record and keep the matter under observation. —Kyaw Thu Htet ■

## Amyotha Hluttaw

## Gov't will effectively carry out rehabilitation of displaced people: Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye

## FROM PAGE-1

"The rehabilitation works would be carried out as projects," said Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye, "the department would join hands with local authorities, private businessmen, state governments and the Union Government to bring about creating job opportunities and emerging of border trade zones."

He replied the question asked by U Kyaw Ni Naing of Shan State Constituency-11 if the Union Government has a plan to aid the displaced people fled from their homes due to armed conflicts.

The seventh session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its 15<sup>th</sup>-day meeting in the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall, where asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, and a bill and a motion were discussed.

Questions by U Kyaw Thaung of Sagaing Region constituency (1) and U Mahn Law Moun of Chin State constituency (8) on natural resources



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye. PHOTO: MNA

and environmental conservation matters were answered by Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win.

Next, a bill on the registration of deeds, approved and returned with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw, was discussed by U Win Maung of Magway Region constituency (6).

Later, a motion by U Pe Chit of Yangon Region constituency (9), urging the government to prevent the destruction and loss of natural resources in



MP Daw Myat Thida Tun. PHOTO: MNA

Myanmar as a national duty, was discussed by Dr. Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency (11), Daw Myat Thida Tun of Mon State constituency (5), U Khin Mg Win of Sagaing Region constituency (7), U Mahn Law Moun of Chin State constituency (8), U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi constituency (7) and U Khin Win of Magway Region constituency 2. The 16<sup>th</sup>-day meeting of the seventh session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw is scheduled for 9 February.—Aye Aye Thant (Myanmar News Agency) ■

## Union Election Commission discusses 2020 election prospects

THE Union Election Commission (UEC) used the first day of a two-day meeting, in Nay Pyi Taw's Grand Amara Hotel yesterday, to discuss the draft version of UEC's strategic plan for 2018-2021, as well as the election process for the 2020 general elections.

Attending the meeting were UEC Chairman U Hla Thein; UEC members U Aung Myint, U Soe Yel, U Tun Khin, U Hla Tint, U Myint Naing and U Than Htay; members from state- and regional-level election commission; members from the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), and members from the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.

U Hla Thein gave the opening speech and said that on the first day of the meeting, attendees will review and discuss the UEC's strategic planning for 2018-2021, and on the second

day, they will discuss the electoral process for 2020 in detail.

The UEC has interviewed and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the 2015 general election and 2017 by-election processes with international and domestic election watchdog groups, ministry officials, civil societies, political parties, and regional and state-level election commissions. The UEC and IFES used the data from the survey and compiled the 2018-2021 strategic plan for elections. The strategic plan has 11 chapters and details step-by-step procedures for the 2020 election.

U Hla Thein asked for feedback from the attendees on each chapter of the strategic plan. This was accomplished by dividing the attendees into three groups to go over the chapters.

The meeting will continue on the second day today. —Myanmar News Agency ■



# Chin State residents urged to cooperate for development

## FROM PAGE-1

Next, the Vice President arrived at the construction site of Chichaung Bridge situated between 50.4 km and 50.6 km on the Kanpetlet-Mindat Road, where Bridge Department Chief Engineer U Zaw Win Myint explained matters relating to the bridge.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio met with residents of the Kanpetlet Township in Chin State on Wednesday in the meeting hall of Win Unity Hotel in Kanpetlet Township and inspected road improvement works and other infrastructural projects.

The Vice President has been in Chin State since Monday and will soon conclude his visit.

Yesterday's meeting was attended by Chin State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai, Chin State Hluttaw Speaker U Zo Bwe, Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Than Htut and U Kyaw Lin, state ministers, Hluttaw representatives, Permanent Secretaries, Directors General and local residents.

At the meeting the Vice President said his visit was being conducted to observe the status of roads linking Chin State north and south and overall Chin State development. It was also made to listen to matters raised by the local people.

"Now is the time when concerted efforts are made from all sides and all means for the development of the country. It can be seen that the government is implementing regional development works practically by constructing main roads, road networks, airports, universities, colleges, upgrading hospitals and towns, supporting agriculture and livestock breeding sectors. The Kaladan River project is being implemented and constructed in Chin State. Due to this project products from India's northeast region and Chin State can be exported via Sit-tway port while bilateral trade between India and Myanmar can be easily conducted. Both long and short-term programmes should be set up in advance to utilize this project for the best of the country and people. Economically beneficial agriculture and livestock breeding programmes are to be set up to replace the slash-and-burn hillside farms" he said.

"The Paletwa Bridge is scheduled to open in 2018-2019. The Laymyo River Project is also underway and it will become



Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits the mountain fruits drying and value-adding work in Kanpetlet, Chin State. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects the construction site of Chichaung Bridge situated on the Kanpetlet-Mindat Road. **PHOTO: MNA**



the second biggest hydro-electric project in the country. This project will greatly support the development of the country and its people and will be dependable for development of Chin State too. Local people need to understand the efforts made by the government and participate together in it. Only then can the fruits of development will be rapidly achieved", said the Vice President.

The Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin then reported on the status of constructing road networks and conducting regional development works. State Minister Salai Isaac Khin, Hluttaw representatives, local people and elders then explained about requirements for regional development, to which Chin State Chief Minister U Salai Lian Luai provided additional input.

The Vice President said

regional development works should be implemented quickly and systematically according to the wishes of the people, and locals are urged to take part in establishing eco-tourism travel businesses.

The Vice President then went on to inspect a community-based travel business in Saunglaung Village, where State Minister Salai Isaac Khin and Permanent Secretary U Yi Mon and officials provided explanations. The Vice President commented on the need for providing electric power swiftly to villages where travel businesses will be set up and provided cash support to traditional dance troupe members.

Community-based travel businesses in Saunglaung Village are being established with the Forever Top Travel and Tour Company. Foreign visitors are starting to use the village-based

travel businesses that were started in January 2017.

The Vice President and party also visited the elephant foot yam tuber and crops drying and value-adding work in Kanpetlet Town, Ward (2) where the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association Secretary Daw Sandar Myo explained about development matters relating to the agricultural economy and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). State minister Salai Isaac Khin and officials also provided additional explanations.

The Vice President commented on expanding the planting of fruits as it is an agricultural work that has a high possibility of success, especially in the international market.

"Producing value-added products through agriculture can replace the slash-and-burn hillside farms. The fruit drying

factory project need to be implemented and all need to strive towards the establishment of such works and SMEs. The products of Chin State are chemical free, and should use this as strength in striving toward penetrating international markets", said the Vice President. With regards to coffee, the Vice President said that internationally, if a grade of coffee is above 80, it is considered as special grade and coffees from Pyin Oo Lwin, Ywangan and Thandaung areas are from 84 to 86 while coffee from Chin State is at 96 and thus among the world's top grade.

From there, Vice President U Henry Van Thio and party reached Pyay Village, where they were again greeted by traditional dances performed by the local people. They then continued on to Mindat town and thence to Bagan. —Myanmar News Agency ■



GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com  
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# Traditional pot enterprise creates job opportunities for local women

MAKING traditional earthen pots was practiced by ancestors in Pazun Myaung village in Nyaunglebin Township. So this traditional craft has been preserved and now it can offer local women job opportunities.

Best sellers can be made from clay or they are shaped with a narrow-neck and the bottom is jug-shaped. Other best sellers include big pots, cooking pots and water pots. Among these, clay water pots are the most popular. The price for a pot ranges from 1000 Ks to 1500 Ks and the cost of a pot which is equipped with tap is about 4500 Ks according to Daw Chaw Chaw, one of the pot makers in Pazun Myaung Village.

"Pots are made of clay and there are four colors of clay; black, brown, sepia and yellow. The yellow color pot is the most attractive to make. First, the clay is soaked for one or two nights. Then, the



Workers sorting out pottery after the burning process. **PHOTO: MYANMAR DIGITAL NEWS**

soaked clay is mixed with sand that is not too rough or smooth and this mixture has to be covered with cloth. It also needs to be stamped with the pot maker's feet so the mixture is sticky the next day. Afterwards, based on

the size of the pot, a round ball is made and this clay ball is put on the potter's wheel and it can be shaped any way the potter wants. Then before the pots are not dry, a wooden stick is used to draw designs around the sides of

the pots and the pots designed on their sides are baked in a kiln" she added. The local pots are distributed to Nyaunglebin, Shwegyin, Kyaukdaga, Pyu, Toungoo, Mon State and Yangon Region. —Myanmar Digital News■

## A ferry boat sinks in Andaman Sea

A FERRY-BOAT from Warkyun village in Kawthoung Township that carried students who attended school in Pulawbaline Village sank in the sea while taking students to school yesterday morning.

Sixteen students have been rescued from the boat by fishermen from a nearby village.

The ferry boat sank due to the crashing of waves into the ferry boat from a wake that a much larger boat created when it crossed the ferry's path.

Children who live in villages near the sea went to school by ferry boat because some of the villages do not have post-primary schools. Relevant organizations should provide life-jackets, umbrellas and raincoats to those who have a difficult time commuting to school by ferry boat in addition a new school should be opened in Warkyun village that's affiliated according to the voices of the local residents.—Myanmar Digital News ■



A ferry-boat carried students is seen in Andaman sea yesterday. **PHOTO: MYANMAR DIGITAL NEWS**

## Denmark tourists visit Myanmar on motorbikes

MYANMAR'S unique natural scenes, eco-tourism sites and archaeological sites, as well as its culture-based tourism, through which tourists can observe the traditions and cultural mores of its ethnic people, have brought in an increasing number of foreign tourists.

Tourists are visiting Myanmar via air, sea and road. Moreover, they also visit Myanmar through the border gates on their vehicles, motorbikes and bicycles.

A tour group of six motorcyclists from Denmark entered Myanmar through the Myawady border gate on 21 January. They visited Myanmar through an arrangement with Osuga Myanmar Co., Ltd. and under the supervision of the ministry of hotels and tourism. The tourists took the Myawady-Kyaiktiyo-Nay Pyi Taw-Inlay-Mandalay-Bagan-Pyay-Bago-Mawlamyine-Hpa-an-Myawady road trip, which lasted until 3 February.

Moreover, a Thai tour group, comprising 13 people, visited Myanmar with a car and 10 motorbikes on 23 January through an arrangement with Mother Ayeyarwaddy Co., Ltd. and under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

They took the Tachileik-Kyaikdon-Taunggyi-Inlay-Bagan-Mandalay-Taungoo-Yangon-Kyaiktiyo-Myawady road trip, which lasted until 1 February. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## Heroin seized in Indaw

THE police seized heroin from Indaw township at 9 p.m. on 7 February.

A combined force of the anti-narcotics squad from Katha inspected a vehicle driven by Win Zaw Oo (a) Arr Phein on the Indaw-Napha-Myitkyina road in Indaw Township.

The police seized 99 soap boxes of heroin, weighing 990 grams, and a handset from the vehicle. The police have filed charges against the suspect under the anti-narcotics law. —Myanmar Police Force





Gold jewellery displayed at a shop in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR

## Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association to apply for licence to import pure gold blocks

THE Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association will seek an import licence from the Commerce Ministry to buy pure gold blocks from China and Thailand, U Myo Myint told City News.

The Commerce Ministry announced on 22 January that gold and jewellery products could be exported, as well as imported into the country.

Gold entrepreneurs have welcomed the announcement, as earlier, gold was being imported illegally into the country from China.

The closure of manageable gold mines results in a decrease in gold production. However, it is a temporary ban.

“The association will apply for an export licence when there is an international expo or foreign buyers. We will apply for the import licence soon,” U Htone, gold smith and jewellery shop

owner, as well as chairman of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association, told City News.

The price of domestic gold is hovering on the higher side, although it has slipped a bit. The market is seeing some gold trade now.

The export and import of gold and jewellery products can be carried out through sea routes, border trade gates and air routes. International buyers can make payments through letters of credit or the telegraphic transfer system, which is regulated by the Central Bank of Myanmar. Seeking import/export licences and registrations, as well as evaluating the price, value, quality and volume of the products, are obligatory for importers and exporters.

Registration requires a certificate from the Myanmar Gems Enterprise and the Department

of Mines or a business permit from the Yangon City Development Committee.

A committee to observe and control the market, including officials from the Planning and Finance Ministry, Commerce Ministry, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Ministry, Education Ministry research centres, as well as representatives from the Myanmar Central Gold Committee, will appraise the quality, value, price and volume of gold and jewellery products and give approval over their import and export.

If unscrupulous activities are found, the scamsters will be given a warning first. If they commit illegal acts a second time, their import/export licences will be revoked, and action will be taken against the offenders under existing laws.—GNLM

## Myanmar-Thailand border trade reaches \$1.2 billion within 10 months

THE value of border trade between Myanmar and Thailand has reached nearly US\$1.16 billion, with the Myawady border trade gate accounting for the largest volume of trade, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The Myanmar-Thailand border trade totalled \$1.16 billion this fiscal year, between 1 April 2017 and 26 January 2018, which included \$336 million in exports and \$824 million in imports.

The Myanmar-Thailand

border trade includes Tachilek border trade camp in Shan State, Myawady border trade camp in Kayin State, Kawthoung border camp, Myeik border trade camp, HteeKhee border trade camp, Mawtaung border trade camp in the Taninthayi Region and Maese border camp in Kayah State.

The value of border trade reached \$63.5 million in Tachilek, \$726.8 million in Myawady, \$154.03 million in Kawthoung,

\$205.4 million in Myeik, \$4.38 million in HteeKhee, \$5.67 million in Mawtaung and \$0.75 million in Maese.

Myanmar primarily exports fishery products such as crab, fish and shrimp, as well as onions, sesame, dry tea leaves, coconut and turmeric, while consumer goods, cosmetic machinery, food products, agricultural equipment and track cars are imported into the country from Thailand.—GNLM

## Yamato Holding to cooperate with local partner for logistics business

YAMATO Holding Company from Japan is planning to provide logistics services by teaming up with a local company, according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

Yamato Holding joined hands with local partner Aye International Group in late 2017 to conduct the logistics business. It will offer services under the name Yamato Global

Logistics Myanmar.

Yamato Holding is headquartered in Singapore. It will hold 80 per cent of stocks, capitalising US\$500,000 (JPY55million). The companies plan to offer services such as trade shipments, cross-border trucking, home relocation and infrastructure development activities in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone.—GNLM

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- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- Market Place by City Mart (Junction City)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (FMI)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
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## Union Minister U Thaung Tun receives Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan



Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government U Thaung Tun meets Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan (National Security) Mr. Kentaro Sonoura in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, received Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan (National Security), Mr. Kentaro Sonoura at 11 am

on 8 February 2018 at the Ministry of the Union Government Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on Myanmar-Japan bilateral relations, the peace process and Ja-

pan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy. The meeting was attended by senior officials from the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government.—Myanmar News Agency ■



## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends third day of Singapore Airshow 2018

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the third day of the Singapore Airshow 2018 at Changi Exhibition Centre in Singapore. **PHOTO: MNA**

On the invitation of Lt. Gen. Perry Lim, Chief of the Defence force of the Singaporean Armed Forces, a Tatmadaw delegation, led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, attended the third day of the Singapore Airshow 2018 yesterday morning.

Senior General Min Aung

Hlaing and his delegation attended the Singapore Airshow 2018 at Changi Exhibition Centre and had a look at the military aircraft, helicopters and military cargo aircraft on display. They also watched aerial performances by the 2018 flying display teams at the exhibition.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## FDA conducts awareness campaign in Nay Pyi Taw

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials are conducting campaigns on 8 February to make the public aware of the fast food products, medicines and cosmetics they are buying from Thapyaygone and Myoma markets in Nay Pyi Taw.

The FDA workers have put up posters and distributed pamphlets among the visitors. They have also set up signboards in the public area.

“We found that both sellers and buyers lack knowledge about their products. We be-

lieve that providing awareness is the effective way to deal with the situation. Today, some 25 officials are providing awareness in various areas. We will continue with our activities in the future too. We are providing awareness to the public in different ways,” said Dr. Tun Lin Aung, Deputy Director of FDA.

FDA is not only providing pamphlets, posters and stickers but also umbrellas and calendars with educational slogans.—Mee Mee Phyto ■



FDA workers distribute posters and pamphlets to the sellers and buyers in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: AYE THAN**

## Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun receives UNESCO head in Myanmar

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun received Ms Min Jeong Kim, head of UNESCO Office in Myanmar, at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed reviews on the Assessment of Myanmar Me-



Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun (3rd from Left), and officials pose for photo with Ms. Min Jeong Kim, head of UNESCO Office Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**

dia Report Development, the sphere of the ministry that must be prioritised for the development of the media, the framework of the right to information law, matters related to sending

a media group to Rakhine State, implementing the codes of conduct for the media, and cooperation in media information literacy programmes.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Final examinations of basic education schools underway

THE second day of the final examinations for basic education school levels was held yesterday.

The examinations held during the 2017-2018 academic year are the final examinations for second, third, fifth, sixth, seventh and ninth grades.

The basic education level final examination for the fourth grade will be held from 19 to 23

February, while the eighth grade final examination will be held from 19 to 26 February.

The matriculation examination from 7 to 16 March will see some 844,237 candidates, including 518,006 students from schools across the country and some 326,231 from outside of schools (repeaters), sitting for the examination.

In addition to this, there are some 102 candidates serving sentences in Insein Correctional Department and Mandalay Correctional Department, who will sit for the matriculation examination. Last year, seven students from the two correctional departments passed the matriculation examination.—Myanmar News Agency ■



# Upcoming three-day weekend a blessing for most



U Maw Naing Tun (In-charge of Yangon's Disaster Management Department)



Daw Yi Yi Mon (Mayangone Township IPRD)



Sayar U Kyaw Min (Ministry of Education Staff, retired)



Ma Zinmar (Salesperson, Ever Seiko Co. Ltd)



Daw Swe Zin Thein Tan (Sunshine Store House of Liquor)

UNION Day is always celebrated on 12 February, and this year, Union Day falls on a Monday, giving most people a rare three-day weekend.

For those who usually have Saturdays and Sundays off, some may use this opportunity to go on a short vacation or a pilgrimage to a nearby pagoda, while others may spend more time with family and friends. No doubt Yangon's public spaces and pagodas will be filled with people and their families relaxing.

We've asked a cross-section of people how they will be spending their Union Day holiday.

**U Maw Naing Tun** (In-charge of Yangon's Disaster Management Department)

A lot of civil servants spend their off days with their families. I will be spending the three-day holiday with my family visiting pagodas. We're going to People's Park on Union Day



Ko Than Tin (office staff, Creative Myanmar Service Co. Ltd)

to join in on the celebrations there, and on the way home we may go to a bookstore.

**Daw Yi Yi Mon** (Mayangone Township IPRD)

I plan to stay at home with my family the first two days. On Union Day I'll be helping out with distributing pamphlets with my colleagues. In March however, I plan to go on a pilgrimage with my family to local pagodas.



Ko Zaw Pyae Hmu (Office Staff, Nwe Ta Pin Trading Co. Ltd)

**Sayar U Kyaw Min** (Ministry of Education Staff, retired)

I just moved to Yangon from a rural area, so I'm out of touch with my neighbourhood, but I plan to stay at home and spend time with my family. We'll discuss family matters and I can give them guidance. During the long holidays like Thingyan I usually go back to my hometown and make donations. The public holidays are the only time I can sit down



Daw Thida Win (Teacher, Nay Chi Private High School, Magway)

with my working children and talk with them.

**Ma Zinmar** (Salesperson, Ever Seiko Co. Ltd)

I'm going to go to a beach with my friends. We haven't seen each other in a while, so it's exciting.

**Daw Swe Zin Thein Tan** (Sunshine Store House of Liquor)

I'm going with my family to Taunggyi, Inlay and Kalaw this weekend. Our children are not old enough for school yet, so we frequently go on vacations. Vacationing just releases all my stress and I enjoy visiting places I've never been to.

**Ko Than Tin** (office staff, Creative Myanmar Service Co. Ltd)

My wife and I are thinking of going to Ngwe Saung or Chaung Tha on our honeymoon this weekend. We'll visit some pagodas and eat food cooked by local villagers there. We'll play in the water and watch the beautiful sunset.

**Ko Zaw Pyae Hmu** (Office Staff, Nwe Ta Pin Trading Co. Ltd)

I'm swamped with work this month, but I have plans to go to Chaung Thar with my friends



Daw Ei Phyu Phyu Kyaw (Manager at Golden Milestones Travels & Tours)

during Thingyan.

**Daw Thida Win** (Teacher, Nay Chi Private High School, Magway)

I'll be on a work visit to Yangon this weekend, and I'll probably be visiting its famous pagodas. However, my students have their matriculation exam coming up, so I'm quite occupied. But I do have plans to take a vacation, maybe abroad, in the summer.

**Daw Ei Phyu Phyu Kyaw** (Manager at Golden Milestones Travels & Tours)

A lot of people are going to Shwe Sattaw Pagoda this weekend. Many of the people travelling are parents of small children and they are mostly heading towards Chaung Thar. There will be more people travelling once the matriculation exams are over.

**U Patrick** (Cofounder of Danta Travel Co. Ltd)

The major destination for the week is Shwe Sattaw Pagoda and Mawtin Soon Pagoda, and people are showing increased interest with travel packages to Dawei. After the matriculation exams there will be more travelling to Chin and Kachin states, specifically Myitkyina. —Zaw Gyi, Ohnmar Thant, Myat Sandi ■



People relaxing on lush green floor at Maha Bandula Park in Yangon. PHOTO: ZAW GYI







# Tourists' visits to Shwedagon pagoda decline in January

THE number of tourists visiting Shwedagon pagoda has declined in January 2018, compared with the same period last year, according to a report in City News yesterday.

However, the pagoda trustees have earned more as entrance fees from the tourists. According to figures released by officials, some 70,322 tourists visited the Shwedagon pagoda in January. The pagoda board of trustees collected some Ks703.220 million and US\$260 from tourists as entrance fees and received \$17,265 in total.

Official statistics show that some 15,770 tourists from Thailand, 7,529 from China, 5,830 from South Korea, 40 from Czech Republic, 45 from Sri Lanka and 62 from Indonesia visited the pagoda. The pagoda hosted some 70,322 tourists in January 2018, down from 78,054 tourists last year. In January 2017, the pagoda trustees collected Ks624.432 million and \$360 from tourists as entrance fees and received \$9,763 in total.

The entrance fees for the Shwedagon pagoda increased to Ks10,000 on 1 December 2017 from Ks8,000. —GNLM ■



A tourist takes a photo with his smart phone at Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

## YHT proposes walkway from Shwedagon Pagoda to Botahtuang Pagoda

THE Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT) has proposed that the Yangon authorities create a walkway from Shwedagon Pagoda to Botahtuang Pagoda, according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

"We have requested it for walkers or cyclists. There is no cyclist-only path in Yangon, and the platforms are not very convenient. So, we want to suggest to the Yangon Region government to create a walkway," said Ma Noe Noe Aung, information officer of YHT.

The YHT has suggested establishing the walkway from the southern gate of Shwedagon Pagoda to Botahtuang Pagoda. The walkway will pass through Alanpya Pagoda, Yaw Min Gyi Street, Bogyoke Aung San Market, Shwelonthat Street, Maha Badoola Street, Bank Street, the lower block of Pansodan Street and Strand Road.

The YHT had designed the Yangon heritage conservation strategy in 2016. —GNLM ■

## Three children injured in an explosion

THREE children were injured in an explosion on 7 February; the explosion was supposedly caused by connecting wires from a detonator to a 1.5 V battery.

Three ten-year old boys

from Kalewa town in Sagaing Region were walking on a road in their ward and found a detonator with wires in front of an empty house. One of the children connected the wires of the device to a 1.5 V battery, and an

explosion occurred.

They received minor injuries and they were admitted to Kalewa general hospital, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs.—Myanmar Digital News ■

## Authorities to issue application forms for purchase of over 1,000 apartments

THE Urban and Housing Development Department (UHDD), which operates under the Ministry of Construction, will start issuing application forms for the purchase of more than 1,000 apartments in six townships in the Yangon Region, starting from the third week of February, according to a report in Myawady Daily.

The department will sell the apartments through a 15-year installment plan. The application form will be sold by

the Yangon region government from 15 February to 15 March at a cost of Ks1,000. The application forms will be in different colours for government staff, retired, company staff and the public. The department will sell the apartments to only those who are above 23 years of age and do not own homes.

The apartments for sale are in Inwa and Kaung San Thar housing in South Dagon Township; Yuzana Housing Phase-1 and Phase-2

and Kanaung housing in Dagon Seikkan Township; Kyi Pwar Yay housing in Thingangyun Township; Shop House in ShwePyiTha Township; Shwe Lin Pan Housing and Htee Haling in Hlaingthaya Township; and Shwe Pauk Kan housing in North Okkalapa, according to an official from the UHDD.

The low-cost and affordable apartments start from Ks10 million to Ks50 or Ks60 million. —GNLM ■

## Local farmers face difficulties due to decrease in winter crop price

LOCAL farmers, who are growing winter crops in eight townships, are facing difficulties because of the decreasing price and supply of winter crops in the local market, according to a report in City News yesterday.

Winter crops are grown mainly in Bago, Waw, Daik U, Thanatpin, Kawa, Shwegyin, Kyaukdaga and Nyaunglebin in Bago District. Locals in these townships mainly cultivate summer paddy, groundnut, green beans and sesame as winter crops.

"A variety of pulses, which are winter crops, grow in our region. Due to unexpected rainfall this year, the crops were destroyed, and our farmers are facing losses. Earlier, 20 baskets of beans were produced per acre. However, this year, only five baskets of beans were produced per acre," said U Win, a local farmer from Hsin Village in Waw Town-

ship. Local farmers bought bean seeds for Ks55,000 per basket, but the price of beans is only between Ks32,000 and Ks35,000 per basket. Therefore, the local farmers are facing severe losses.

"The price of beans is not stable in the local market. Currently, we are trying to produce some 100 baskets of summer paddy per acre. Also, we are providing local farmers, who are planting summer crops, with knowledge of technical methods to use fertilisers and seeds," said U Lay Myint, Director of Bago Agricultural Department.

Recently, the Bogo district cultivated summer paddy on more than 80,000 acres of land, a variety of pulses on more than 1.5 million acres, sesame on 50,000 acres and sunflower on more than 150 acres. Most of the winter crops are cultivated in Kawa Township, Bago District. —GNLM ■



## Union Peace Commission Chairman meets Asia-Pacific Scout Committee members

Dr. Tin Myo Win, Chairman of the Union Peace Commission and patron of the Myanmar Scouts Association, met with Paul Parkinson, regional chair of the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee, at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC), Yangon at 10 a.m. yesterday. At the meeting, Dr. Tin Myo Win spoke about how joining the scouts can have a positive impact on a person's life and that scouts can help their communities. He also spoke on topics related to sanitation. He further

expressed his gratitude towards the Asia-Pacific Regional Scouts Committee for providing training to the Myanmar scouts on critical thinking that is needed for the peace process.

Mr Parkinson expressed delight that Myanmar had managed to become a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) in such a short time. He said its committees would do their best to provide training similar to that given in the recent peacemaker workshops and for scouts in



Dr. Tin Myo Win, 6th from Right, poses for documentary photo together with scouts from Myanmar Scout Committee and Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar to be able to join the World Scout Jamboree.

Earlier in the day, Dr. Tin Myo Win met with the participating scouts and their instructors at the peacemaker course and gave words of encouragement.

Later, members of the Asia-Pacific Scout Committee and Myanmar Scout Association discussed the strengths and weaknesses of Myanmar's scouts and the possible expansion of the scout association's

processes. This was followed by Mr Parkinson explaining the mission of WOSM and how the Asia-Pacific Committee can provide support to Myanmar's scouts.—Myanmar News Agency

## Judicial reform is ongoing, says Union Chief Justice

THE 14<sup>th</sup> coordination meeting of the Union Supreme Court and states/regions High Courts was held yesterday morning at the meeting hall of Union Supreme Court, Nay Pyi Taw, at which Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo said judicial reforms are ongoing.

In his opening speech to the meeting's attendees, the Union Chief Justice said judiciary reforms were conducted by drawing up a three-year strategic plan (2015-2017), with the work processes implemented annually. But the work is far from over, he said.

The judiciary reform work is a continuous, long-term process and a judiciary five-year strategic project (2018-2022) will be implemented successively. The Union Supreme Court will lead, while states/regions High Courts will manage the successful implantation of the judiciary five years strategic project (2018-2022), he said.

"Freedom of the courts, integrity of the judges, impartial court processes and trust of the people on the courts' effective-



Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo addresses the 14<sup>th</sup> coordination meeting of the Union Supreme Court and states/regions High Courts. **PHOTO: MNA**

ness are the main factors that make the judicial system exist. To retain the trust and reliance of the people, judges need to maintain their ethics and perform their duties diligently. Only then will the judiciary benefit the people" the Union Chief Justice said.

On cases that were filed and decided from 1 January to 31 December 2017, the Union Chief Justice said the Union Supreme Court accepted 1,543 criminal, 2,503 civil and 298 certiorari cas-

es, of which 1,322 criminal, 2,214 civil and 287 certiorari cases were decided. States/regions High Courts accepted 6,202 criminal and 6,040 civil cases, of which 5,706 criminal and 5,071 civil cases were decided.

District courts accepted 20,478 criminal and 12,644 civil cases, of which 18,820 criminal and 11,238 civil cases were decided. Township courts accepted 365,256 criminal and 27,287 civil cases, of which 355,351 criminal and 24,227 civil cases were

decided.

Juvenile Courts (Yangon and Mandalay) received 450 cases, of which 409 were decided.

Municipal Courts (Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay) accepted 23,081 cases and decided 23,103 cases that includes 22 cases from last year.

Traffic offence courts (Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay) accepted and decided on 146,296 cases. The Union Supreme Court confirmed 2,352 lawyers as Advocate and 879 lawyers as high

court lawyers in 2017, said the Union Chief Justice.

The coordination meeting was attended by Supreme Court Judges, States/Regions Chief Judges, directors general, deputy directors general and directors from Union Supreme Court Office and Office of the Union Judiciary Supervision, States/Regions chief law officers and district judges. The coordination meeting will be held from 8 to 10 February, it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw joint bill committee holds meeting

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw joint bill committee held a meeting to discuss the revenue appeals tribunal bill, which was held in the second-floor meeting room, D Block, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,

yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker; Joint Bill Committee and Public Accounts Joint Committee Chairman U

Aye Tha Aung; deputy chairmen, secretaries and members of the joint bill committee; Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's legal affairs and special cases assessment commission members; and of-

ficials from Union Government office, Union Chief Justice office, Council of Advocate, the ministry of agriculture, livestock and irrigation, ministry of planning and finance, the un-

ion attorney general office, the Union Auditor General Office, UMFCI, Myanmar Account Association and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw office.—Myanmar News Agency ■



## Development projects carried out in Tanai Township, Kachin State

SEVERAL rural development projects have been carried out in Shinbweyan, a town in Tanai Township in far-flung Kachin State, to improve the socio-economic condition of the rural community.

As part of the development, authorities are currently implementing a project to establish new transport infrastructure in the town from January.

U Zaw Win, an MP from Tanai constituency, said that road and bridge construction projects are being carried out throughout the town by using funds from the government and parliament budgets. The township development committee contributed Ks150 million for the projects. The pro-

jects are expected to be finalised within the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

There are four wards in the town, and each earthen road is approximately 12 feet wide. Some of them will be paved with concrete under this project, said U Than Myint, a project implementer.

U Zaw Yaung, who resides in ward 4, said: "As blue-collared labourers, we receive Ks7,000 as daily wages thanks to these development projects. We are happy to build new roads and bridges that provide us with employment opportunities and a better transport system. Earlier, the town's residents faced transport barriers, especially during the rainy season."—EPN ■

## Dance troupes to perform at National Landmark Garden on 11<sup>th</sup> February



Photo: MNA

Traditional dance troupes from regions and states will perform at the National Landmark Garden in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 February to mark the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of

the garden.

The dance troupes from regions and states will arrive Nay Pyi Taw to attend the 71<sup>th</sup> Union Day celebration in Nay Pyi Taw. The garden has

significant landmark of each State and Region in the Union of Myanmar. It has purposely for the sake of recreation and relaxation to public all over the country as well as to

have general knowledge on typical living style of national races of the states and regions at one glance in one visit to one place. Entrance to the performance is free.—MNA ■

### Notice of Final Winding Up Mizuho Bank Limited Yangon Representative Office

The Yangon Representative Office, consequent in its upgrading to that of a branch, closed down on 3 August 2015 and a Notice to Creditors for submission of their claims, if any, was inserted in the Gazette.

Now that all claims and liability having been met, Notice is hereby given that the affairs of the Yangon Representative Office will be finally wound up as from March 9, 2018.

**Maung Maung Aung**  
**Attorney & Liquidator**  
**Mizuho Bank Limited**  
**(Yangon Representative Office in Liquidation)**

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI AMPLE VOY. NO. ( 0227-45 1 W )

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI AMPLE VOY. NO. ( 0227-45 1 W ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-2-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## Workshop on Far Eastern Himalaya region in Nay Pyi Taw

A workshop on development and conservation of the Far Eastern Himalaya region organised by the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) was held yesterday at the Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation U Khin Maung Yi extended opening remarks

at the workshop.

The workshop was attended by Director-General of the Department of Forestry, Deputy Director (Admin), and officials from the department, and representatives from relevant Departments, representatives of WCS, UNESCO and ICIMOD.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is a regional intergovernmental learning and knowledge sharing centre serving the seven regional member

countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayas including India, China and the Brahmaputra Thanlwin region.

The programme of conservation and development of the Brahmaputra Thanlwin region was discussed in 2009 and changed its name to Landscape Initiative for Far Eastern Himalaya (HI-LIFE) at the fifth regional meeting held in Kathmandu in Nepal, in 2014.

HI-LIFE represents the region which is 71,452

sq. km wide, and is known as a collaborative effort of Myanmar, China and India.

HI-LIFE is funded by GIZ from Germany which aims at promoting and improving the socio-economic life of local people, conservation of river resources, and recording the customs and traditions of local people.

HI-LIFE will contribute to efforts for the Khakaborazi National Park to be listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## Woman sentenced to hard labour for false police report

A woman from Maubin, Ayeyawady Region who reported a knifepoint robbery to Kyeemyindine Police was convicted of false accusations and for filing a false police report yesterday.

Ma Hlaing Hnin Wai told police that on 7 Feb-

ruary at 6 a.m, she hired a taxi near Tayettaw Monastery in Lanmadaw Township on Bogyoke Road to travel to Pansodan to meet her parents. She reported to police that, instead of going to Pansodan, the cab driver headed towards Myanigone Town-

ship. She reported that another man entered the car while at a red light and made off with her VIVO mobile phone and purse containing Ks500,000. The driver then allegedly dropped her off near the Old Thirimingalar market in Kyeemyindine. After a

thorough cross-examination and reviewing CCTV records along the road, it was found that her accusations were false. She was sentenced to 3 months of hard labour. Her motive for the false report could not be determined.—Myanmar News Agency ■



# Bangkok air pollution warning, children asked to stay indoors

BANGKOK—Residents in Bangkok, one of the world's top tourist destinations, were warned on Thursday the city's air quality had hit dangerous levels just days after the country's pollution control agency appealed to residents to wear face masks.

Air pollution in the Thai capital has come under increasing scrutiny in recent weeks with residents complaining of smog and respiratory problems. Some schools were closed on Thursday or kept children indoors.

Air Quality Index (AQI) formulas usually include up to six main pollutants including PM2.5, PM10, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen

dioxide and ground level ozone. The Pollution Control Department reported PM2.5 dust in the Bangkok Metropolitan at midday on Thursday and at midday it was measured at 72-95 micrograms per m3, with the likelihood that it would increase. That compares with a World Health Organization (WHO) guideline of an annual average of no more than 10 micrograms. PM2.5 is a mixture of liquid droplets and solid particles that can include dust, dirt, soot and smoke.

"We've warned at-risk groups including sick people ... the elderly and children. We've warned that they must not conduct activities outdoors," Suwanna Tiansuwan, deputy direc-

tor general of the Pollution Control Department, said.

Tiansuwan said the lack of wind in recent days had allowed pollution to accumulate in the air.

The department reported the Air Quality Index (AQI) in central Bangkok area had reached an unhealthy level of 135 AQI by early afternoon. The Air4Thai mobile phone application, which shows Pollution Control Department readings, does not factor in PM 2.5 or fine particulate matter that pose the greatest risk to human health.

Data from the American AirVisual smartphone application showed a 154 AQI reading for Bangkok.

"We've received information from my daughter's



The skyline is seen through morning air pollution in Bangkok, Thailand 08 February 2018.

PHOTO: REUTERS

school that they are monitoring pollution levels and will be keeping the children indoors until it improves," Joanna Lorgrainers, 32, a mother of two who lives in

Bangkok, told Reuters.

Some international schools in the city have installed their own air pollution measuring devices, said parents, and

are in touch with other international schools in cities with high air pollution levels to discuss ways to limit childrens' exposure.— Reuters ■

## Natural disasters kill 27 in China in January

BEIJING — Natural disasters killed 27 people in China in January, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the National Commission for Disaster Reduction Thursday.

Casualties and losses caused is worse than the average level in the same period over the previous five years, the authorities

said in a report. More than 40,000 people were displaced, the report said, adding that the disasters also left about 143,000 people short of basic necessities.

About 2,000 houses were destroyed and another 2,000 seriously damaged. About 973,000 hectares of crops were damaged.

Natural disasters last

month caused 16.3 billion yuan (2.6 billion U.S. dollars) of direct economic losses, the report said.

The report said natural disasters in the month were mainly caused by low temperatures, heavy snow, rain and frost, which had been intense and long-lasting across a wide swath of China.—Reuters ■

### MYANMAR ITD COMPANY LIMITED

#### (In Members Voluntary Winding-up)

#### Notice of Special Resolutions pursuant to section 206(1)

The following Special Resolutions were unanimously passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the shareholders of Myanmar ITD Company Limited held on 30 January 2018 at 9:00 am at No.224/A, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, U Wisara Road, Salomon Business Center, Bahan Township, Yangon Region as required under Section 203 (2) of the Myanmar Companies Act:-

#### Special Resolution No.1

Resolved that the Company be wound up as "Members' Voluntary Winding Up" with effect from 30 January 2018.

#### Special Resolution No.2

Resolved that U Maung Maung Aung, C.P.A, be hereby appointed as Liquidator of the Company with effect from 30 January 2018, for the purpose of such winding up and is authorized to carry on the business of the Company to such extent and for such period as may be necessary only for the beneficial winding up thereof and is granted such other powers as may be deemed fit and proper and to finally wind up the Company.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

I, the undersigned Liquidator of Myanmar ITD Company Limited have fixed the period for creditors to submit their claims together with supporting documents, to the undersigned as one month from date of the publication of this notice and that in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved and before the final winding up date.

All persons claiming to be creditors of the above company are therefore requested to submit details of the claims, together with any documentary evidence in their possession, to the Liquidator at the address given below, before the above date.

U Maung Maung Aung  
Liquidator  
Myanmar ITD Company Limited  
(In Members' Voluntary Winding up)  
64(B), 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Shwegaon Plaza,  
Komin Kochin Road, Bahan Township, Yangon Region.

## Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 12<sup>th</sup> (Monday)  
February 2018 " Union Day " under the Negotiable  
Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

### 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 Flood and Landslide Emergency Recovery Project (FLERP). The IDA No. of the credit agreement is No. 5889-MM. The Department of Highways (DOH) of the Ministry of Construction, in its role as implementing agency of the FLERP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contracts C4-MOC-G07 BIS, for the supply of Double Cab Project Inspection Vehicles. DOH now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Reference Number: C4-MOC-G07 BIS – Double Cab Project Inspection Vehicles

Reference No.	Lot No	Description	Quantity
C4-MOC-G07 BIS	1	Double Cab Project Inspection Vehicles	4 vehicles
Supply to		Department of Rural Development, Office No.(14), Nay Pyi Taw	

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the email address below 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 **Thursday 22 February 2018 at 11:00am Myanmar time** after which no Quotations will be accepted. The vehicles will be contracted in 1 (one) contract.

The 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 and revised in July 2014.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: U Khin Zaw, Project Director, Department of Highways of the Ministry of Construction, Office No. (11), Nay Pyi Taw. Office phone and fax (+95-67)407583 Email: [flerp.moc@gmail.com](mailto:flerp.moc@gmail.com). Please indicate one of the reference numbers above as well as your e-mail address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send.



## Tarantino says Thurman movie car crash among 'biggest regrets'

LOS ANGELES — Director Quentin Tarantino said a car crash that seriously injured Uma Thurman on the set of "Kill Bill" was one of "the biggest regrets of his life," but denied that he forced the actress to carry it out.

Thurman, who appeared in three Tarantino movies, told the New York Times in a Saturday article that she felt Tarantino had tried to kill her in the 2003 crash, which crushed her knees and left her with a concussion.

Thurman also released video of the crash from the set of the martial arts movie, leading to harsh criticism of Tarantino on social and mainstream media.

Tarantino, responding in an interview with Hollywood website Deadline.com on Monday, said Thurman's car crashed because there was an unseen curve in the road.

"Watching her fight for the wheel. ... remembering me hammering about how it was safe and she could do it. Emphasizing that it was a straight road, a straight road. ... the fact that she believed me, and I literally watched this



Director Quentin Tarantino (L) and actress Uma Thurman pose on the red carpet they arrive for the screening of the film "Sils Maria" (Clouds of Sils Maria) in competition at the 67th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes on 23 May 2014. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

little S curve pop up. And it spins her like a top," Tarantino said.

"It was heartbreaking. Beyond one of the biggest regrets of my career, it is one of the biggest regrets of my life," he added.

Tarantino denied ignoring Thurman's anxiety about driving but acknowledged he had been mistaken about the safety of the road.

"I didn't force her into the

car. She got into it because she trusted me," he said.

Tarantino said he and Thurman reconciled years ago and had talked since the New York Times story was published.

"Uma was in turmoil about the uprising against me this weekend. ... She never meant this to roll over onto me," he told Deadline.

The Oscar-winning director also said that incidents when he spat on Thurman and choked her with a chain were part of the filming process for "Kill Bill" and were carried out with her consent to make the scenes realistic.

Thurman said on her Instagram account on Monday that she was proud of Tarantino for making the crash video available to her after 15 years, saying he did so "with full knowledge it could cause him personal harm."

Thurman's account of the car crash overshadowed her accusations of sexual misconduct by Harvey Weinstein, who produced "Kill Bill" and "Pulp Fiction."

Weinstein's lawyer on Saturday acknowledged the producer "making an awkward pass" in 1994 but said Thurman's accusations of an attempted physical assault were false.—Reuters ■

## Australian burger chain settles dispute with Crocodile Dundee actor

SYDNEY - Australian burger chain Grill'd has paid A\$20,000 (\$15,640) to actor Paul Hogan and a charity to settle a dispute over the use of one the "Crocodile Dundee" actor's most famous lines, his lawyer said on Thursday.

Hogan filed a lawsuit against the restaurant group in the Federal Court in December, accusing Grill'd of "misleading or deceptive conduct" by associating themselves with the Hogan brand without consent.

Grill'd had used a variation of the line "That's not a knife... that's a knife" from the 1986 movie "Crocodile Dundee" on the paper sleeves covering its knives.

Hogan both co-wrote and starred in "Crocodile Dundee", the tale of an Australian bushman at home in the outback who finds himself a fish out of water in New York.

The movie was a commercial and critical hit, garnering the Australian actor a Golden Globe Award for best actor and an Acad-



Australian actor Paul Hogan arrives during the G'Day USA Black Tie Gala in Los Angeles, California on 11 January 2014. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

emy Award nomination for best screenplay.

Hogan's lawyer, Andrew Richardson, told Reuters that Grill'd had agreed to withdraw the controversial sleeves at all their outlets, pay Hogan A\$10,000 for his legal costs, and donate another A\$10,000 to the charity Cure Cancer Australia.

"We are pleased to have set-

tled this issue with Paul Hogan and proud to donate the money to Cure Cancer, and such a worthwhile cause," Grill'd director Simon Crowe said in emailed statement. Hogan, a longtime supporter of Cure Cancer Australia, said the donation was chosen because cancer is one of the country's leading causes of death.—Reuters ■

## Robin Williams' death linked to rise in copycat suicides

LOS ANGELES — Suicide rates in the United States spiked almost 10 percent following the death in 2014 of actor Robin Williams, and spiked even more among men and those who ended their lives, like Williams, by suffocation, according to a study published on Wednesday.

The study, published in the scientific journal PLOS One, found that in the five months from August to December 2014 some 18,690 deaths by suicide were recorded - an increase of 9.85 percent from the expected number of cases for the period.

Williams, the Oscar-winning star of "Good Morning, Vietnam" who was beloved for his humor, died in August 2014 at age 63 in a suicide that shocked fans worldwide. Authorities said he died of asphyxia after hanging himself at his home in northern California. An autopsy found that Williams was suffering from Lewy body dementia, which causes a progressive decline in mental ability.

Suicides following Williams'

death rose by 12.9 per cent in men aged 30-44, and the study found a 32 per cent increase in the number of deaths from suffocation. Although the study could not prove a definitive link, it said there appeared to be a connection. Extensive media coverage of Williams' death "might have proved the necessary stimulus for high-risk segments of the US population (e.g. middle-aged men in despair) to move from suicidal ideation to attempt."

While the effects of widely reported celebrity suicides have previously been linked to increases in the wider population, the study said media coverage of Williams' suicide was particularly detailed and sensational and was amplified through social media.

The suicide in 1994 of Nirvana lead singer Kurt Cobain, for example, appeared to have a minimal impact on suicide rates in his Seattle home town, partly because of more restricted reporting, the study said.—Reuters ■





2018 Gerber Spokesbaby Lucas is seen in this September 2017 taken in Dalton, Georgia, US, and released to Reuters on 7 February 2018. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## In a first, Gerber names boy with Down syndrome 'Spokesbaby'

DENVER — An 18-month-old boy with Down syndrome has been named by baby food maker Gerber as its "Spokesbaby" for 2018, the company said on Wednesday, an action hailed by advocates for people with the genetic condition.

Lucas Warren of Dalton, Georgia, won Gerber's annual photo contest over 140,000 entries with his "winning smile and joyful expression," Gerber Chief Executive Bill Partyka said in a statement.

"Every year, we choose the baby who best exemplifies Gerber's longstanding heritage of recognizing that every baby is a Gerber baby, and this year, Lucas is the perfect fit," Partyka said.

Gerber has held the photo contest since 2010, although parents have been sending photos of their infants to the company throughout its 90-year history, Partyka said. Gerber was bought in 2007 by Swiss food and beverage company Nestle. The Warren family will receive \$50,000 from Gerber, and Lucas will take "a front seat" on the company's social media channels.—Reuters ■

# Shinhan Bank donates ambulance to Yankin Children's Hospital

EMPLOYEES of the Shinhan Bank in the Republic of Korea donated an ambulance to Yankin Children's Hospital yesterday to celebrate the long friendship between Myanmar and Korea.

Ms. Chai Woa-mi, Vice President of Shinhan Bank, handed over the vehicle with the name "Ambulance of Love" worth US\$20,500 (Ks27.28 million) to Dr. Myint Myint Khaing, Medical Superintendent of the hospital.

Mr Hwang Won Rae, Chairman of the Korea Labour Welfare Centre, explained the purpose of the donation at the ceremony held yesterday at the hospital.

At the ceremony, U Tauk Tun, the managing director of Kyal Sin Arr Man Co., Ltd was also honoured for helping bring the ambulance from Korea to Yangon.—Saw Thein Win ■



Shinhan Bank's employees, doctors and nurses pose for a photo in front of Yankin Children Hospital. **PHOTO: SAW THEIN WIN**

## Lagos art lovers get chance to bid for long-lost masterpiece found in London

LONDON/LAGOS — A portrait of a Nigerian princess that was lost for more than 40 years has been found in a London flat and will be sold at an auction screened live in Lagos, allowing Nigerian art lovers to make bids direct from the West African mega-city.

"Tutu", by Nigeria's best-known modern artist Ben Enwonwu, was painted in 1974 and appeared at an art show in Lagos the following year but its whereabouts after that were unknown until it re-surfaced in north London.

"It was his greatest masterpiece and people have been asking 'where is Tutu?' So to have this image turn up is extraordinary," said Giles Peppiatt, an

expert in modern and contemporary African art at London auction house Bonhams, who identified the painting.

The portrait of Adetutu Ademiluyi, who was a grand-daughter of a revered traditional ruler from the Yoruba ethnic group, holds special significance in Nigeria as a symbol of national reconciliation after the 1967-1970 Biafran War.

Enwonwu belonged to the Igbo ethnic group, the largest in the southeastern region of Nigeria that had tried to secede under the name of Biafra.

The Yoruba people, whose homeland is in the southwest, were mostly on the opposing side in the war.

Enwonwu painted three versions of the portrait. The other two remain lost, although prints first made in the 1970s have been in circulation ever since and the images are familiar to many Nigerians. Enwonwu died in 1994.

Oliver Enwonwu, the artist's son, is president of the Society of Nigerian Artists. "This is a very significant discovery, given my father's contribution to Nigerian art and African art, more broadly," he told Reuters in Lagos.

Peppiatt said it had come as a shock to him to find the painting hanging in a north London home where he was called to examine it, because he had been on several wild goose chas-

es in the past in search of the originals.

The owners did not wish to be identified, he said.

The work will be sold on 28 February in an auction at Bonhams in London that will be shown live at the Wheatbaker, a boutique hotel popular with artists in Ikoyi, a wealthy neighborhood of Lagos.

The price estimate is between 200,000 and 300,000 pounds (\$277,600-\$416,400). "We are quite hopeful about it because the market for Nigerian modern art is really strong at the moment. I've been in the market for 12 years and it's as strong as I've ever known it," Peppiatt told Reuters.—Reuters ■

## China to establish ocean science research center

QINGDAO — An ocean research center will be built in east China's Shandong Province.

The Center for Ocean Mega-Science will be located in a science and education park in Qingdao, a coastal city in the

province. Thirteen institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) including the Institute of Oceanology, will help establish the new center.

Work on the center is to be completed in December 2019.

Teams and talent from the 13 institutes will work at the center to integrate oceanology and other sectors, said Wang Fan, director of the CAS Institute of Oceanology. The center will be home to a team coordinating the work of 10

research ships from subordinate institutes.

Wang, who is put in charge of the preparatory work for the new center, said they hoped that the projected facility would serve as an open base for innovation,

capable of training talent in ocean science and offering support in expediting China's building into a strong nation in oceanology and boosting its capabilities of exploiting marine resources.—Xinhua ■



## Allardyce can get me firing again at Everton —Walcott

LONDON — Everton striker Theo Walcott said manager Sam Allardyce was the key factor in his decision to sign for the Merseyside club from Arsenal last month and believes the former England boss can extract the best out of him.

Walcott, 28, hit the ground running at Everton and provided the assist for fellow forward Oumar Niasse's leveller in the 1-1 draw with West Bromwich Albion. He then scored both goals in the 2-1 win over Leicester City. "Sam was one of the main reasons why I came to the club. I wanted a manager like that who could get the best out of me," Walcott told the club's website. Walcott, who started six league games for Arsenal this season apart from playing five Europa League matches and four more in domestic cup competitions, said he could not turn down the opportunity to work with Allardyce.

"I had that short stint with Sam with England and to see it now every day, the way the intensity of training is and how demanding it is has been great. I like to go into training every day and try to be better than the day before." Everton are 10<sup>th</sup> in the league with 31 points and go into Saturday's home Premier League clash against Crystal Palace on the back of a 5-1 thumping by Arsenal but Walcott said Allardyce was working hard to turn things around.—Reuters ■



Cyclists contest with their best effort in 2018 Asian Road and Para Cycling Championship in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: KYI SOE LIN (SPORTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION)**

# 2018 Asian Road and Para Cycling Championship begins

KyawZin Lin

MYANMAR is the host of the 2018 Asian Road and Para Cycling Championships that began in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

By the efforts of the Asian Cycling Confederation and Myanmar Cycling Federation, and under the supervision of Ministry of Health and Sports, the competition began yesterday after an opening ceremony at which Minister for Health and

Sports Dr. Myint Htwe delivered a speech.

The tourney is comprised of several competitions: Men's-U23 154km road race; Men's Junior & Women's Elite 103 km road race; Men's Elite TTT & Women's Junior 72km road race; Men's Elite 182.6km road race; Men's Junior, Women's Elite & Para Cycling 22.7km and Men's-U23 ITT 33.5km Women's Junior & Para Cycling 11km and Men's-Elite ITT 40km.

In the Men's-Elite Grouping 72km road race, Japan won the event, Iran was second and Hong Kong finished in third place. Myanmar finished in sixth place.

In the Men's Single 22.7km race, Kyrgyzstan secured first prize, Hong Kong came in second and Viet Nam finished in third place. In the Women's-Junior & Para Cycling 11km event, Kyrgyzstan secured first prize, Japan came in second and Hong Kong finished third.

A total of 22 countries excluding Myanmar representing seven ASEAN countries and 15 Asian countries are participating in the tourney.

This is the second time Nay Pyi Taw has hosted the Asian Road and Para Cycling Championships. The city previously hosted the event in 2015.

The event aims at promoting cycling sports along with para cycling events in Myanmar. ■

## Triple hat trick from Win Theingi scores big win for Myawady

DEFENDING Champion Myawady made a tremendous win over Gandamar (20-0) with a triple hat trick from Win Theingi Tun in yesterday's KBZ Bank Women's League at Aung San Stadium, Yangon.

As Myawady was composed of all the perfect players mainly from the Myanmar National Women team and other well-experienced senior players, they could grasp nearly every oppor-

tunity to score goals and tire out Gandamar players.

Girls from the Gandamar team lost their concentration from the kick-off. The loss of concentration and courage from the youth team was the opening the senior team needed to dominate the playing field.

Even as early as the 3 minute mark, Win Theingi Tun scored the opener. Then three minutes later, Hla Yin Win made

the second goal with great pass.

Yuper Khaing from Myawady scored the third in a minute after.

The flawless goals were seen with Mi Set scoring at 33 minute mark while Hla Yin Win at 37 minute and Yuper Khaing at 35 minute.

There were two more goals along with a garnering hat trick scored by the best player of the match Win Theingi Tun in the

last minute of the first half at the 40 and 43 minute mark.

The second half play of brilliant team Myawady was seen dominating more over Gandamar.

The three more consecutive goals at 48, 49 and 50 minutes were scored by football hero Win Theingi Tun and another consecutive score by Yuper Khaing at 53, 56 and 58 minute mark.

An own goal was garnered

at 52 minute by the defending champion team as the ball changed its direction by hitting Gandamar's players to enter directly into their net.

There are more goals scored by the team's hero Win Theingi and Yuper Khaing in the last minutes. Surprisingly Win Theingi scored the nine goals and Yuper Khaing scored seven goals in single match of yesterday.—KyawZin Lin ■