

NATIONAL

Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor inspects repatriation in Rakhine

PAGE-3



NATIONAL

Agriculture accelerates process of achieving self-sufficiency, earns foreign exchange

PAGE-4-5

OPINION

More investment and comprehensive action needed for comprehensive development of adolescents and young people in Myanmar

PAGE-8-9

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Monday, 23 April 2018



Photo shows low-cost housing project being implemented by the government in office for the ethnic races of Rakhine State. **PHOTO: NAING LIN**

Government has built 30 low-cost buildings, comprising 422 apartments for Rakhine people

DURING its two years in office, the government has built 30 buildings, comprising 422 apartments, to provide low-cost homes for the people of Rakhine State, said an official of the Urban and Housing Development Department.

“The low-cost housing plan has already reached 14 of the 17 townships in Rakhine State. The plan will be implemented in the remaining three townships

– Ponnagyun, Gwa and An – next year,” said the official.

“Those who cannot buy an apartment can avail of homes on rent.

In state capital Sittway alone, we are building a four-unit six-storey building and an eight-unit six-storey building comprising 72 rooms.

The project has been completed 95 per cent. We are going to rent out the rooms to in-service personnel and pensioners,”

he said.

The government will bear the cost of buying the land, and building and installing all the necessary facilities, including roads, bridges, power and water supply. Buyers have to bear only the construction cost. So the price is low,” he said.

The price of a ground-floor apartment is Ks22 million, while a top-floor apartment will cost Ks16 million.

State service personnel,

The government will bear the cost of buying the land, and building and installing all the necessary facilities, including roads, bridges, power and water supply.

pensioners and the public are entitled to apply for the apartments.

Cash payments can be made in lump sum or in instalments at the relevant banks, he added.

The department, operating under the supervision of the Rakhine State government, is implementing housing projects to improve the social standards in the state.— Myo Myint, Han Lin Naing ■



The sluiceways built between the Yway and Pyamalok Rivers will filter out seawater for monsoon and summer paddy cultivation in the Ayeyarwady Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

Sluiceways help produce 7,500 acres of paddy in delta

THE construction of five sluiceways on an island between two rivers in the Ayeyarwady Region has created 7,500 acres of seawater-free land on which monsoon, as well as summer paddy, can be cultivated.

The unit-9 of Irrigation and Water Utilisation Management Department has been building sluiceways on five islands formed between Yway and Pyamalok rivers in Labutta District in the delta region to grow paddy twice a year.

"We are building the sluiceways sector wise on the five is-

lands," explained an official from the unit. "We can now use 7,500 acres to grow double paddy as sector 2(a) of island 1 is free from salt water intrusion. We will continue our work depending on the budget allotment."

Currently, some 2,500 acres in sector 2(a) are being used to grow summer paddy with the irrigation system.

"Thanks to the sluiceways, our paddy fields are safe from pests and salt water," said a local farmer from Labutta Township.

The whole project will free 45,000 acres on the five islands

between the two rivers from salt-water intrusion. Moreover, the plan will also help improve the economic, health, education and social conditions of the local people through double or triple cropping. "The region will see rapid progress if the land can be put under triple cropping.

We are applying environment-friendly measures to implement the plan. As the plan is being implemented with tax money collected from the public, it must be beneficial to the people," said the official. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Basic Education Exam results released for 2017-2018 year

2017-2018 Academic year Exam results for Basic Education Level were released yesterday according to the Ministry of Education.

A total of 17,471 students sat for the final exam of the eighth standard in 213 Nay Pyi Taw Council Exam Centres, and all have passed it.

Similarly, a total of 22,550 students sat for the final exam of the fourth standard in 770 Nay Pyi Taw Council Exam Centres, all have passed the exam.

The 100 per cent pass exam results are due to the better teaching methods applied by the teachers, said an official.

The Matriculation Exam results will be soon released; it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Students scramble to find their names on the basic education exam results posted on the board in Yangon. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office Notification 3/2018

8th Waxing of Kason 1380 ME
22 April 2018

Summoning Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw eighth regular session

In accord with section 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 13 of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law and Rule 3, Sub-rule (b) of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Rules, it is hereby announced that the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw eighth regular session is summoned at 1:30 pm on the 15th Waning of Kason 1380 ME (14 May 2018) (Monday).

*Sd/
Mahn Win Khaing Than
Speaker
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw*

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Pyithu Hluttaw Notification 1/2018

8th Waxing of Kason 1380 ME
22 April 2018

Summoning Second Pyithu Hluttaw eighth regular session

In accord with section 126 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 35 of the 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Law and Rule 3, Sub-rule (b) of the 2013 Pyithu Hluttaw Rules, it is hereby announced that the Second Pyithu Hluttaw eighth regular session is summoned at 10 am on the 15th Waning of Kason 1380 ME (14 May 2018) (Monday).

*Sd/
T Khun Myat
Speaker
Pyithu Hluttaw*

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Amyotha Hluttaw Notification 1/2018

8th Waxing of Kason 1380 ME
22 April 2018

Summoning Second Amyotha Hluttaw eighth regular session

In accord with section 155 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 35 of the 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Law and Rule 3, Sub-rule (b) of the 2015 Amyotha Hluttaw Rules, it is hereby announced that the Second Amyotha Hluttaw eighth regular session is summoned at 10 am on the 15th Waning of Kason 1380 ME (14 May 2018) (Monday).

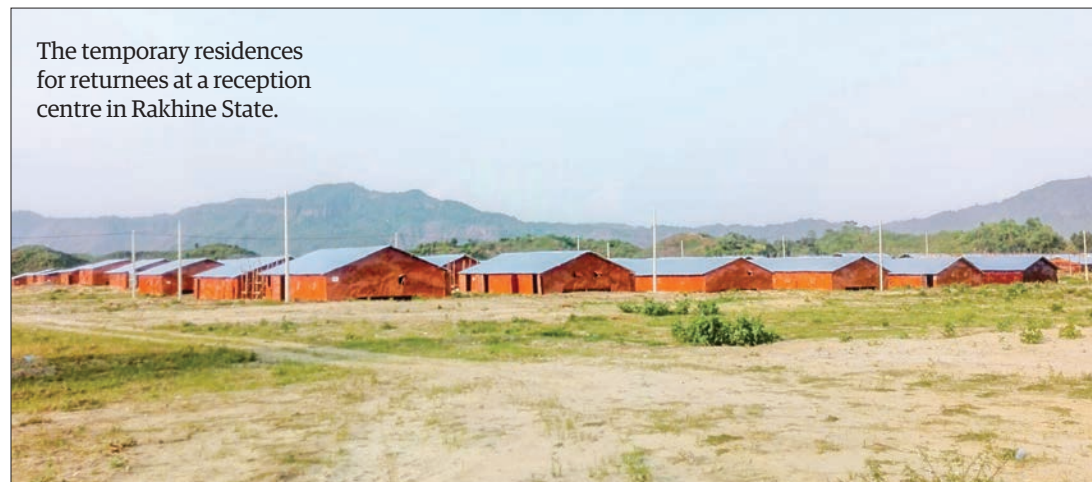
*Sd/
Mahn Win Khaing Than
Speaker
Amyotha Hluttaw*

“ Our country is still in poverty with necessities in every sector; which is why we need to carry on our struggle and work hard in all sectors. In the international arena, we are facing pressure, criticisms and misunderstandings. The challenges and difficulties our country and our people are facing today are many. Although every issue cannot be solved easily, we will have to make utmost efforts to solve these issues according to each priority sector.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)

“ I would like the people to assist and support the peace efforts of our Union Government. I would especially want the youth to look to the future and join in this effort. I have observed that youth have been participating in these efforts.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)



The temporary residences for returnees at a reception centre in Rakhine State.

Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor inspects repatriation in Rakhine



Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin at a coordination meeting to assess the repatriation process in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

DEPUTY Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Khin Maung Tin, Rakhine State Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Mining U Kyaw Lwin, and Rakhine State Minister for Electric Power and Transport U Aung Kyaw Zan

arrived in Maungdaw yesterday morning.

He met with representatives of construction companies at the meeting hall of the District General Administration Department.

Later, a delegation led by

the deputy minister inspected Pyuema Creek on the highway connecting Maungdaw-Taun Pyo Letwe Town and Nga Khu Ya- KyeinChaung-Taung Pyo-Letwe-KyeinChaung- Bandoola Road.

Next, the deputy minister and his delegation arrived at the Nga Khu Ya Reception Centre and surveyed the situation.

The deputy minister and his delegation then arrived at Hla Pho Khaung Transit Centre and instructed the officials responsible to construct safe and stronger buildings, repair the box culvert and maintain a systematic water system. He also inspected the local dam and related constructions and instructed on the requirements of the construction companies. —District IPRD ■

Four tollgates to be built along Shwebo-Myitkyina Road

FOUR tollgates equipped with modern technologies will be built in Mohnyin, Hopin, Mogaung and Myitkyina Townships on Shwebo-Myitkyina Road in Kachin State within two years.

With the arrangement of Kachin State government, Shwebo-Myitkyina Road will be extended to 24 ft from 18 ft

and will be upgraded to tarred road from concrete one. “The road will be six lanes where tollgates equipped with CCTV cameras and X-ray machines will be built,” an official from the Department of Road said.

Kachin State’s Development Affairs Department instructed all operators who run wheel tax revenue to abide by

Kachin State government’s decision to halt “wheel tax” collected at entrances to townships starting from 19 April.

Licenses to collect “wheel tax” across Kachin State for six months from April to September were auctioned by respective township Development Affairs Department through a tender system. —Ni Toe ■

Pyithu Hluttaw to hold eighth regular meeting on 14 May

THE eighth regular meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw will be held at 10 am on 14 May (Monday), 2018 at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building.

Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw has sent the invitation letters to the Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives to attend the regular meeting.

Whether they receive the invitation or not, MPs must inform at the Pyithu Hluttaw building I-12 not earlier than 12 May, not later than 13 May bringing together with them the MP identity cards.—Myanmar News Agency ■

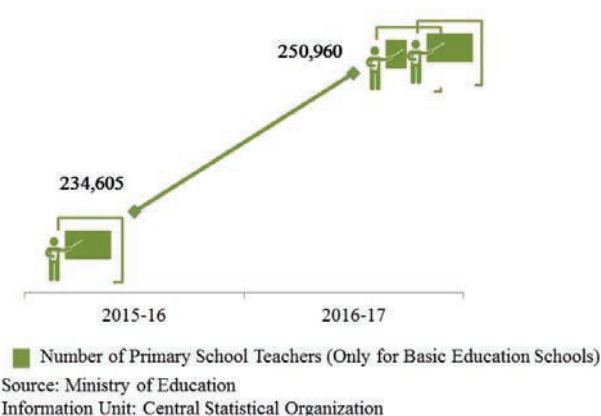
Amyotha Hluttaw to hold eighth regular meeting on 14 May

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Number of Primary School Teachers in Myanmar



Agriculture accelerates process of achieving self-sufficiency, earns foreign exchange

By July Moe (Myanma Alinn)

AGRICULTURE is key to Myanmar's economic development as her economy is based on farming. The agriculture sector contributes 25 % to GDP yearly with 18.9 per cent from paddy farming and 8.2 per cent from livestock breeding and fisheries.

Climate change causes crop damage yearly in Myanmar and thus the Agriculture Research Department has developed 25 hybrid strains which are climate-resilient crops suitable to the soil of the nation.

During the second year in office of the incumbent government, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

introduced modern farming method in the interest of farmers and this proved to be more cost effective in terms of agricultural inputs including seeds.

Its efforts for farmers also include disseminating agricultural knowledge to farmers, growing crops in time, mitigating loss and wastage, transforming farming into mechanized agriculture, etc.

To turn these goals into action, the ministry actively cooperates with experts within and without the country, development partners, investors and especially with farmers.

As land use, availability of water for agriculture purpose, capital investment, applying machineries, practicing cooperative system, rural development, research and development, value-added production, market expansion, human resource development and environmental conservation are essential for agriculture development, the ministry has laid down work plan in the respective fields.

Climate change causes crop damage yearly in Myanmar and thus the Agriculture Research Department has developed 25 hybrid strains which are climate-resilient crops suitable to the soil of the nation.

Another factor important for agricultural development is water. As Global warming is already having significant and costly effects on our planet, farmers face water scarcity yearly. In some areas, there exist limitations to get natural water. To overcome these difficulties, 'alternate



Tikir Dam near Thantlang Town and Tikir Village in Chin State is 500-foot-long and 75-foot-high and can store 1,265 acre feet of water to 12 villages and produces 50 kilowatts of electricity through a mini-hydroelectric power station. **PHOTO: MNA**



The Kapaung canal connects to a 89 acres of farmland that grows summer crops with the SRI water distribution system. **PHOTO: MNA**

wetting and drying' (AWD) method is used which is a water management technique, practiced to cultivate irrigated lowland rice with much less water than the usual system of maintaining continuous standing water in the crop field.

It is a method of controlled and intermittent irrigation. A periodic drying and re-flooding irrigation scheduling approach

is followed in which the fields are allowed to dry for few days before re-irrigation, without stressing the plants.

This method reduces water demand for irrigation and greenhouse gas emissions without reducing crop yields. To irrigate vegetable crops, such water saving methods as sprinklers and drip irrigation systems are applied.



Officials planning the third draft of the strategic plan for agricultural development. **PHOTO: MNA**



Local farmers attending the workshop teaching skills for fixing and maintaining farm equipment and machinery. **PHOTO: MNA**

As a result of these undertakings, water harvesting technique has been developed which can control soil moisture by 15 to 25 per cent.

In the field of plant cell biology, plant tissue culture techniques are applied to cultivate plants which are similar to parental stock, conserve rare species, track to crop genetic applying microbiology and study plant biology which will contribute to high yield of crops.

To increase sources for water supply, various kinds of water supply facilities have been built during the second year in office of the government. Thanks to these efforts, 1.324 million acres were benefited from the water supply facilities including dams, reservoirs, lakes and river water pumping projects benefiting people living in Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Chin, Rakhine, Kayah and Kayin states. As a result, paddy cultivation breaks the 70-year-record. In addition to this achievement, dwellers of Mandalay and Magway regions enjoy electricity produced from the irrigation facilities.

To penetrate into foreign markets, the Agriculture Department offers Good Agriculture Practice -GAP training to farmers. As rice is the main staple in Myanmar, it cultivated paddy on 17.695 acres of land as summer and monsoon paddy in 2016-2017 Fiscal Year yielding 1,327.23 million baskets. Among them, 1.747 million metric tons were exported. The figure doubled in 2017-2018 FY with exporting 3.518 million metric ton up to March 2018.

The rice forum was organized by Myanmar Rice Federation with the aim of developing paddy sector. A significant achievement during the second year in office of the government is setting the price of paddy at a floor price with 500,000 kyat for one hundred baskets. This helps benefit farmers more than ever.

To produce paddy seeds of pure stock, monsoon paddy was put on 69734 acres with the cooperation among seeds producing organizations, government, and farmers. As a result, in 2017-2018 FY, 2,279,559 baskets of paddy seed reached into the hands of farmers.

Agricultural Extension Development Centre was opened on 14th November 2017 to provided agricultural knowledge to farmers. Over 500 trainees got trainings from the centre.

During the two-year period, a call center was established on 1st March 2017 to disseminate knowledge to farmers. Moreover Post Harvest Research Institute was also established in Nay Pyi Taw contributing to successful growing of sugarcane.

In addition to growing of paddy as a main food, Myanmar is a country of growing such edible oil plant as peanut, sesame, sunflower and varieties of pea; such kitchen crops as various kinds of vegetables; and such perennial crops as mango, rubber and coffee.

The ministry is also striving for development of silk, cotton and rubber

production. To produce skilled labour in rubber production work, norms and curriculum were drawn with the help of National Skill Standard Authority.

Today, youth who have been engaged in paddy works are searching green pastures in urban areas or going abroad for their better future. As a result the strength of workforce in agriculture sector decrease facing bad consequences as rising in wages, failing to cultivate in time, increasing in losses and wastage and decreasing in production.

To overcome these agriculture skill shortages, Agricultural Mechanization Department is focusing on increasing the use of farm machineries. Success was achieved in providing farmers with

For ensuring effective use of land nearly 600,000 farmers were granted work permits to cultivate on 2,4860,000 acres of farmland and virgin and vacant land.

farm machineries of their wish just initial payment of 10 per cent for it.

With three-year installment, tractors, harvesters, power tillers were sold out to farmers. Moreover, mechanic courses are conducted for 85,323 farmers up to the end of February 2018. Research works are carried out to produce weeding machine, seeding machine, potato harvester and nursery seeding machine.

For ensuring effective use of land nearly 600,000 farmers were granted work permits to cultivate on 2,4860,000 acres of farmland and virgin and vacant land. Permission was also granted to 562 people who applied for carrying out farming and livestock breeding works on 11,180,000 acres are land.

Altogether 119 Ground Control Points were erected to produce correct maps. Altogether 99 total stations were distributed all regions and states.

As Myanmar sits on the land with 3,000 kilometers long coastal, arrangements have been made for systematic development of inshore and offshore fishing and not to waste fishery resources in accord with prescribed laws.

In 2017-2018 FY, altogether 56,8227 metric tons of fish were exported up to March 2018 earning USD 711.717 million. This is also the record-breaking in 20 years. National Residue Monitoring Plan is under implementation to export fish and prawns to EU countries. Currently, Myanmar follows the rules of Decree 135



With the use of combined harvesters, the Agricultural Mechanization Department assists in harvesting rice of local people in Rakhine. **PHOTO: MNA**



Civil servants of the Cooperative Department in Magway attend the workshop. **PHOTO: MNA**

issued by Chinese AQSIQ.

To conserve sea tortoise, Myanmar won Site Network Certificate and ISO Certificate for Thameehla Island.

Animal census was taken in January this year in 275 townships out of 330. Data are compiled thoroughly in that matter.

Agricultural loans were disbursed to farmers yearly with the rate of 100,000 kyat for one acre of paddy, 150,000 for sugarcane, and 50,000 for other crops. Moreover, small business loans and loans for buying farm machineries with installment were disbursed.

Microfinance business conducted by the cooperatives disbursed 586.542 billion kyat to over 2.5 million members in 291 townships in 15 regions and states.

19,353.247 million kyat was spent on land preparation to transform the agriculture into mechanized one.

In addition to the above-mentioned achievements, the ministry could bring electricity to 4,072 villages, build 32,560 public facilities including schools and clinics.

People Centred Projects have been implemented 47 townships which benefits 7.1 million people. The tasks are expanded to other 16 townships.

Mya Sein Yaung project is the effort made by Rural Development Depart-

ment. It met success ever than before, with more requests for it by villages in states and regions. Under the project, 271.4 billion kyat was disbursed to villagers in 9,895 villages. With the interests received from this projects, 42/6 miles of road in 162 villages were built, 20 water and 41 electricity supply works carried out, five health 14 education facilities built and 30 other development tasks undertaken.

Yezin Agricultural University and Veterinary Science University produced degree holders, master and doctorate degree holders.

YAU changed its teaching methods from teacher centered to student centered pattern. The university in cooperation with JICA, India's IARI, established ACARE. Research works are also carried out with Australian's ACIAR.

Private sector plays a pivotal role in development of Myanmar agricultural chain. The ministry invited investment at home and abroad.

The ministry vows to promote the agriculture which is directly related to farmers hand in hand with the economists, agriculture experts and foreign countries. ■

(Translated By Wallace)



Worker select fishes at the Nyaungtan Jetty in Yangon. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAH

Export of manufactured goods increases slightly

THE export of manufactured goods over the first 13 days of this transitional fiscal year (FY) reached US\$158 million, a slight increase of \$9.7 million compared with the same period last year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The total export value of manufactured goods between 1 and 13 April comprised \$15.540 million by the public sector, plus \$142.815 million conducted by private exporters. When compared with the last FY, the

private sector's export of manufactured products increased by \$15.021 million, while exports from the public sector decreased by more than \$5 million.

During the same time last year, overseas importers bought a wide range of manufactured products from Myanmar valued at \$148.612 million.

According to the ministry's latest figures, the country earned \$28.601 million from the export sector, including \$120

million from agro products, \$8.429 million from animal products, \$25.754 million from marine products, some \$23.849 billion from minerals, \$10.149 million from forest products and \$50.730 million from miscellaneous products. Although the value of exports increases each year, the country's import value is always greater than its export value. The current import value from all sectors topped \$674 million. — Khine Khant ■

Consumer goods imports reach \$135m, decrease by \$17 mn

THE import value of consumer goods topped \$135 million within the first 13 days of the 2018 transitional financial year (FY), including \$4.174 million through the government sector and \$134.658 million through private importers, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The import value of consumer products between 1 and 13 April decreased by more than \$17 million, as against the same period last year when the country imported a wide range of consumer goods valued at

\$155.943 million from overseas trade partners, mainly from neighbours.

Myanmar chiefly imports luxury products, personal goods, construction materials, agricultural machinery, raw materials, household goods, food items and electronic devices from neighbouring countries

The import of consumer goods continues to increase each year. The import value was \$1.245 billion in the 2011-12 FY, \$1.4 billion in the 2012-13

FY, \$2.3 billion in the 2013-14 FY, \$2.9 billion in the 2014-15 FY, \$3.5 billion in the 2015-16 FY, more than \$4 billion in the 2016-17 FY, and \$4.403 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.

Myanmar currently conducts trade with China, Thailand, Singapore, India, Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, the United States, the United Kingdom, some European countries, Western states and African nations via border and non-border points of entry.—Shwe Khine ■

External trade by sea decreases by \$59 million this April

THE external value of trade via sea routes between Myanmar and its international traders reached US\$802 million in the second week of this month, a decrease of \$59 million as against the same period in the last fiscal year, according to the commerce ministry.

The total value of foreign trade during the period included \$232 million from exports and some \$570 million from imports. Despite a decline in the value of the country's non-border trade, trade via cross-border points of entry increased by \$69 million. The total border trade comprised \$269 million worth of marketable commod-

ities through 16 land borders between 1 and 13 April of this year, the first 13 days of the 2018 transitional fiscal year that will end on 30 September.

The overall value of external trade as of 13 April exceeded \$1 billion, which shows a slight increase of \$9.6 million in comparison with last year.

Myanmar predominantly imports capital goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods, whereas it primarily exports six groups of commodities, such as agriculture products, animal and fisheries products, forest products and manufacturing goods. — Shwe Khine ■

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- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- 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)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- City Mart (Junction 8)
- City Mart (St. John)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

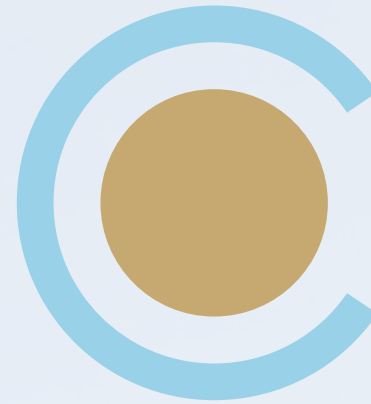
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The judiciary sector must be strong

THE incumbent government is working with three goals in its agenda and first on the list is "Complete rule of law and promoting the people's socio-economy." For rule of law to be in place the judiciary sector needs to be firm and strong.

In his speech for the Myanmar New Year, President U Win Myint said, "To shore up and strengthen the judiciary sector, I have already met the Chief Justice of the Union and the Union Supreme Court judges, and have given necessary instructions to make sure that in all respective courts, judges at all levels are exercising proper supervisory functions with full accountability and responsibility. Our Union Law Support Association and Rule of Law Centers should cooperate actively in this regard. We need to strive for a judiciary branch that is

impartial, independent and which balances fairness and judicious reasoning. We need to ensure that in the face of the law all are equal and that things are done in accordance with the law."

Rule of law is the most important component for union peace and socio-economic development of the people. Every citizen must be knowledgeable and aware of the workings of the law as the law does not forgive criminal transgressions just because the perpetrators did not know they were breaking the law. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

With rule of law in mind, the Union Supreme Court Judges have laid down a five-year judicial strategic plan for 2018 to 2022. The strategic plan is organized into five strategic action areas:

(1) Facilitate and expand public access to court services.

(2) Promote public awareness.

(3) Enhance judicial independence and administrative capacity.

(4) Promote and ensure the professionalism, accountability, and integrity of the judiciary.

(5) Promote efficient case management and court specializations.

In this regard, the Union Supreme Court Judges will ensure that the public has access to high quality legal services and feel safe and secure trusting the courts for legal matters.

It is not possible to achieve complete rule of law with just one department or organization, but only through the combined efforts of all who are involved in the judiciary sector can we overcome all obstacles and accomplish our goals. ■

More investment and comprehensive action needed for comprehensive development of adolescents and young people in Myanmar

By Dr. Tej Ram Jat

WITH 46.5% population below 25 years of age, Myanmar currently has significantly large youth population. As per the 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census, the country has 23.4 million populations in 0-24 years' age group. And, it is anticipated that the number of children and young people in the country will rise to 24.5 million by 2024. This large youth bulge presents a window of opportunity for Myanmar as well as it opens a web of new challenges. An appropriate level of investment and inclusive action will make this young population a great resource for social and economic development of the country whereas any failure in this regard would leave this population as a challenge for the country's overall development.

As per the 2014 Census, only 50.5% children aged 14-15 years were currently attending school and 13% adolescent girls in the age group 15-19 years were ever married, higher in rural areas (14.4%) than in urban areas (9.8%). According to the data from Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, the adolescent fertility rate in Myanmar is 36 live births annually per 1000 adolescent girls in the age group 15-19 years. Around 24% maternal deaths annually occur in the age group of 15-24 years.

The rate of contraceptive prevalence among married adolescent girls (15-19 years) is 54%. The unmet need for contraception is estimated to be 18.9% among married adolescent girls (15-19 years) that offers a huge scope for increasing contraceptive use as well reducing the unmet need in this age group.

Adolescence is a period of transition from childhood to adulthood which is characterized by several physical, cognitive, social and emotional developments that require increased attention and response on reproductive and sexual health, nutrition, chronic physical illnesses,

injuries, violence, mental health and substance misuse among adolescents.

Majority of adolescents and young people face multiple vulnerabilities and human rights abuses such as they remain out of school, face physical and sexual abuses, child marriage, adolescent pregnancy, acquire HIV and other infections and have increased risk of injury, disability and untimely death.

Every adolescent has a right to safe and healthy passage from adolescence to adulthood. Families and societies need to address vulnerabilities, ensure conducive environment, opportunities, freedom and access to quality education, information and healthcare services including adolescent and youth friendly adolescent and youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services and voluntary family planning so that adolescents and young people can acquire the knowledge and skills essential for leading a productive and fulfilling life. Going beyond technical public health solutions and addressing social determinants of adolescent sexual and reproductive health are required so that active engagement of adolescents and young people especially adolescent girls can be ensured to increase their agency for realizing their full personal and collective potential.

Myanmar should adopt effective strategies for promoting comprehensive development of adolescents and young people such as making smart and strategic investments in putting adolescents and young people first, harnessing the power of technology, using new data and analytical tools, promoting evidence-based advocacy and leveraging partnerships for addressing inequities, prioritizing those most in need such as adolescent girls and boys from marginalized ethnic communities, promoting gender sensitive, healthy and responsible behaviours among adolescents and young people, protecting their human rights, meeting the unmet need and

ensuring universal coverage to technically correct and gender sensitive comprehensive adolescent and youth friendly sexual and reproductive health information and services. Promoting gender equality, human rights and empowerment of adolescent girls, ending gender based violence, promoting rights, participation and development of adolescents and young people would also yield significant results. Effective and innovative strategic interventions should be implemented at both demand as well as supply side.

Comprehensive action is required for increasing the availability and access to information about adolescent health, increasing accessibility and utilization of quality counseling and health services, and creating safe and supportive environments for adolescents and young people by building multi-sectoral partnerships. These efforts should be made with the principles of participation and leadership of adolescents and young people, equity and inclusion, gender equity and strategic partnership with various sectors.

Evidence based and cost-effective intervention models should be developed and piloted in the country for providing an integrated package of information and services on sexual and reproductive health, voluntary family planning, nutrition, non-communicable diseases, substance misuse, injuries, gender based violence and mental health of adolescents and young people in specific communities and geographic settings as well as through integration into formal and non-formal school curricula and vocational training institutions. Successful models later should be upscaled across the country.

Focus should be given to addressing the needs of diverse groups of adolescents such as boys and girls, in-school and out-of-school, rural and urban, married and unmarried and appropriate attention should be given



Pay tax for education and health, Adolescents Conference, Myanmar. PHOTO: ACTIONAID MYANMAR

to social determinants of health of adolescent and young people and the social environment including families, peers, schools, health facilities, vocational training centers and communities. Convergent models should be developed for reaching out to adolescents through health care providers, teachers, hostel wardens, parents, peer educators and volunteers. Platforms within community spaces such as health centers, schools, hostels, vocational training institutions and teen clubs should be used.

The integrated service package should encompass adolescent and youth friendly health promotion, preventive and curative services, information and commodities with well-established referral linkages through the multi-tier public health system. A continuum of care approach should be adopted and the clinic-based curative approach should be realigned to focus on community-based health prevention and promo-

tion to provide preventive, diagnostic and curative services to all adolescents in need across all levels of care.

As 'one-size-does-not-fit-all', more customized, needs based and context specific programmes, interventions and services should be promoted to address the needs of a range of diverse groups of adolescents and young people residing in different geographic areas of the country.

Communication interventions for adolescents, young people, parents, gatekeepers, influencers and community at large should be implemented with a 360 degree approach of social and behavior change communication for creating conducive environment for comprehensive adolescent health.

Traditional and new age methods of communication should be used and the availability of telecom based platforms such as telephone help-lines, SMS and internet based social

media platforms should also be leveraged.

Collective strength of different constituencies needs to be harnessed through adopting a framework of multi-sectoral convergence with well-defined role of each sector and stakeholder. Convergence must be ensured between various ministries and departments of the Union and state governments, development partners, civil society organisations, youth led organisations, academic institutions, vocational training institutions and research agencies for achieving the objectives of the improving health and overall wellbeing of adolescents and young people in a comprehensive manner. ■

(Author is an international public health expert. The views expressed in this article are author's personal views.)

Contact: jattejram@yahoo.co.in

Asia's Workers Will Benefit from New Technologies, But Government Action is also Needed – ADB Study

TECHNOLOGICAL advances have transformed the two billion worker Asian labor market, helping create 30 million jobs annually in industry and services over the last 25 years, drive increases in productivity and wages, and reduce poverty, says a new report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

New research on how technology affects jobs, the subject of the special theme chapter in the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2018 report, points out that while some of the region's jobs will be eliminated through automation, countervailing forces will more than compensate against job losses. ADO is ADB's flagship economic publication.

"ADB's latest research shows that, on the whole, countries in Asia will fare well as new technology is introduced into the workplace, improving productivity, lowering production costs, and raising demand," said Yasuyuki Sawada, ADB's Chief Economist. "To ensure that everyone can benefit from new technologies, policymakers will need to pursue education reforms that promote lifelong learning, maintain labor market flexibility, strengthen social protection systems, and reduce income inequality."

ADB research shows that even in the face of advances in areas such as robotics and artificial intelligence, there are compelling reasons to be optimistic about the region's job prospects. New technologies often automate only some tasks of a job, not the whole. Moreover, job automation goes ahead only where it is both technically and economically feasible.

Perhaps most importantly, rising demand—itsself the result of the productivity benefits that new technologies bring—offsets job displacement driven by automation and contributes to the creation of new professions. ADB's analysis of employment changes in 12 economies in developing Asia from 2005 to 2015 strongly supports the idea that rising domestic demand more than compensates for job losses associated with technological advances. Further, analysis of a broad array of data shows that many new job titles have arisen in ICT, and new types of jobs will arise in healthcare and education, as well as in finance, insurance, and real estate.

The report acknowledges that advances in areas such as robotics and artificial intelligence pose challenges for workers. Jobs that require repetitive, routine tasks and workers who do not have the education or training to move easily to other occupations, may face slow growth in wages. This would exacerbate income inequality in the region. Indeed, the ADB report finds that jobs that are intensive in cognitive tasks, social interactions, and the use of ICT—jobs that tend to be held by the better educated and better paid—expanded 2.6 percentage points faster than total employment annually over the last 10 years. Moreover, average real wages for these jobs increased faster than for routine or manual jobs.

As the report highlights, policymakers will have to be proactive if the benefits of new technologies are to be shared widely across workers and society. Governments will need to respond to the risk of workers being left behind by ensuring that they are protected from the downside of new technologies and able to take advantage of new opportunities. This will require coordinated action on skills development, labor regulation, social protection, and income redistribution. Significantly, new technologies can help deliver solutions in many of these areas. Adaptive learning technology, an educational method that uses computer algorithms designed to adjust to individual students, has enhanced learning outcomes in schools; governments should use and promote their adoption. Similarly, technological advances in biometric identification can improve how social protection programs function by reducing costs, overcoming implementation challenges in sophisticated unemployment benefit systems, and enabling the tracking of job-placement services. At the same time, governments also need to ensure that the development of new technologies take place in ways that benefit people and protect their rights and privacy, by, for example, protecting personal data. ADB, based in Manila, is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. Established in 1966, it is owned by 67 members—48 from the region. —ADB ■

Performance over Two Years by Ministry of Health and Sports



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the reopening of the newly renovated Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital in Bahan Township on 24 December 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**



Sculpture of Daw Khin Kyi, the mother of the State Counsellor and who the Women's Hospital in Bahan is named after. **PHOTO: MNA**

By July Moe
(Myanma Alinn)

MINISTRY of Health and Sports (MOHS) has laid down objectives and strategies to enable every citizen to attain full life expectancy and enjoy longevity of life free from diseases. Moreover efforts are being made to enhance disease prevention activities and provide effective treatment of prevailing diseases.

Immunization Project

During the tenure of the new government, the MOHS has laid down effective policies to provide 11 types of vaccines per child free of charge across the country.

To vaccinate every child, hospital-based immunization clinics had been opened in many hospitals, general hospitals with

100 beds and above, and Specialist Hospitals across the country.

MOHS has introduced these vaccines which are really effective in preventing infectious diseases for children.

Japanese Encephalitis, vaccine against rotavirus causing diarrhea and the vaccine against the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) causing cervical cancer.

The MOHS has aimed to

With a healthy and educated population, a nation can overcome all challenges. Thus an educated and healthy people are the best guarantee for a country's future. Therefore Health and education are among the main factors to help a nation move forward.

As a result, every children has chance to get vaccinated through the government's nationwide immunization program and these are the vaccines against

achieve goals and milestones of National Immunization Program, such as to achieve zero polio cases and to meet the target of maternal and neonatal tetanus

elimination status, and eliminate measles and control of rubella and Congenital Rubella Control by 2020.

With increasing numbers of children suffering from Japanese Encephalitis, the Ministry of Health and Sports has successfully launched a nationwide immunization campaign aimed at protecting 12.6 million children aged from 5 months to 15 years of age across the country. This National Immunization Program is supported by the World Health Organization, the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund, GAVI a public-private global health partnership and PATH, a Seattle-based nonprofit global health organization.

Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care

The MOHS had conducted Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care training with the aim of improving midwifery workforce planning and management in Myanmar.

Moreover the registrar's manual on registration of births and deaths is of great importance for all the ministries. The introduction of the manual can be regarded as a milestone for Myanmar and is very useful in laying down socio-economic policies, principles on population, policies on caring for the aged and policies on nurturing children.

Child and infant mortality refers to deaths that occur before the age of five. In Myanmar, 38 children out of every 1,000 born die before reaching that age, whereas 227 mothers out of



Surgeons perform craniotomy.



Surgeons in the operation room using modern apparatuses to perform surgery.



A cranial surgery in progress.

Health care is everyone's responsibility. If the citizens have faith in our healthcare system and believe that the nation will take care of them, whether they are rich or poor, then it is the greatest gift for our country.

every 100,000 die according to the data of MOHS. As for the MOHS, efforts are being made, using Maternal Death Surveillance and Response System, to reduce the mortality rates of both mothers and children.

School Healthcare Program

School is the basic institution in every society and offers the possibility to improve the health not only of the school children but also of the whole community. It can be achieved by implementing and strengthening comprehensive school health program in Myanmar.

Aiming to promote the health standard of the entire student youths, the skills and knowledge needed for adoption of healthy lifestyle, Health Promoting School program has been introduced into existing school health services across the country.

The MOHS is monitoring the prevalence of health risk behaviors and protective factors related to the leading causes of mortality and morbidity among students aged 13-15 years: dietary behaviors, hygiene, mental health, physical activity, protective factors, tobacco use, knowledge about HIV Infection and AIDS, and violence and unintentional injuries.

Myanmar Traditional Medicine

With the aim of all-round development of the Myanmar traditional medicine, the MOHS has made concerted efforts to promote the quality of Myanmar traditional medicine across the country.

Myanmar Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe said, "It is difficult for the FDA alone to ensure that food, drugs, cos-

metics and consumer product matters are safe and up to international standards.

While everything is done to the utmost to monitor the exclusion of substances that shouldn't be included in food, drugs, cosmetics and consumer products, informing the public to avoid consuming such products, avoid consuming products that are not labeled and do not have an expiry date and are not recommended by FDA, more needs to be done to provide recommendations according to regulation, sampling from the market and investigating in the market. Furthermore lab network in each ministry needs to be linked and more testing needs to be conducted.

To combat tuberculosis

As for the government, plans had been made to raise the budget expenditure to combat tuberculosis by 2.5 per cent within three years, hoping to reduce TB incidents by 40 per cent through new health facilities, laboratories and diagnostic services.

Myanmar is one of 22 countries that since 1998 has been considered to be a TB "high burden" country (HBC), according to 2016 statistics. According to the study, there are approximately 150,000 cases of TB detected annually in the country. Transmission of multi drug-resistant TB is also targeted to decrease by five per cent between 2015 and 2020 through collaborative efforts of the government and its partner organizations.

To reduce the burden of tuberculosis in the country, new outpatient departments have been opened in Yangon and Mandalay with the support of the Three Millennium Development Goal Fund (3MDG), one of the largest contributors of external assistance for health in Myanmar.

The new facility has provided diagnostic and treatment services to patients who do not require hospitalization free of charge.

The Ministry of Health and Sports is working towards the elimination of TB as a public health problem.

As for the MOHS, plans are under way to enhance health promotion activities which are the right strategy to attain the millennium goals of the country.

The National Health Plan and Public Health

With a healthy and educated population, a nation can overcome all challenges. Thus an educated and healthy people are the best guarantee for a country's future. Therefore health and education are among the main factors to help a nation move forward. With the efforts of the government, the MOHS is trying its best to improve the public's health system. Also the National Health Plan is for the public's health which can contribute to the country's development.

The National Health Plan is crucial for Myanmar, and the healthcare professionals should acknowledge the fact that everyone can potentially contribute to the country Health care is everyone's responsibility. If the citizens have faith in our healthcare system and believe that the nation will take care of them, whether they are rich or poor, then it is the greatest gift for our country.

Moreover the National Health Plan can ensure everyone has access to basic health care by reaching out to the cities of different states and regions.

The National Health Plan is the first step towards the Universal Health Coverage 2030 which guarantees accessible health care for every citizen.

(Translated by William Ko)



Right, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers a speech at the opening of Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital which was renovated with support from the China Foundation for Peace and Development as a Myanmar-China friendship hospital. **PHOTO: MNA**



The State Counsellor, centre-right, and Chinese Ambassador's wife Mrs. Wang Xue Hong, centre-left, take documentary photo at the opening ceremony of Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital. **PHOTO: MNA**



The State Counsellor cuts a ribbon to mark the official opening of Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital in Bahan Township. **PHOTO: MNA**



The State Counsellor and officials inspect Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital. **PHOTO: MNA**



The official handover of the renovated Myanmar-China friendship hospital. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Sagaing Region Govt to spend more than Ks 1,225 million for rural water project

SAGAING Region government will implement a rural water supply project in nine districts within six months from April to September this fiscal year, according to the Department of Rural Development.

"Our intention is to supply sufficient clean drinking water to rural people. We will carry out a water supply project within six months at a cost of Ks. 1,225.683 million funds financed by Sagaing Regional government," said U Win Kyaw Myo, an official from Sagaing Region's Department of Rural Development. 81 villages throughout Sagaing Region are expected to benefit from the project.

As part of the rural water supply project, seven deep wells and three steam water fetching systems will be implemented in Kalay District by spending Ks. 169 million. A narrow well, eleven deep wells, three manual wells and four steam water fetching systems will also be undertaken



Drilling team drill a cleaning water well at a village in Sagaing. **PHOTO:MDN**

in Katha District with the use of Ks. 246 million. Seven deep wells will also be dug in Kanbalu District with Ks. 89 million fund provided by Sagaing Region government.

Four deep wells and two steam water fetching systems will be carried out in Khamti District

at a cost of Ks. 83.200 million while two deep wells will be dug and other water supply systems will be installed in Sagaing District by using Ks. 139.083 million. Six deep wells will be implemented in Monywa District with Ks. 93.700 million while other five deep wells will be dug in Mawlaik District by

spending Ks. 64 million.

Eight deep wells and an earthen water tank will be carried out in Yinmabin District at a cost of Ks. 139.200 million and eleven deep wells and a manual well will be dug in Shwebo District with the use of Ks. 201.700 million.— Myanmar Digital News ■

Storm victims supplied with relief items in Hinthada Township

A ceremony to provide assistance to storm victims was held in Aung Thukha Village and Leikchaung Village in Hinthada Township in Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

The roofs of 1,295 houses including six monasteries were flipped over and 55 houses collapsed after strong winds swept across Hinthada Township on 18 April. Regional Minister for Social Affairs Dr. Hla Myat Thwe, Regional Lawmaker U Kyaw Soe, the

head of Regional Disaster Management Department U Than Soe, District Deputy Commissioner U Myo Aung and local authorities presented more than Ks. 90 million, Ks. 1,650,000 provided by Regional government and relief supplies for 5,140 strong victims. Afterwards, the regional minister and her entourage viewed the damaged houses and gave encouragement to the storm victims.—Myanmar Digital News■



Disaster Management Department's official presents cash to the storm victims in Hinthada Township. **PHOTO:MDN**

25,000 saplings to be planted across Sagaing Region in 6 months

THE Sagaing Region Dry Zone Greening Department is working towards growing 25,000 saplings within a six-month period in three districts in the arid zone starting this month, said U Ba Lwin Oo, head of the department.

U Ba Lwin Oo said this is part of the government's dry zone greening project,

an important environmental conservation programme that focuses on the best practices for planting and maintaining trees in order to protect the region from climate change. Under the project, a wide range of plants have been cultivated beside roads, mountains and other areas, especially in the dry zone.

He continued to say that

the new scheme targets nine townships in Monywa, Sagaing and Shwebo districts. According to its schedule, the government is set to plant 12,000 saplings in Monywa District, 3,000 saplings in Shwebo District and 10,000 saplings in Sagaing District between April and September of this year.

The people-centered

tree-planting project is aimed at raising public awareness over the sustainable growth of the natural environment, benefits of planting trees and their economic importance.

The programme will be carried out by the township dry zone greening department, in cooperation with the residents.—Win Oo (Zeyataing) ■

Muslim woman who refused handshake denied French citizenship

PARIS — France's highest administrative court has upheld a decision to deny a French passport to an Algerian Muslim who refused to shake hands with officials during her citizenship ceremony, according to a ruling seen by AFP on Thursday (19 April).

The woman argued that her "religious beliefs" prevented her from shaking hands with a senior official presiding over the citizenship ceremony in the southeastern Isere region in June 2016, as well as with a local politician.

The government said

her behaviour showed she was "not assimilated into the French community" — one of the reasons it can invoke under the civil code to oppose citizenship for the spouse of a French national.

The woman, who has been married to a

Frenchman since 2010, appealed the April 2017 decision, calling it an "abuse of power".

But the Council of State, the court of last appeal in such matters, ruled the government "had not improperly applied" the law. —AFP ■

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Non Control Items, Machinery & Equipment and Office Equipment in the (2018) (April to September).

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services office No (4), Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from (26.4.2018).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office, not later than (25-5-2018)15:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Phone No.067-3411510, 067-3411544, Procurement and Supply Division Office, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports.

Procurement and Supply Division
Ministry of Health and Sports



Residents inspect the site of a suicide bombing outside the voter registration centre. PHOTO: AFP

Suicide attack on Kabul voter registration centre kills 31: ministry

KABUL — A suicide bomber killed at least 31 people and wounded dozens outside a voter registration centre in the Afghan capital Kabul on Sunday, the health ministry said, in the latest attack on election preparations.

The assaults underscore growing concerns about security in the lead-up to legislative elections scheduled for 20 October, which are seen as a test-run for next year's presidential poll. "It happened at the entrance gate of the centre. It was a suicide attack," Dawood Amin, city police chief, told AFP.

Health ministry spokesman Wahid Majroh said 31 people had been killed and 54 wounded. The higher toll could not be immediately confirmed, but a police official told AFP on condition of anonymity that at least 25 people had been killed and 70

wounded. Earlier, interior ministry spokesman Najib Danish put the death toll at nine and 56 wounded. He could not immediately be reached for an update.

Afghan officials often give conflicting tolls in the wake of attacks and routinely understate the figures.

The centre in the heavily Shiite-populated neighbourhood in the west of the city was also being used by people to register for national identification certificates, which they need to sign up to vote.

Footage on Ariana TV showed pools of blood and shattered glass on the street.

Angry crowds shouted "Death to the government!" and "Death to the Taliban!" There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

The Taliban have denied they were involved.

A wounded man in a hospital bed wept as he told Ariana TV: "I don't know where my daughters are. God damn the attackers!"

A witness to the attack named Akbar told Tolo TV: "Now we know the government cannot provide us security: we have to get armed and protect ourselves."

Voter security

Photos posted on social media purportedly of the scene showed several bodies on the ground and a badly damaged two-storey building.

Afghanistan began registering voters on April 14 for the long-delayed legislative elections.

Officials have acknowledged that security is a major concern as the Taliban and other militant groups control or contest large swathes of the country.—AFP ■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS MYANMA RAILWAYS

Tender No: 1/MR(MC)/EDCF(MYA-9)/2018-19

Date : 20th April, 2018

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

1. Myanma Railways invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Procurement of 100 Nos. Passenger Coaches. Only Korea Companies can be participated under EDCF Loan Agreement No. MYA-9 by Export-Import Bank of Korea.
2. Bidding will be conducted through Competitive Bidding(CB) procedures specified in the Guideline for Procurement under EDCF Loans and it is open to all eligible bidders that meet the minimum qualification criteria. Details for minimum qualification criteria are available at "www.motc.gov.mm/my/tenders_listing".
3. Interested eligible Bidders may purchase the bidding documents at the address below from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm on business days up to **22nd May, 2018**. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any eligible Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of USD 400 (United States Dollar four hundred only) in cash.
 - Deputy General Manager (Planning), Head Office of Myanma Railways at Nay Pyi Taw Railways Station Compound, Pobba Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
 - Telephone: +95-67-77024
4. Bids must be delivered to the address above mentioned on or before the closing date and time for submission of Bid **5th June, 2018 at 1:00pm** (Myanmar Standard Time).
5. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of USD 900,000.00 (United States Dollar nine hundred thousand only). Late bids shall be rejected.
6. Technical bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address above mentioned at **5th June, 2018 at 2:00pm** (Myanmar Standard Time).
7. Myanma Railways will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.

Managing Director, Myanma Railways

For clarification (E-mail: dgmplan.rail@mrt.gov.mm/dgm.planning.mr@gmail.com)

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)

(8/ 2018)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	DMP/L-022(18-19)	Production Materials (22) Items	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-023(18-19)	Polished Rod / Tubing Tong and Accessories (13) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-024(18-19)	Class 'G' Cement (2000) Tons	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-025(18-19)	Cathodic Protection System Installation for Naungdon-Ywama 14 Inch Gas Pipe Line (32 Miles) (1) Lot	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-026(18-19)	Cathodic Protection System Installation for Mann-Htaukshabin-Thanpayarkan 10 Inch Crude Pipe Line (7.25 Miles) (1) Lot	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-027(18-19)	Chrome Lignite (XP-20) (200) Tons	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy Website Portal (www.moe.gov.mm) as from 23 April 2018. Tender forms will not be sold.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than 16:30 pm on 21 May 2018.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time- 21-5-2018, 16:30 pm
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411206
+95 67 411212



Kygo, another leading DJ, closed his set at the Coachella festival in California with a tribute to Avicii, to whom he credited his decision to pursue electronic music. **PHOTO: AFP**

Avicii death a coming-of-age in electronic music boom

NEW YORK — Rock 'n' roll had Buddy Holly, the psychedelic era had Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin and grunge had Kurt Cobain. Now electronic dance music has Avicii.

The Swedish DJ's death Friday at age 28 marks a symbolic coming-of-age for a genre that remains resolutely youthful, with the first electronic superstar to die near his prime.

Avicii, the stage name of Tim Bergling, was not a first-out-the-door pioneer of electronic dance music — or EDM — a scene that has exploded since the turn of the century and last year was worth \$7.4 billion, according to a study by the industry's International Music Summit in Ibiza.

But Avicii both showed the mainstream possibilities of EDM — and, by the end of his short life, had already become a sage elder who cautioned about the artistic and commercial overreach of the music.

Avicii came to define the new age of radio-friendly EDM in 2011 with "Levels," which entered the top 10 across Europe with its sample of soul great Etta James in between synthesizer riffs that soar with stadium-packing power.

Non-clubbers also heard EDM's energy when Avicii teamed up with rockers Coldplay on "Sky Full of Stars," with Chris Martin's voice giving way to fast-building, synthesized ecstasy. But perhaps his most influential moment came in 2013 when he headlined the Ultra Music Festival in Miami. A year after he invited Madonna as a surprise stage guest, Avicii befuddled a crowd of ravers by bringing out a bluegrass band with a banjo for

his soon-to-be-hit "Wake Me Up."

In an interview shortly afterward, Avicii warned that EDM was moving too quickly into a sound too hard and unmelodious, saying that audiences would soon tire of it.

"Since it got so big in America the past couple of years, dance music is taking over everywhere," Avicii told the London Evening Standard. "It's important that it keeps changing so it doesn't become a fad."

'Stay forever this young'

"Wake Me Up" may now be remembered for more than the banjo twist. The track, featuring singer Aloe Blacc, reflects on aging with the line, "I wish I could stay forever this young."

Like other musicians who died with so many years ahead of them, Avicii looks destined to be remembered with an aura of tragedy. He retired from touring in 2016 as he suffered health problems including acute pancreatitis, triggered in part by excessive drinking.

Avicii, who acknowledged his problems in the sole lyric to the song "Alcoholic," died while on vacation in Oman. The cause remained unclear, although police sources in the Gulf sultanate did not suspect foul play.

The electronic music world has been struck by few other deaths. House music forerunner Frankie Knuckles and New York party organizer David Mancuso have both died in recent years, but both were considerably older.

Avicii's death puts him nearly in the so-called 27 club — celebrated musicians who have died at age 27 including Cobain, Hendrix, Joplin, Jim Morrison,

soul singer Amy Winehouse and Rolling Stone Brian Jones.

Avicii — a stage name derived from the Sanskrit for the deepest stage of hell, the inverse of Cobain's Nirvana — had spoken of being an introvert who was never comfortable with the hard-partying lifestyle of a DJ, for whom alcohol was always available and usually free.

EDM 'oversaturated'?

But could his death also amount to a turning point for EDM? Late in his life, he appeared to think the scene was on a wane.

"EDM started getting oversaturated four, five, six years ago, when money became everything. From that point, I started mentally not wanting to associate myself with EDM," he told Rolling Stone magazine in September.

After retreating to the studio, he last year released an EP whose singles included "Lonely Together" featuring singer Rita Ora — Avicii's soundscape accentuating a tight pop song with none of the booming synthesizers of EDM anthems.

But there are limited signs of an imminent bubble in EDM. Calvin Harris, the top-paid DJ, earned \$48.5 million last year, according to an estimate by Forbes, and the rise of streaming subscriptions has helped bolster the industry's overall earnings.

Kygo, another leading DJ, closed his set Friday at the Coachella festival in California with a tribute to Avicii, to whom he credited his decision to pursue electronic music.

"I know he's inspired millions of other producers out there," Kygo said. —AFP ■

The white-haired Hollywood lawyer, Cosby's last hope

NORRISTOWN — Tom Mesereau is a Hollywood lawyer to the stars who got Michael Jackson acquitted of child molesting. The question is, can he do the same for Bill Cosby at the first celebrity trial of the #MeToo era?

Instantly recognizable by his striking helmet of white hair, the 67-year-old is tall and stocky — yet remarkably sedate, even ponderous in court.

Quiet and cerebral, Mesereau shuns the theatrics of many a showman lawyer, spending much of Cosby's sexual assault retrial silent, sitting erect in his chair, until he steps purposefully behind the lectern.

There his hardball tactics, forensic cross-examination and attempts at character assassination against Cosby accusers send shivers down the spine of supporters of victims of sexual assault.

One witness for the prosecution called him "sleazy" and his tactics "repugnant," yet even Cosby's detractors admit Mesereau is doing the best he can for an actor played in the court of public opinion.

An acquittal for "America's Dad," publicly accused by 60 women of sexual misconduct, would cement Mesereau's reputation as the attorney celebrities call when their back is against the wall.

Friends underscore his integrity, or his decades of free legal aid for poor African Americans and those facing the death penalty as evidence of his commitment to justice.

"His cross-examination skills are unmatched by any-

body," says Charles Salvagio, a criminal defense attorney who has worked on pro-bono cases with Mesereau in Alabama since 1998, and considers him a close friend.

"He leads you down a path and you're not even realizing where he's leading you to and then all of a sudden he'll bang you with something."

'Extraordinary'

Mesereau's opening statement was an electric, rhetoric-laden attack on Andrea Constand, the woman Cosby is accused of drugging and assaulting 14 years ago.

He called her a liar blinded by greed, playing with the emotions of a lonely, grieving father to hoodwink him out of a \$3.4 million settlement as a way out of financial problems.

"A con artist, ladies and gentlemen of the jury. And we'll prove it," he hectorred. "She's now a multi-millionaire because she pulled it off."

It is a radically different defense than that pursued at Cosby's first trial by Philadelphia lawyer Brian McMonagle, who called one witness.

Mesereau tore into Cosby accusers Janice Baker-Kinney and Janice Dickinson.

If barred from admitting testimony about what he called Constand's "extensive" use of magic mushrooms and marijuana, it was not without a backhanded compliment from Judge Steven O'Neill.

"I understand that you are an extraordinary advocate," O'Neill said. But Mesereau's tough approach has not always dealt a killer punch. —AFP ■



Defense lawyer Tom Mesereau's hardball tactics, forensic cross-examination and attempts at character assassination against Bill Cosby accusers send shivers down the spine of supporters of sexual assault victims. **PHOTO: AFP**

Myanmar launches new sites for ASEAN cities Getting to Zero Initiative on HIV

UNAIDS commended the Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports for the launch of two new sites as part of its commitment to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Cities Getting to Zero Project, a flagship initiative of the ASEAN to achieve zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths in Southeast Asia.

Dr. Tun Min, State Health Director of Kayin State expressed commitment in an ASEAN Getting to Zero Cities regional consultation meeting, that in addition to Mawlamyine City, Myanmar's Getting to Zero pilot site selected in 2012, Myawaddy and Hpa-an in Kayin State will also be part of the initiative.

The new sites will build on the best practices in the HIV response of Mawlamyine, such as having a well-established coordination mechanism for partners, extensive focus on prevention efforts and formation of self-help health groups.

UNAIDS Myanmar Country Director Mr. Oussama Tawil said, "The expansion of Getting to Zero sites in Myanmar shows the Ministry of Health and Sports' commitment to ending the AIDS ep-



Attendees of the regional consultation meeting for ASEAN Cities Getting to Zero Project pose for a documentary photo. **PHOTO: MNA**

idemic as a public health threat.

This initiative would encourage development of effective community-level interventions that can be replicated in different areas across the country."

Activities in the Getting to Zero sites would focus on

strengthening local targeted responses through partnerships with local government and non-government organizations, developing evidence-based 'city specific' combination prevention programmes and targeted treatment and care programmes. All

interventions implemented in the cities will align with the strategic directions of the Myanmar National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS, 2016-2020.

Mawlamyine, Myawaddy and Hpa-an are also part of the 'Greater Mekong Sub-Region Capacity

Building for HIV/AIDS Prevention' project, which is financed by the Government of Japan. The funding support of the above project together with the global fund will support the sites in reaching their Getting to Zero goals.

At a national level, Myanmar has made significant progress in the past years with an overall downward trend in HIV incidence and scaling up of antiretroviral treatment. However, challenges remain, such as with regard to ensuring impact of HIV prevention efforts among certain populations, such as people who inject drugs, stigma and discrimination, and the need to enhance multi-sectoral coordination and human resource capacity in HIV programming and management.

"There are still considerable challenges that need to be addressed and cooperation is needed among different partners to achieve the ambitious Getting to Zero goals. We are glad that Myanmar is keeping its momentum and leading to ensure that HIV prevention, treatment and care services are delivered to key populations and people living with HIV at the community level," Mr. Tawil added.—GNLM ■

On Doctor Home Call and SML provide free flu vaccinations

A free flu vaccination joint-event by OnDoctor Home Call Home Health Services and SML Advanced Medical Laboratory (SML Medical & Diagnostic Centre) was held in Little Sister (Catholic Home for the Aged) on Thein Phyu Road, Yangon on 20 April.

The event is the first CSR Programme held at Little Sister (Catholic Home for the Aged) and the elderly residents at the home received free vaccinations administered by doctors of OnDoctor Home Call Home Health service and the SML.

Nearly two hundred elderly citizens received free vaccination intended primarily to prevent the flu in time for the arrival of the next rainy season.

Officials say they chose the senior residence due to a large congregation of people which is easy for the flu virus to spread quickly. Since the residents are also elderly, they may have lower resistances to the flu and could

result in fatal illnesses. The vaccinations provide protection against the viruses H1N1, H3N3, and the B Virus. It is a good idea

for the elderly and children to receive the vaccinations ahead of the rainy season.

For more information, con-

tact the OnDoctor Home Call Home Health Services center Phone 09-795809748 09-781606060.

—GNLM ■



Sisters of the Little Sister Catholic Home for the Aged and doctors of OnDoctor Home Call and SML pose for a documentary photo at the free vaccination event held at Little Sister on Thein Phyu Road, Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the South Bay and a few cloud over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 23rd APRIL, 2018: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin and Chin States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 5) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23rd APRIL, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Roma warm up for Liverpool with SPAL win, Benevento shock AC Milan

MILAN — Roma warmed up for next week's Champions League clash with Liverpool by easing past SPAL 3-0 on Saturday but AC Milan's European hopes took a knock with a shock 1-0 defeat against tailenders Benevento.

Benevento had earned their first ever Serie A point last December in Naples in Milan coach Gennaro Gattuso's first game in charge when goalkeeper Alberto Brignoli scored an injury-time equaliser. But Saturday's defeat at the San Siro is more devastating for the former European giants whose sixth position and Europa League berth is now threatened by Atalanta — two points behind — who play Torino on Sunday.

Pietro Iemmello's 29th minute strike was enough to seal all three points for the southerners, who were down to ten men after Cheick Diabate's sending off.

It gave Roberto De Zerbi's side just their fifth win of the campaign, and first every away victory, delaying their relegation from Serie A as they are still 12 points from safety with five games to play. Earlier Roma eased past SPAL three days before the Champions League semi-final first leg against Liverpool at Anfield. Eusebio Di Francesco's Romans have 67 points from 34 games — three ahead of city rivals Lazio who can pull level



On target: Roma's Czech forward Patrik Schick scores the third goal. **PHOTO: AFP**

again when they host Sampdoria on Sunday. "The performance was excellent," said Di Francesco.

"The team's attitude three days before such an important match with Liverpool is an important step in the right direction, I'm really happy with this performance today, I got important answers.

"This is a side that has great goals in its head, a team that looks at the present and not the future, and it's a moment of great satisfaction for me."

"Of course against Liverpool

this precision and solidity we must have from the beginning."

A Francesco Vicari own goal gave Roma a first-half lead in Ferrara with Radja Nainggolan and Patrik Schick adding two more in an eight-minute spell in the second half. SPAL fell to their first defeat in nine games leaving their top-flight survival increasingly in doubt as they sit just one point above the relegation zone.

Di Francesco rotated his side ahead of Tuesday's trip to Anfield with Argentinian left-back Jonathan Silva getting his first start since his January signing.

Roma's top scorer Edin Dzeko stayed on the bench alongside captain Daniele De Rossi with the visitors missing three chances in the first half — Stephan El Shaarawy misfiring twice and Lorenzo Pellegrini also missing a third opportunity.

Pellegrini contributed to the opener, crossing a low ball into the area as Vicari turned into his own net when trying to anticipate Kevin Strootman in a scramble in front of goal. But Nainggolan — wearing the captain's armband and one of many Serie A players to smudge a red streak on his

cheek in support of a campaign against violence against women — missed a chance for a second sending the ball into the side netting just before the break.

But seven minutes into the second half the Belgian sent a diagonal half-volley into the bottom corner, with Pellegrini setting up Schick to head in the third on the hour mark. It was the first goal for Czech forward Schick since he joined Roma on loan from Sampdoria last August. Fiorentina's Europa League push took a knock with a second consecutive defeat, falling 1-0 at Sassuolo, who took a big step to ensuring their top flight survival.

AC Milan remain sixth with 54 points — two points ahead of Atalanta with Fiorentina and Sampdoria third points behind.

Fiorentina lost Bryan Dabo after half an hour for a second bookable offence with Matteo Politano scoring his fifth goal in six games four minutes before the break to move Sassuolo away for the relegation zone. Champions Juventus and second-placed Napoli go head-to-head Sunday in a clash which could decide the Serie A title. Napoli have reduced the deficit to four points on Juventus with five games to play.

But history does not favour Maurizio Sarri's side who have always lost in the Allianz Stadium. —AFP ■

Shan United beats MFF Youth team in MNL U-21 tourney

As a Week-12 match of MPT Myanmar National League (U-21) 2018, Shan United U-21 beat MFF Youth team by a score of 3-1 at Salin Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Evidently, Shan United dominated the whole game with steady football delivering.

The game was a good one with Shan United playing offensive from the very start.

By using the power play and accurate passing, Shan's Zar Neyya Thu scored the first

goal at the 21 minute-mark, a shot that the MFF Youth's keeper was unable to save.

MFF youth's players attempted to equalize the score, but chances were few due to the massive defense line of Shan United. At the 40 minute mark, Shan United also gained the second goal with a score by Sa Aung Pyae, by passing the defenders with his tricky play.

The first half was ended with 2 goals dominated by Shan United.

MFF Youth team were much better with changing the game tactics in the second half.

A single response goal for MFF Youth was scored by Naung Naung Soe via a penalty shoot at 53 minute.

With steady play-making, the third goal for Shan United were scored by Htet Phyto Wai at 65 minute.

There were no more goals till the final whistle as Shan United reduced their power play. —KyawZin Lin ■

Press Conference for Leeds United's friendly matches

The press conference for the friendly matches of England's Leeds United FC and Myanmar football teams, under the title of "AYA Bank Tour 2018" will be held at Patheon Room of Novotel Max Hotel in Yangon on Tuesday according to the Myanmar Football Federation. These friendly matches are part of a plan of AYA Bank with the aim of getting Myanmar national footballers in touch with European football club along with acquiring international football knowledge from English Clubs and gaining better understanding and building confidence in each

and every Myanmar footballer, said an official from Myanmar Football Federation. Interested media agencies and journalists are invited to the press conference for asking the detail facts including the ticket conducting for the matches, compositions of Myanmar National football team and Myanmar National League (MNL) All Stars team, and other relevant information, an official added. The Leeds United FC will arrive in Myanmar on 7 May and will play friendly MNL All Stars on 9 April and Myanmar national football team on 11 April. —KyawZin Lin ■