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Vice President U Henry Van Thio, left, shakes hands with a farmer at a ceremony yesterday to return confiscated farmland to farmers in Myittha, Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

Confiscated farmland returned to farmers in Myittha, Mandalay Region

MORE than 120 acres of confiscated farmland was returned to their original owners in Myittha, Mandalay Region, yesterday in the presence of Vice President U Henry Van Thio, bringing the amount of farmland released to farmers to 2,156 acres.

Speaking at the ceremony to return the farmland to 53 farmers that had been confiscated by the Ministry of Defence, Vice President U Henry Van Thio urged the institutions concerned to continue to release the farmland they have

confiscated as part of efforts for the development of the agricultural sector, on which more than 70 per cent of the rural population depends on for their livelihood.

"In some cases, it is found that land ownership disputes

and squatters issues have caused delays for returning the farmland to owners, (even) though the ministries concerned had abandoned the farmland," said the Vice President.

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Myanmar Permanent Representative made a statement on the UN Security Council's visit to Myanmar

THE United Nations Security Council heard a briefing on its members' recent visits to Bangladesh from 28 to 30 April 2018 and to Myanmar from 30 April to 1 May at the United Nations Security Council Chamber on 14 May 2018 at 03:00 p.m. The briefing was presided over by Permanent Representative of Poland, the current President of the Security Council. At the meeting, Permanent Representatives of Kuwait, Peru and U.K, co-organizers of the visit, briefed the Council on the visits. Following the briefing, other Security Council members, China, U.S., Sweden, France, Kazakhstan, Equatorial Guinea, Russia Federation, Netherlands and Poland participated in the consultations on the issue.

In accordance with the article 37 of the rules of procedures of the Security Council, concerned parties, Myanmar and Bangladesh, were also invited to discuss at the briefing.

At the briefing, Ambassador U Hau Do Suan, Permanent Representative of Myanmar, made a statement and explained about Myanmar's views and position on the Rakhine issue. The full text of his statement is as follows:

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Three ministries hold press conference on 2nd one-year performance in Nay Pyi Taw

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2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 8th regular session holds its 2nd-day meeting

By Aye Aye Thant
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

THE second Pyithu Hluttaw's eighth regular session held its second-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday where U Tin Htway of Waw constituency tabled a motion urging the relevant union level organizations to draw up and enact related rules in a timely manner for enacted laws and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw's decision to discuss the motion.

At the meeting, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw's approval and appointment of U Khin Maung Win of Lanmadaw constituency as chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo of Hline constituency as secretary of the Pyithu Hluttaw Investment and Industrial Development Committee, and U Aung Tin Lin of Natmauk constituency and U Hla Than of Kawa constituency as chairman and secretary of the Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee.

Next, the Hluttaw put on record that U Thet Naung of Lahe constituency had attended an international relations, administration and public cooperation course in Switzerland from 7 to 19 April 2018, U Naing Htoo Aung of Natogyi constituency attended the Dialogue on Parliamentarians Supporting the Quiet Revolution for Better Regulatory Governance in Indonesia from 19 to 20 April 2018, Dr. Min Thein of YeU constituency at-



Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin. **PHOTO: MNA**

tended the International Conference on Improving the Foreign Policy Decision Making Process: The Case of Mongolia from 25 to 26 April 2018 in Mongolia, U Zarni Min of Shwegu constituency attended the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons in Indonesia from 7 to 8 May 2018 and Dr. U Aye Min of Kayan constituency attended the Parliamentarian Workshop on International Trade 2018 in Singapore from 7 to 9 May 2018.

Later, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin answered the questions asked by the Hluttaw representatives.

Replying to a question by Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency on translating and distributing to construction businesses the Myanmar National Building Code (MNBC), as well as designating, drawing up and enforcing the processes, procedures, rules and regulations that is vital for implementing a third-party system for bridge and construction work, the deputy minister said that with the support of related ministries and



Pyithu Hluttaw is been convened in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

state/region governments, the ministry had cooperated with the UN Habitat and Myanmar Engineering Society to draw the MNBC in 2011, which was completed in October 2012. Further, the MNBC (draft) book was distributed to relevant union ministries, departments, Nay Pyi Taw Council, state/region governments, Myanmar Architect Council, Myanmar Engineering Council, development committees, architect and engineering related organisations, experts on the subject, Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association and private construction companies in 2015 for comments and suggestions. The suggestions and remarks were sent to the Myanmar Engineering Society for assessing and editing, and the MNBC-2016 was completed in March 2016.

To approve and publish the MNBC-2016, it was translated to Myanmar. The translation work is 70 per cent complete, as 800 pages of the 1,148 were completed. The Myanmar Engineering Society is reviewing the translat-

ed parts. Once the review work is completed, it will be sent to the Attorney General's office for comments and approval. After that, it will be submitted to the Economic Affairs Committee and the union government meeting, according to the procedure.

After receiving approval from the union government meeting, the MNBC will be distributed to private construction businesses. Meanwhile the work procedures, rules and regulations required to implement the third-party system is being drawn up, said the deputy minister.

On the question raised by U Naing Naing Win of Tamu constituency on the plan to eliminate the fixing of floor price in construction tenders and material purchase tenders announced by the union and state/region government departments, the deputy minister said the material purchase tender and construction tender comprised two parts. The floor price is not set for the material purchase tender. The tender winner

is selected from the lowest bidder who can provide materials that is up to the set standard and specifications.

For the construction tender, the bidders are assessed through a two-envelope system. The technical proposal envelopes are first assessed to check if it meets the set standards and specification. Those who pass the technical proposal stage will then submit their prices, and the lowest bidding price is selected as the tender winning company, said the deputy minister.

Following the question and answer session, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the Hluttaw had agreed to put on record the motion submitted by U Than Soe of Thazi constituency on sympathising and sharing in the sorrow of the families of 14 civilians, one police personnel and four militia who were killed and 72 others who were wounded when KIA and TNLA armed groups attacked the security gate and houses in Muse Township on 12 May 2018.

U Myint Oo of Thanatpin constituency then read and submitted the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council Bill. Bill committee member U Nay Myo Tun read the committee report on the bill and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

The third-day meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw's eighth regular session will be continued on 16 May. ■

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

By Aung Ye Thwin
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The eighth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its second-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced the Hluttaw's approval of the second amendment of the Public Servant Bill, approved and sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw, which was then returned with an amendment by the Pyithu Hluttaw after the Hluttaw voted on it.

At the meeting, Union Min-

ister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi answered five asterisk marked questions asked by the Hluttaw representatives.

The Union Minister first responded to a question raised by U Ngun Hay of Chin State constituency (1) on the plan to construct a new primary school in Chin State, Haka Township, Thi-phul Village-tract, Hirun Village, during the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The primary school in Hirun Village had only 37 students and the application to obtain a capital construction fund for the 60x30 feet brick nogging building with zinc sheet roofing is included in the township priority list of build-



Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi. **PHOTO: MNA**

ings for the 2018-2019 October to September fiscal year, said the union minister.

Replying to a question posed

by Daw Than Than Aye of the Magway Region constituency (7) on the plan to reconstruct damaged portions of the buildings of Basic Education High School (1) in the Magway Region, Thayet Town, the union minister said the buildings would undergo an assessment for major repairs after funds are obtained in the 2018-2019 October to September fiscal year. When the 2019-2020 fiscal year capital construction fund is listed, a 120x30 feet steel structure and two-storey building for the school will be included in the township priority list, added the union minister.

On a question raised by U

Aung Myo Latt of the Mandalay Region constituency (5) about the plan to upgrade the Mandalay Region's Myingyan Degree College in Myingyan District to university level, the union minister said the upgrade would provide more education opportunities for students in the region, but upgrading would mean constructing more buildings for teaching, as well as accommodating the students, and employing more teachers. The ministry will strive to obtain the necessary permissions and approval from the union government to upgrade the college, said the union minister.

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We will abolish the red tape that burdens the people and eradicate corruption and bribery that plagues all levels of society as we work to strengthen the moral fiber of our people. We will draw out from our past experiences as a civilian government overcoming various obstacles and hardships, as we work to the best of our ability for the immediate present and head towards the future of a democratic nation that respects human rights and is free from all stains of corruption.

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



Collective strength is vital to build peace and stability which we need. We need to have mutual understanding and mutual respect as the basic foundation to bring to an end the armed conflicts which have existed for many years among the ethnic nationalities. We can make this foundation strong with our collective strength.

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

VP U Henry Van Thio calls for taking early preventive measures against disasters seasonally, regionally

VICE President U Henry Van Thi called for taking preventive measures for natural disasters seasonally and regionally yesterday as he addressed the National Natural Disaster Management Committee (1/2018) held at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Vice President urged the members of the committee to discuss early preventive measures for both the approaching rainy season and unpredictable earthquakes, implementing the early preventive measures, and for the committee to be constantly alert for natural disaster management. He urged for punctual execution in natural disaster management concerning seasonally and regionally susceptible natural disasters.

On 24 April in Southern Pradesh in India, a series of 36,749 lightning bolts struck the state within a 13-hour timeframe, killing nine people. Since 2015, lightning strikes have killed 2,000 people every year, according to news reports. In Myanmar, between April 2017 and March 2018, 109 lightning strikes were reported around the country, killing 101 people and injuring 39. The Vice

President said the approaching rainy season will possibly bring strong winds, storms, cyclones, heavy rains, lightning strikes, hail, floods, flash floods, and landslides and therefore early preventive measures should be discussed as soon as possible.

The Vice President also mentioned secondary disasters that can originate from a primary disaster in another area. He gave an example of a cyclone that once passed through Chittagong in Bangladesh into Maungdaw in Myanmar, bringing torrential rainfall in northern Myanmar and flash floods in Magway Region that resulted in 46 deaths and 115 disappearances of people. Looking at this, it is necessary to prepare for secondary disasters, said the Vice President.

The Vice President then said it was also necessary to prepare emergency response strategies and resettlement plans. He said it involved building houses in areas least likely to be affected by natural disasters as well as preplanning and cooperating with relevant ministries to reinstate transportation, rebuild roads and schools, and administer health-care immediately after the effects of a natural disaster.



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the meeting of the National Natural Disaster Management Committee (1/2018) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Vice President said systematic long-term development goals and sustainability towards natural disasters must be included in resettlement plans. He mentioned that Myanmar was

there was some fear among the people from small-scale earthquakes that frequently occur such as the Pyu earthquake, and the ones in Kalay township, Chauk township, and Nay Pyi Taw. He

The Vice President also said that the committee should discuss strengthening or planning standard operating procedures (SOP) for earthquakes in various ministries. He also said the public needed greater awareness on earthquakes and its effects and more practice drills. He said new buildings must be checked for adherence to standard building codes and existing settlements built on fault lines should be carefully scrutinized and followed up with necessary plans. He mentioned that systematic implementation of preparedness, response and recovery in natural disaster management will prepare society for resiliently handling natural disasters.

Next, Committee Secretary Deputy Minister U Soe Aung explained the implementation process of the results from the committee meeting (2/2017) with relevant ministries and region and state authorities.—MNA ■



New buildings must be checked for adherence to standard building codes and existing settlements built on fault lines should be carefully scrutinized and followed up with necessary plans.

located on the Sagaing Fault, the biggest continental transform fault in Southeast Asia, which cuts through Yangon, Bago, Toun-goo, Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, and Myitkyina and was connected to other fault lines in Eastern Myanmar, Shan Hills, Laos, Thailand, and China.

The Vice President said

said the public must be properly informed and ready for unpredictable earthquakes. To this end, he asked the committee members to evaluate to what extent these measures have been implemented and to cooperate with relevant ministries, region and state authorities to implement early preventive measures.

Confiscated farmland returned to farmers in Myittha

FROM PAGE-1

To speed up the scrutiny of confiscated farmland issues, four work committees formed with Deputy Ministers from relevant ministries have carried out their works in regions and states, and have assisted in solving confiscated farmland issues, he added.

In his address, Vice President U Henry Van Thio also urged the farmers in the coun-

try not to sell their land to others, pledging that the rays for socio-economic development are shining as the government was making efforts to establish wholesale markets for crops and contract farming in regions and states.

Myanmar's rice exports this fiscal year were more than 3 million tonnes, the highest in over 70 years. Myanmar is one of the

region's top rice exporters.

Myanmar's agricultural products exports in the 2017-2018 fiscal year was worth more than US\$3 billion, and income from rice exports in the same fiscal year reached more than US\$1.1 billion, making up more than 37 per cent of the income of the agricultural exports this year.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio urged the farmers not only

to grow crops for domestic food sufficiency, but also to grow marketable crops for export.

At yesterday's ceremony, Chief Minister of Mandalay Region Dr. U Zaw Myint Maung reported, in his capacity as Chairman of the Mandalay Region Committee for Reviewing Farmland and Other Confiscated Land, on the progress of settling the land confiscation issues and

returning the land to farmers in Mandalay Region.

Afterwards, Lt-Col Sein Lin Tun of No.1 farming and livestock breeding (Mongmaw) farmland of the Central Command handed over the documents related to the releasing of confiscated farmland to an official of the general administration department in Myittha.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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Trade dept to upgrade agro export quality with quality certificate

In a bid to export Myanmar's agro products, including rice, various types of pulses and corn to China as quality products, the Trade Department will boost their quality by issuing quality certificates.

The commerce ministry is endeavouring to get access to the government-to-government system to strengthen the market. It will also set checkpoints and trade channels to examine the quality of the products.

The related departments will make concerted efforts to maintain the quality of agricultural products, said U Yan Naing Tun, Director-General of the Trade Department.

Some eight per cent of the rice exports go to China. Importing rice and corn from Myanmar is considered illegitimate in China, as the volume often exceeds the import quota set by China. However, these goods fetch a good price. The General Administration of Quality Supervision,



Workers carry bags of rice at a harbour in Yangon. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

Inspection and Quarantine of China is strictly screening exporter groups.

Myanmar's agriculture industry is dealing with several

challenges such as high input costs, difficulty in procuring pedigree seeds, high cultivation costs and erratic weather problems. Myanmar's agro prod-

ucts earn some US\$3 billion per fiscal year, through exports to China, Europe, India, Thailand and other countries. —Zar Lin Thu (AMIA) ■

Myanmar Wheat Association calls for G2G agreement on direct wheat import

The Myanmar Wheat Association has requested the government to get access to the government-to-government (G2G) system with wheat producer countries such as Russia and Ukraine to create direct trade links with them, according to recent news from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MWA).

This request was submitted by chair of MWA, during the 17th regular meeting of the Vice President with entrepreneurs at the UMFCCI office on 11 May.

Additionally, he expressed his concern about wheat imports without the pest risk analysis (PRA).

At the moment, some ASEAN member countries are freely exporting wheat without providing import certificates. Moreover, wheat is easily flowing into the country without the phytosanitary certificate.

In a bid to protect domestic wheat flour enterprises, the competent authorities concerned need to scrutinise the import licences.

While importers get easy access to the domestic market, local manufacturers are faced with difficulties, said local wheat producers.

Some local wheat factories are forced to shut down their operations, as their flour cannot compete with the imported product. In addition to the quality of locally produced wheat flour, the financial hardship of local SMEs is another reason for the suspension of business.

Wheat imports require the approval of the related department. Earlier, animal feed was produced with the use of raw corn materials. Now, feed producing factories are substituting corn with imported wheat due to the cheaper price.—Mon Mon ■

Ministry of Commerce to discuss duty on areca nut exports

The Ministry of Commerce is planning to discuss tax on areca nut exported to India via the Tamu and Reed border trade camps, according to a report in Myawady Daily yesterday.

"We will discuss reduction in tax when we export Myanmar areca nuts. Recently, Myanmar has been exporting areca nuts that are mixed with areca nuts from other countries; therefore, it cannot benefit from the tax relief. We are preparing to send notifications to both countries to discuss the tax relief matter," said U Toe Aung Myint, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar exports areca nuts mainly to India via the Tamu and Reed border trade camps. Areca nuts found in the market are not only from Myanmar but also from Indonesia.

Previously, India's customs department collected 0 per cent



import duty on Myanmar betel nuts. But now, India's customs department is confiscating imported areca nuts that are third-country products, and so, they collected 40 per cent import duty on Myanmar betel nuts.

Annually, Myanmar exports large volumes of betel nuts to India via the Tamu and Reed border trade camps. Myanmar export traders are now being compelled to consider suspending exports to India. Therefore, Myanmar authorities should take legal action over illegal areca nuts entering Myanmar.—GNLM ■

Yangon Region gov't to set up SME data centre to provide loans to 100 entrepreneurs

By Nyein Nyein

THE Yangon Region government will establish a small and medium enterprises (SME) data centre and provide loans to 100 selected entrepreneurs, said U Myint Thaung, Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Finance.

He was replying to a question on how the Yangon Region provides financial assistance to enhance SMEs, raised by Daw Mya Hla San of Kyauktada Township constituency 2 during the sixth regular session of the second Yangon Region Hluttaw held on 14 May.

The Yangon Region government is carrying out ground surveys of SMEs and issuing them with cards to facilitate loans. The ground surveys have been completed, and some 29,659 enterprises have received smart cards in 41 townships in the Yangon Region, as of 7 May, said U Myint Thaung.

Following the ground surveys, we will select some 100 potential entrepreneurs initially and offer them loans.

Additionally, the Yangon region SME development agency and the Yangon Region credit



The Yangon Region government will set up the small and medium enterprises data centre to provide loans to 100 selected entrepreneurs. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

assessment committee were formed under the guidance of the SME Development Committee, U Myint Thaung said.

Currently, the Department of Small and Medium Enterprise Development is endeavouring to provide SME businessmen access to Ks20 million without collateral linking with the CB bank. The Yangon Region As-

essment Department is offering Ks50,000 to Ks10 million at a monthly interest rate of 2.5 per cent of the total loan to low-income people, retail shops and small businesses engaged in the agriculture, livestock, industry and the manufacturing sectors.

Moreover, the Yangon City Bank Ltd is also providing loans to businesses depending on the

value of the collateral at an annual interest rate of 13 per cent, he added.

The Yangon Region is cooperating with state-owned banks, private banks and other related departments, as well as local and foreign organisations, to facilitate the development of small and medium enterprises, he added. ■

Bilateral trade with Japan exceeds US\$1.9 billion last FY

The value of trade between Myanmar and its development donor Japan between 1 April and 31 March of the financial year 2017-2018 totalled US\$1.92 billion, according to figures released by the commerce ministry.

Myanmar's exports to Japan fetched \$956 million, whereas imports were worth \$965 million.

The bilateral trade value with Japan was worth some \$2.03 billion in the 2016-2017 FY, \$1.84 billion in the 2015-16 FY, \$2.3 billion in the 2014-2015 FY, \$1.8 billion in the 2013-2014 FY, \$1.49 billion in the 2012-2013 FY and \$822 million in the 2011-2012 FY.

Agro products including rice and broken rice, various peas, soybean, sesame seeds and ginger, fruits, and apparel from the garments sector on a cut-make-pack basis are exported to Japan, whereas machinery, garment raw materials, consumer products and electronic tools flow into Myanmar. Japan brought in foreign investments of some \$384 million into Myanmar in the last FY. Additionally, more than 45 Japanese companies have invested in Thilawa so far, primarily executing manufacturing business.—Ko Htet ■

Grape prices triple from farm to market

The price of grape in the market is three times the amount charged at farms as no direct sales are taking place between cultivators and consumers, according to a report in Myawady Daily recently.

Grape cultivators are selling their fruit at Ks2,000 per viss. However, consumers have to buy the grape at between Ks6,000 and Ks8,000 per viss.

"The gap in grape prices charged by cultivators and retailers is wide. However, the grape market is cool. The fruit price has not increased this year compared to last year. In fact, it has been declining. This is not related to the fruit yield," said Ko Hlaing Tun of Palae Vineyard in Sae Palae Gone Village, Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region.

Recently, the vineyard produced some 30,000 visses of grape per day. Cultivators have not fixed a price for the fruit.

"Traders and brokers are



PHOTO: MNA

manipulating the fruit market. Local farmers are not aware of the price in the market, when they send the fruits to the middlemen, the middlemen pay the local farmers a percentage after selling the fruit to traders," said Ko Hlaing Tun.

The price of local fruits is high compared to imported fruits because of the cultivation and transport costs.

Grapes are cultivated in Yamethin, Meiktila, Pyawbwe, Monywa, Magway, the Pakoku township and Shan State. Grape is cultivated on some 10,000 acres in Myanmar. Of these, some 5,000 acres are in Yamethin.

More than 3,000 local people cultivate grape in Myanmar, including more than 2,000 in Yamethin township.—GNLM ■

Tachilek gate sees US\$6 million worth of trade

BORDER trade at the Tachilek gate between Myanmar and Thailand was worth some US\$6 million over a month, according to the commerce ministry.

Between 1 April and 5 May of the six-month interim period before the 2018-2019 fiscal year, exports were worth less than a million, while imports were valued at \$5.1 million.

Myanmar conducts trade with Thailand via Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Htee Khee, Maw Taung and Maese.

Myanmar exports coffee, tissue-culture bananas, pineapples, avocados, watermelons, herbs and other products, while cement, auto parts, construction materials, steel and related materials, paint, zinc, other industrial goods and consumer goods are imported into the country.

The Thailand-Myanmar border trade, as of 5 May, exceeded \$140 million, with the largest volume of trade conducted through the Myawady gate.—Ko Khant ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Trade Mark Ads

Call
Thin Thin May,

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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives World Bank Country Director, Norwegian Ambassador separately

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat received separately World Bank Country Director for Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos People's Democratic Republic Ms. Ellen Goldstein and Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Tone Tinnes at the Pyithu Hluttaw Hall, Hluttaw Building, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting with Ms. Ellen Goldstein, they openly discussed matters related to continuing cooperation with the World Bank for Myanmar's development and providing assistance for the Hluttaw's development, as well as providing loan and technical assistance for roads, electric-



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat meets with Norwegian Ambassador Ms. Tone Tinnes in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

ity, education and health services to promote rural development.

During the meeting with the Norwegian Ambassador,

they openly discussed matters related to promoting bilateral friendships between the two governments, Hluttaws and peoples,



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat meets with World Bank Country Director Ms. Ellen Goldstein in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

assistance for achieving internal peace, investment and enacting laws. Present at the meeting were Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy

Speaker U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein and officials from the Pyithu Hluttaw office.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Notification 63/2018

1st Waxing of Nayon, 1380 ME
(15 May, 2018)

Twenty Seven Defence Services Personnel representatives from Region and State Hluttaw substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute twenty seven Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following twenty seven Region Hluttaw and State Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 3/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 28/2016 of the commission dated 14.11.2016, the Notification 10/2017 of the commission dated 16.5.2017 and the Notification 26/2017 of the commission dated 30.10.2017 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

Kachin State Hluttaw

(1) BC 35468 Maj Hlaing Phyto Wai BC 20615 Col Kyaw Kyaw Oo

Kayah State Hluttaw

(1) BC 22603 Maj Nay Tun BC 39565 Maj Myo Min Htet
(2) BC 28570 Captain Shwe Toe BC 36580 Captain Zaw Min Tun

Chin State Hluttaw

(1) BC 42577 Maj Nyan Htut Swe BC 57547 Captain Soe Yan Aung Htay

Sagaing Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 16667 Col Kyaw Thant Naing BC 26884 Col Than Tun Aung
(2) BC 30587 Maj Than Htike Aung BC 19468 Col Win Tint

Taninthayi Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 40474 Maj Win Aung Than Navy 4205 Lt-Comdr Thet Tin Aung

Bago Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 23958 Maj Ko Ko Latt BC 39785 Maj Myo Min Zaw

Magway Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 36353 Maj Ko Ko BC 45577 Captain Myo Tun Lin

Mandalay Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 23270 Maj Zaw Myint BC 39247 Maj Htay Oo Khine
(2) BC 30519 Maj Han Win Zaw BC 33526 Maj Kyaw Myint Aung
(3) BC 28807 Captain Toe Aung Myint BC 50771 Captain Tun Win Aung

Mon State Hluttaw

(1) BC 38464 Maj Myo Zaw Aung BC 19367 Col Tin Htut
(2) Navy 3845 Lt-Comdr Aung Myat Moe Navy 4192 Lt-Comdr Myat Thura Khine

Rakhine State Hluttaw

(1) BC 42595 Maj Thet Naing Myint BC 38783 Maj Thet Oo Maung
(2) Navy 4254 Lt-Comdr Wai Thu Aung Navy 4113 Lt-Comdr Zaw Lin Naing
(3) BC 28698 Captain Thein Swe Myint BC 44650 Captain Kyaw Min Thant

Yangon Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 33626 Maj Min Aung Zaw BC 28424 Maj Thein Hlaing
(2) Air 2554 Maj Phone Zaw Aung Air 2940 Maj Hlaing Win Aung
(3) BC 30681 Captain Ye Aung BC 42715 Captain Soe Min Htay

Shan State Hluttaw

(1) BC 23814 Lt-Col Kyaw Thura BC 33494 Maj Lin Kyaw Khine
(2) BC 30064 Lt-Col Zaw Myo Tun BC 33642 Lt-Col Myo Htike
(3) BC 28398 Maj Soe Naing BC 39866 Maj Thet Paing Tun
(4) BC 30089 Maj Zaw Lin Htwe BC 33797 Maj Tun Tun
(5) BC 36320 Maj Ye Myat Tun BC 48752 Captain Ye Naung Zaw
(6) BC 60233 Captain Kyaw Zin Aung BC 53887 Captain Htin Kyaw

Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw

(1) BC 31283 Captain Lin Thet Aung BC 28783 Maj Min Khaung

(Hla Thein)
Chairman

Union Election Commission

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's joint bill committee holds coordination meeting

A joint bill committee coordination meeting on the Administration Tax Bill was held at the second-floor meeting hall of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D yesterday afternoon.

Present at the meeting were the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker; Joint Bill Committee and Public Account Joint Committee Chairman U Aye Tha Aung; Joint Bill Committee and Public Account Joint Committee deputy chairmen, secretaries, joint secretaries and members; Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members; and officials from the office of the Supreme Court of the Union, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Union Attorney-General's office and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's office. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Rainfall to increase in Taninthayi Region, Kayin, Mon states

The Taninthayi region, Kayin and Mon states are likely to receive more rainfall in the next two days, as there are a few clouds over the North Bay, and it is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal, according to the Myanmar Daily weather report issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology yesterday.—GNLM

Dinner held in Nay Pyi Taw to mark National Day of Norway

A DINNER commemorating the National Day of Norway was held at the Hilton Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

Present at the event were Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environment Conservation U Ohn Win, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission U Aung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun, representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, officials from the ministries and invited guests as well as Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Tone Tinnes and officials from embassies.

A documentary video of Norwegian National Day was shown, followed by the opening of the National Day event by playing the national anthems of Myanmar and Norway.

In her speech at the event, Norwegian Ambassador Ms. Tone Tinnes said Norway is co-operating with Myanmar in the hydroelectric, oil and gas sectors and providing assistance to ensure access to electricity for all by 2030. The Myanmar-Norway Business Council plays an important role for Norwegian companies to operate in Myanmar, and Norwegian companies are



Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing welcomed by Norwegian Ambassador Ms. Tone Tinnes at the dinner commemorating the National Day of Norway in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

already investing in Myanmar, Ms. Tinnes said. Memorandums of Understanding on the fisheries and petroleum management sectors are expected to be signed in the near future, she added.

In his speech at the event, Union Minister U Win Khaing expressed his delight to Norway for standing with Myanmar people in peace, reconciliation and democracy matters in Myanmar, removing the sanction imposed by European countries, supporting the development of the hydroelectric sector and assisting in environmental conservation in Myanmar. Well-known Norwegian companies are investing in Myanmar and are practicing Corporate Social Responsibility

(CSR), business practices that are greatly appreciated, the minister said.

Norway is considered as an important ally of Myanmar and its development. President U Win Myint mentioned social economic development of Myanmar being a priority of the government, and the assistance of Norway being very beneficial to build a democratic federal union of Myanmar. The Union Minister noted the cooperation to promote friendship between the two countries and its people. The Norwegian Ambassador, Union Ministers and invited guests had dinner together after taking commemorative group photos. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification 62/2018

1st Waxing of Nayon, 1380 ME
(15 May, 2018)

Five Defence Services Personnel representatives substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute five Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following five Amyotha Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 2/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 27/2016 of the commission dated 14-11-2016 and the Notification 3/2017 of the commission dated 26-1-2017 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

(1) BC 18399 Col Than Htay	BC 20870 Col Khin Maung Naing
(2) BC 21750 Lt-Col Myint Thein	BC 27466 Lt-Col Aung Tun Lin
(3) BC 24927 Lt-Col Ye Naing Oo	BC 19378 Col Aung Kyaw Soe
(4) BC 31401 Lt-Col Than Tun Myint	BC 63106 Captain Daw Pan Ei San
(5) BC 33445 Maj Win Naing	BC 31314 Lt-Col Myo Tun Aung

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

China-Myanmar (Yangon) Trade Fair 2018 to be held this month

THE China-Myanmar (Yangon) Trade Fair 2018 will be held from 17 to 19 May at Myanmar Event Park (MEP) in Yangon to promote bilateral trade between the two neighbouring countries and enhance economic cooperation with China.

The China-ASEAN Yangon Trade Fair will showcase 200 booths from 103 companies, exhibiting building materials, hardware, lighting products, food, farming machinery and household utensils and others.

The trade fair is set to be held in the China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) Secretariat, Trade Development Bureau (TDB) of Ministry of Commerce of China, Department of Trade Promotion of the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar and WorldEx-SingEx Exhibitions



Press Conference on China-Myanmar (Yangon) Trade Fair 2018 **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

(Guangzhou) Co., Ltd., with the assistance of the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy in Myanmar and Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The trade fair is the first in

Myanmar for CAEXPO.

CAEXPO Cambodia was held from 30 March to 1 April in Phnom Penh as well as CAEXPO Mechanical and Electrical Products Exhibition (Viet Nam) 2018 was held from 29 November and 1 December in Ho Chi Minh City.—Phoe Khwar ■

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

FROM PAGE-2

Similarly, questions raised by Dr. Zaw Lin Htut of Mon State constituency (9) and U Mya Min Swe of Magway Constituency (9) were answered by Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi.

Following this, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member U Lal Min Htan read and explained the report of the committee on the Myanmar Historical Commission Bill, approved and sent by the Pyithu

Hluttaw with amendments for the Amyotha Hluttaw to discuss. The bill committee recommended to the Hluttaw to approve the bill, as approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Amyotha Hluttaw speaker then requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

The third-day meeting of the second Amyotha Hluttaw's eighth regular session will be continued on 16 May. ■

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Forget the bitterness of the past, work for brighter future

THE Government of Myanmar is trying its utmost to solve the complicated Rakhine issue, giving priority to peace, stability, development and repatriation of returnees. Humanitarian assistance has been provided to all affected communities through the Red Cross Movement and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have also joined in this effort.

The Government is making progress in implementing the recommendations of Dr. Kofi Annan's commission as a road map.

Of 88 recommendations, 36 are for socio economic development, 48 are for peace and stability and four are pragmatic ways for achieving success in implementing the recommendations.

The Committee on Implementing the Recommendations in Rakhine State has gained achievements since it was formed. About 60 local investment businesses were permitted in 2018 and land compensations were given to the farmers under the economic and socio-economic development sector.

The government's efforts for rehabilitation, stability and development for Rakhine State are in the right direction, but there is still a long way to go. Local authorities and security institutions are working together with accountability and responsibility to put the state onto the road to development.

To create job opportunities, garment factories and traditional weaving businesses have been established in Rakhine State.

In the communications sector, more than 600 mobile radio stations have been established.

In the agriculture sector, about 1,300 pieces of agricultural machinery were distributed to members of the cooperative societies in 15 townships in Rakhine State, while more than 23,300 baskets of quality seeds were given to farmers.

Health care services and facilities were upgraded and pregnant women and children under the age of two were provided with cash assistance in the 2017-2018 fiscal year in Rakhine State.

Regarding the efforts of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhin, more than 800 houses, monasteries, roads, water and power supply infrastructures are under construction in Rakhine State.

Similarly, infrastructures were built to accommodate the returnees from Bangladesh under the repatriation program. When the displaced persons return, they will be able to resume their lives.

Regarding the closing of IDP camps established after the conflict in 2012, the government is taking measures step by step to close the camps so that the people sheltering in the camps can travel freely in accordance with the law and can participate in the development tasks.

The government's efforts for rehabilitation, stability and development for Rakhine State are in the right direction, but there is still a long way to go. Local authorities and security institutions are working together with accountability and responsibility to put the state onto the road to development. It is the Rakhine people who would enjoy the benefits of the implementation of the recommendations. The people of Rakhine are urged to forget the bitterness of the past and to cooperate with each other and with the authorities in building a brighter future for the state.

Empowering Social Security System for the Workforce

By Khin Yadana

BEING a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Myanmar has a policy to ensure that workers have a good and appropriate working environment and the need for skilled workers in all sectors becomes critical for development of the country. It is very important to implement programmes to develop qualified human resources for nation building efforts and to develop a better socio-economic future for Myanmar workers by creating more job opportunities. The population of Myanmar is over 51 million and – among them 32 million people participate in the workforce. Social welfare schemes are led by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, aiming to provide social security programs for the benefits of the employees.

Social Security Board (SSB)

The Social Security Board (SSB) was established in 1956 after the adoption of the Social Security Act, 1954. The SSB has 77 township offices covering 110 townships in the country. In 2012, the Union Government has adopted a new Social Security Law, 2012. This new law provides for an extended social security system. The SSB is progressively implementing the new law. In April 2014, the SSB started the implementation of the new contribution and benefit levels for the existing benefits including medical care, sickness, maternity and work injury as well as the collection of contributions for the new family benefits.

The SSB has implemented a social security scheme covering employees working for firms, state-owned, private, foreign and joint ventures. Moreover the social security scheme is contributory. The SSB administers social security programme for public employees, including members of the civil service, state boards, state corporations, municipal authorities and military personnel,



Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe presents social pension for three months to an elder aged over 90 years in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area last year. **PHOTO: MNA**



A pregnant woman receives medical care at the social security clinic. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

as well as employees in private sector industries. On 31 August 2012, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacted the Social Security Law of 2012, which introduced benefit systems for invalids, the elderly, survivors and unemployed individuals. The board has operated three hospitals and 93 social security clinics, other 43 clinics, 3 divisional offices and 77 township offices.

Reform efforts

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacted the new Social Security Law in 2012. It included changes to contribution rates and benefits for medical care, sickness, maternity leave and workplace injuries, introduced new family benefits and also provided for registered workers to be issued with smart cards. These clinics have their own doctors and

nurses, and supply the medicine. The insurance sector has been active in Myanmar, with a total consumer base of about 699,586 people according to data from the Social Security Board. Of those, only a few tens of thousands of people are provided life insurance as a benefit from their employers.

Myanma Insurance sells public life insurance, govern-

ment services personnel life insurance, defenses services personnel life insurance, snakebite life insurance, sportsman life insurance, workmen's compensation insurance, marine hull insurance and farmer's life insurance. The majority of the people in Myanmar dislike long-term life insurance plans because their value can be reduced over time by rapid inflation and they want to buy the insurance for surgeries because health insurance premiums can be paid with installments.

Social Affairs

Labor inspection officers are working to make sure that workers who are working in factories, shops and offices are getting benefits and rights in accordance with the law with respect to pay, work days and holidays, work hours, workplace safety, and health. Workers are being provided with social security rights in accordance with the Social Security Law-2012 and efforts are being made to expand coverage of the social security system. As Myanmar became a member of the ASEAN Social Security Association-ASSA and International Social Security Association-ISSA, the Union Government has carried out the good practices of the international social security systems to improve the livelihood of workers by managing the social security funds effectively.

The Government guarantees not only for the security, provision of food, shelter and clothing of its citizens, but also for the stability of social existences such as education and health. It is undeniable that the Government has been making concerted effort towards its social sector to promote the standard of the workers. Moreover the State Government has the duty to continuously monitor, assess and take action by taking into

consideration international labor standards and ensure that workers are getting the rights and benefits they are entitled to get in accordance with the country's internal labor laws, rules, regulations and instructions, to make sure that they will get better benefits and rights, that their socio-economic lives will improve, and that their standard of living will be elevated.

Grasping jobs through free vocational trainings

The Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population is opening schools for training and developing the skills of workers in Myanmar, under the 1950 employment and training act. Now there are 5 schools like this in the country—basic welding course, air-conditioner repair works, basic electrical course, lathe and moldings works. Vocational training is aimed at assisting the workers, who are seeking job opportunities in ASEAN countries, as Myanmar is a part of the ASEAN economic community. International Labour Organization's survey showed that the demand is high for skilled labour in electronic field, carpentry, infrastructure, hotel and tourism, garment and social and human resource sector.

While Myanmar is working together with ASEAN countries on regional labor issues, concerted efforts have been made to develop better job opportunities for the workers and cooperate with the International Labor Organization (ILO). With the aim of providing better rights and benefits for workers, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population has supported the private sector, which can produce more skilled workers and to build up capacity; more technical and vocational schools have been opened across the country.

Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Notification 61/2018

1st Waxing of Nayon, 1380 ME
(15 May, 2018)

Eleven Defence Services Personnel representatives from Pyithu Hluttaw substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute eleven Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission has scrutinized and substituted the following eleven Pyithu Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 1/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 8/2016 of the commission dated 17-5-2016, the Notification 26/2016 of the commission dated 14-11-2016 and the Notification 2/2017 of the commission dated 26-1-2017 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

(1) BC 18086	Brig-Gen Tin Soe	Navy 1335	Commodore Nay Win
(2) BC 21899	Brig-Gen Than Aung	BC 19528	Col Win Lwin Oo
(3) BC 15137	Brig-Gen Soe Myint	BC 19528	Col Soe Lwin
(4) BC 15191	Col Kyi Shwe	BC 19368	Col Min Oo
(5) BC 26239	Col Mya Oo	BC 67540	Captain Daw Pyae Pyae Thu
(6) Air 1753	Col Nay Win	BC 31225	Lt-Col Aung Zin Min
(7) BC 19768	Lt-Col Than Oo Lwin	BC 28666	Lt-Col Thant Zaw
(8) BC 26277	Lt-Col Maung Bo	BC 30371	Lt-Col Ye Tun Naing
(9) BC 31376	Lt-Col Htain Lin	BC 63112	Captain Daw Zin Zin Aung
(10) BC 31919	Lt-Col Kyaw Zin Latt	N 537	Maj Daw Aye Aye Mar
(11) BC 27402	Maj Myint Maung	N 628	Maj Daw Thuza Shwe

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

Myanmar Permanent Representative made a statement . . .

FROM PAGE-1

Myanmar government welcomed the visit of members of the Security Council to Myanmar with the hope that the visit would help them to better understand the situation on the ground, so that we can further strengthen our cooperation with the United Nations in our efforts for the safe, dignified and voluntary return of the displaced persons. We believe that we shall be able to overcome the serious challenges we are facing today by working in partnership with the United Nations. We trust in constructive engagement and cooperation based on the principles of objectivity, mutual respect and understanding.

We also hope that the visit will give a strong impetus to our bilateral efforts with Bangladesh for the implementation of the repatriation process. We had facilitated the Security Council's visit at fullest extent as possible within the available time frame of the Council. The State Counsellor remarked the visit an important turning point. She reaffirmed Myanmar Government's commitment to bring peace, stability and development to Rakhine State.

In resolving current issues relating to the Rakhine State, we all agree that the most urgent task right now is to start repatriation of the displaced persons in accordance with the bilateral agreements. We have repeatedly stated that we want to start the repatriation process as soon as possible as we are ready to receive the returnees.

Recently on 8 May, Bangladesh Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury was summoned to Nay Pyi Taw and reminded of Myanmar's readiness to commence repatriation of verified displaced persons before the monsoon as agreed by the two governments. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs once again urged Bangladesh to implement the bilateral agreement and repatriate those already verified so that they can return to their villages in Rakhine. The Ambassador was also reminded to send the lists of displaced persons using the right forms as agreed in the Physical Arrangement for repatriation. The forms used by Bangladesh were not the ones prescribed in the Physical Arrangement. They did not contain signatures, fingerprints and proper photographs necessary for proper verification and assurance of their consent. We had already requested the Bangladesh sides on three separate occasions through diplomatic channels to forward duly-filled prescribed forms that would enable displaced persons to be repatriated under the principle of voluntary, safe and dignified return.

Prior to the UNSC visit to Myanmar, the Union Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of Myanmar had visited Cox's Bazaar refugee camps and met with the displaced persons. He explained to them resettlement program for the returnees and information on the repatriation process. To our surprise, they are not aware of anything about the repatriation process. Apparently, they were not notified by the Bangladesh authorities on the current bilateral arrangements nor were provided any forms to be filled in for necessary repatriation process. During the visit, the Minister could not meet the persons that we have verified for repatriation despite our request for arrangement of the meeting.

While we are trying to solve the issues



U Hau Do Suan, Permanent Representative of Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**

in good faith through bilateral cooperation, it is most regrettable that instead of fulfilling its commitment for repatriation of the displaced persons as agreed upon in the bilateral agreements, the Bangladesh side has been deliberately making excuses one after another to stall the repatriation process. Bangladesh has been distorting the facts and telling the whole world that Myanmar is not willing to accept the return of the displaced persons. Bangladesh is altering the truth and vilifying the Government and people of Myanmar to solicit international condemnation and to exert maximum political pressures on Myanmar. We need full and sincere cooperation of the Government of Bangladesh if the repatriation process is to be successful.

Allow me to refer to the remarks made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Kuwait on the illegal occupation on both sides of the international border.

Human habitation and building of any structure within 150 feet from international border line is prohibited by bilateral border agreement. Therefore we have filed our objection to Bangladesh side on construction of bunkers and some houses on their side of the border, in the restricted area.

We have also found out that Bangladesh has been helping illegal occupants on Myanmar side of the international border line in building shelters, which is a blatant violation of Myanmar's territorial integrity and sovereignty. This action must stop immediately.

Allow me to turn to the matter of accountability. The Government of Myanmar has stated time and again that no violation of human rights will be condoned. Allegations supported by evidence will be investigated and action taken in accordance with the law. You may recall, Madam President, that during your meeting with the State Counsellor, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, she condemned violence and reassured you of our readiness to take actions on the alleged human rights violations in Rakhine, if necessary information is provided. She reiterated security assurance would be given to anybody who wishes to bring up the case of rights violation at the court in Myanmar.

Moreover, the Commander-in-Chief had also told the members of the Council that the Tatmadaw would welcome any alleged survivor of sexual violence who could bring hard evidence of the crime committed so that the perpetrators can be held accountable.

When it comes to human rights abuses and violations, we should not forget

the fact that the current humanitarian problem was the result of ARSA terrorist attacks on 30 Border Guard posts in Northern Rakhine. The root cause of the latest crisis and the brutal killings and atrocity committed by the terrorists on innocent ethnic Hindu, Rakhine Buddhists and other minority tribes had been ignored by the western media. The truth has been suppressed by the incessant sensational argument of Muslim victimhood narratives. Only balanced and constructive approach will lead us to the right solution of the extremely complex and politically most sensitive problem of Rakhine State.

During UNSC visit to Maungdaw, on 1 May, about 20 Rakhine, Mro, Maramagyi and Hindus waited for the Council members at the Township Administrative Office to get the opportunity to testify their stories of ARSA terrorist atrocities. Due to limited time, only a Rakhine woman and a Hindu woman were able to talk about human rights abuse and atrocities perpetrated by ARSA terrorists. Sadly, many tragic stories of the ethnic people in Rakhine have fallen on the deaf ears of some who wanted to listen to only one side of the story of their choice.

These people witnessed the atrocities committed by ARSA terrorists, among others, the killing of 7 Mro ethnic people in Kone Tine village of Maungdaw township on 28 August, 2017 and the subsequent torching of 2,625 houses in the area. They also testified the horrific discovery of a mass grave found in the north west of Ye Baw Kya village on 28 September 2017 where 45 bodies of Hindus were discovered among 100 kidnapped by ARSA.

These ethnic people in Maungdaw area are traumatized by the brutal acts of terrorists. They all felt insecure as minority groups in their own land by the fear instilled in their life by the ARSA.

ARSA must also be held accountable for atrocities committed against civilian population in Rakhine. Investigation of violations must include cases of terrorist atrocities as well. We are seriously concerned that Bangladesh is unwittingly allowing extremists to rear its ugly head in this part of the region. ARSA is already having a foothold in the camps, and soon it will become a strong hold of terrorism and extremism. Recently, on May 9, a group of 4 to 6 terrorists entered into one of the refugee camps in Balukali and dragged a 46 years old Mohamed Faisal Ulhaq out of the camp and stabbed him to death. It was reported that he was advocating for return of IDPs to Rakhine among fellow displaced people in the camp.

We have made every effort to prepare the environment conducive for the return of displaced people. Convincing that engagement of UN agencies in Rakhine will strengthen our ability to ensure safe, dignified and voluntary repatriation, we are in the process of active discussions for the MOU with the UNDP and UNHCR. These agencies will be working alongside Myanmar ministries concerned and the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development for the good of all communities in Rakhine.

At the same time, we shall also be dealing with the root causes of the recent violence. The recommendations of the Annan Commission set out practical measures necessary to achieve development for all communities in Rakhine. There

are 88 recommendations of Mr. Annan Commission and 48 recommendations of National level Investigation Commission. Many of those recommendations are overlapped. 57 recommendations will be fulfilled soon while 31 recommendations are still processing. The first report of the Implementation Committee was launched in Feb 2018 and the second report will come out in May 2018.

Since the submission of the Mr. Annan final report, 3 IDP camps have been relocated. Another 4 camps will also be closed very soon.

With regard to the issuance of National Verification Card, false information has been spreading around to discourage people from complying with the requirement. In fact, the NVC is the first step for citizenship verification. NVC holders who met necessary requirements in accordance with existing law will become Myanmar citizens. Everyone residing in Myanmar has to go through the same process of verification.

We will continue to implement the recommendations of the Annan Report at the fullest extent possible in line with situation on the ground to bring long-term peace, harmony and development to the people of Rakhine.

The international community, including the United Nations, should work together to create an environment conducive to restoring peace, harmony and development for all people in Rakhine State. Hate narratives that promote deep rooted mistrust must stop. The present hostile attitude towards Myanmar will not contribute to building peace and harmony in the country. We have just heard a few remarks of very hostile and hateful sentiments toward my country. That is quite unfortunate.

Discriminatory treatment and one-sided support would only lead to further polarization and escalation of tension between different communities in the region.

Bangladesh must cooperate fully with Myanmar in sincerity in the implementation of bilateral agreement for repatriation of displaced persons. We are confident that we will be able to solve the present humanitarian problem and long-term peace and development of Rakhine State if Myanmar and Bangladesh work hand in hand with the spirit of mutual respect, genuine desire to help the displaced persons and the spirit of good neighborliness.

In this connection, the Joint Working Group for repatriation of the displaced person will meet in Dhaka on 17 May 2018 to expedite implementation of the agreed repatriation process.

Myanmar expresses its appreciation to members of the Council who have been extending their support to Myanmar at this challenging time of transition to democracy. We also thank our four neighbours for accepting our invitation to travel to Myanmar with the Council members. We believe that mutual understanding and constructive cooperation will ultimately bring about positive result that we all aspire to. Notwithstanding all the daunting challenges we are facing, the Government of Myanmar will spare no effort to bring peace, harmony and development to all people in Rakhine State, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Ministries to hold press conference on second one-year performance

PRESS conference related to the second one-year performances of the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Health and Sports and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement will be held in Office No. (7), Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, at 1 pm on 17 May 2018.
— Myanmar News Agency ■

Senior General inspects Military Training School of Hinthada Cantonment



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects the Coconut Milk Factory in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region. PHOTO: MNA

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with training officers, soldiers and trainees of local military training institute in Hinthada cantonment, Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

During the meeting, Senior General said Tatmadaw Advanced Training School is a training school for various ranks of Tatmadaw, each of who can study from basic course. Each of the soldier will develop their skills if they take training for long period. The fitness of the trainees can be developed and the duties ordered can be fully implemented if they systematically study the training courses during the various-level classes. All Tatmadaw personnel wherever they are serving can and must fight at the battlegrounds in order

to safeguard the country. To be able to fight like this needs to be healthy and resistant to the climate, therefore the necessary nutrients and food for every soldier are provided to sonsume.

After the meeting, the Senior General provided the officers, military personnel and trainees with books and food. Next Commander-in-Chief (Navy) presented food while Commander-in-Chief (Air) delivered with sport accessories.

Then, Senior General and party had the lunch at the dining hall, together with trainees.

In the evening, the party led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected the Coconut Milk Factory run by the Myanmar Economic Cooperation (MEC) in Pathein.—Myanmar News Agency ■

We are honored the State acknowledges us; it raises our morale

By Zaw Gyi (Pa Ni Ta)
Photo by Pe Zaw

The Htein Bin fire that burned for days in Hlinethaya Township was successfully extinguished with the combined efforts of different parts of civil society. This combined effort proves that unity can overcome any and all challenges and obstacles. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi recently publicly commended all personnel, organizations and donors involved in handling the Htein Bin fire.

The following is a series of interviews with some of the people who were involved in combating the Htein Bin fire.

U Myo Win (Director of Yangon Region Fire Services Department)

“We are overjoyed the State Counsellor commended us. We are honored the State acknowledges us. It’s like a power boost to our men. We will continue working harder. It was because of all the people involved in handling the situation that we were successful and so I would like to thank all of them for their cooperation. It is with their collective strength that we were able to completely put out the fire.”

Police Lt-Col Yu Naing (Yangon Region Police Force, Auxiliary Unit)

“We were with the firefighters since the first day. It’s one of our duties to serve the people and I’m overjoyed that the State acknowledges our efforts. I believe it was the efforts of the various members that contributed to this success. Myanmar Police will collaborate with the people in the future as well.”



Dr. Aung Myint Maw



U Myo Win



Deputy Director U Ko Ko Soe



Police Lt-Col Yu Naing

Dr. Aung Myint Maw (Deputy Head of Department of Environmental Conservation and Cleaning, YCDC)

Our staff were working with the firefighters since the fire began on 21 April. Furthermore we were also involved in the gas emission monitoring operations after the fire was extinguished. It was due to our combined efforts that we were successful and I am immensely happy that the State has acknowledged us.”

Deputy Director U Ko Ko Soe (Department of Researching Firefighting and Raising Awareness of Fire Safety)

“We were able to put out the Htein Bin fire due to the combined efforts of the firefighters, military personnel, police officers, the Red Cross, the different departments, and the public themselves. The support from various organizations was very helpful for the firefighters. I am honored the State acknowledged our combined efforts. This must be a historical moment for the fire department as well. The State Counsellor’s praise not only washes away our fatigue but also gives us strength. We will endeavor harder to serve the people and fighting fires.” ■

Five British motorcyclists visit Myanmar through Myawady gate

FIVE motorcyclists from Britain entered Myanmar through the Myawady cross-border gate, with arrangements made by Traventure Travel & Tour Co. Ltd. and under the supervision of the hotels and tourism ministry on 2 May. They rode along Myawady, Kyaikhto, Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw, Nyaung Shwe, Inle, Ba-

gan, Gangaw and Tamu towns and visited the famous places in each town. They continued their cross-border road trip to India through the Tamu checkpoint.

Caravan Tour arranges trips for those who want to visit Myanmar in their own vehicles, bikes and cycle. Visitors can enter the country via the Tamu border

and other international border check-points: Myawady, Hteekee and Kawthoung.

Tourists like to explore historical sites and the natural scenic beauty. Tourists visit Myanmar through the three international airports, as well as the border checkpoints, on bikes or vehicles.—GNLM ■

Three ministries hold press conference on second one-year performance in Nay Pyi Taw

The Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation held a joint press conference on the three ministries' performance in second year in office at the Ministry of Information yesterday.

Ministry of Home Affairs

Ministry of Home Affairs Permanent Secretary U Tin Myint said the ministry is implementing the objective of establishing a peaceful, modern and developed nation according to 49 laws under which the ministry conduct its work and other existing laws.

Myanmar Police Force is practicing people-centre police system in cooperation with relevant local populace and is working together with Interpol, Aseanapol, Europol and International Police Association for cross border crime prevention.

Arrangements are underway with neighboring countries to open 12 Border Liaison Offices (BLO) and arrangement to open Myanmar-Bangladesh BLO in Maungdaw, Myanmar and Teknaf, Bangladesh is made.

In drug prevention and eradication, the 15-year drug eradication plan was started in 1999 and extended for another five years until 2019. Due to drug substitution planting, reforestation and maintenance of forests, there was 25 per cent reduction in opium planted area in 2017.

General Administrative Department collected four types of taxes and had collected Ks. 33,934.591 million in fiscal year 2016-2017 and had collected Ks 36,577.017 million in fiscal year 2017-2018 exceeding the targeted amount.

During the two year period, 366 new local organizations were formed, the life term of 81 local organizations were extended, 30 new international organizations were formed while life term of 42 international organizations were extended. One Stop Shops (OSSs) were established and implemented in 306 townships in Nay Pyi Taw and states/regions and provided a total of 2,919,549 services.

Bureau of Special Investigation investigated 95 business related cases from 1 April 2016 to 15 March 2018 and informed the Ministry of Planning and Finance to collect tax on more

than Ks 535443.2 million and US\$ 18,566,945.

The Correctional Department had constructed new prisons, expanded existing prisons and had constructed water purifiers in 94 prisons spending Ks. 854.63 million. Modern fire engines and search and rescue vehicles were added to the Fire Services Department with loan from Poland for the department to conduct effective and timely firefighting and search and rescue works.

Similarly Chief of Myanmar Police Force Aung Win Oo told of Myanmar Police Force setting up the aims of providing internal security, peace and stability, rule of law, prevention and eradicating narcotic drugs and conducting works that benefit the people.

A district police office, eight area police stations, 14 police posts were expanded and opened while five police posts were upgraded to area police stations.

To increase the security of the country's western gate of Rakhine State border areas, a border police command office and four border police forces were expanded to three border police command offices and eight border police forces. Two central level, 12 battalion commander level and one company level flag meetings were held between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

To prevent and deter the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, regions and states level special operations were conducted eight times and 1,388 cases were opened against 1,957 suspects. In addition to cooperating with relevant organizations in conducting works benefiting the people, preventing and mitigating against natural disasters, relief, resettlement and redevelopment works were conducted in a timely manner.

Ministry of Construction

Next, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin explained about the ministry's performance for the people in the second year. The Deputy Minister told of National town network system, future towns and six regional development work processes included in the ministry's Conceptual Plan 2030.

The Union Minister explained about the establishment of five north south express roads, seven east west express roads,



Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation hold press conference on their performance in second one-year period in Nay Pyi Taw . PHOTO: MNA

six main north south artery roads and 12 main east west artery roads by 2035 according to Arterial Road Network Master Plan by 2035.

During the two year period Department of Buildings had conducted building construction works for Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. Construction Manuals required for Construction Industry Development were drawn. Myanmar National Building Code will be translated to Myanmar and distributed all over the country this year. Starting from 1 April, Department of Building is transformed into a Regulatory Body and will no longer construct buildings. It will only draw up regulations, standards and specifications.

During the two year period Department of Road had completed the Putao-Nawngmun-Pannadin allowing a single day return trip. Similarly about 220 miles Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao road was completed allowing a single day return trip while big vehicles can do the trip with a night-stop in Sumprabum.

More than 90 per cent of roads in Kayah State were upgraded to asphalt roads. In Kayin State, the Kawkaik-Myawady road was upgraded to asphalt concrete (AC) road and the Eindu-Kawkaik road is also being upgraded with the assistance from ADB. Similarly, the north south road linking the northern-most Cikha and southern-most Paletwa in Chin State is aimed to be completed in five years and upgrades of roads and bridges along the road is being conducted.

An earth road connecting Matupi and Paletwa was constructed during the two year period and the Haka-Gangaw 80

mile road section is also being upgraded with the assistance of Japan's JICA. The road linking Thantlang to Mizoram in India was completed during the two year period and will be upgraded in the coming three years.

Five bridges, including Yathedaung Birdge on the approximately 94 miles Sittway-Ponnagyun-Yathedaung-Buthidaung-Maungdaw was opened on 31 March this year allowing Sittway to Maungdaw trip to be made in four hours. The earth road on Yathedaung-Buthidaung road section will be upgraded to concrete asphalt road. Minbu-An-Sittway road was developed during the two year period and Minbu to Sittway trip can be done with ease in eleven hours.

In addition to this, Yangon-Thandwe-Ngapali road was upgraded to shorten the travel hour to nine hours during the two year period. Once this road is upgraded again in the coming three years, the Yangon-Thandwe trip can be conducted in seven hours.

Similarly, during the two year period, the road connecting Shan State south and north was widened to 18 ft and is upgraded into an asphalt road. Experts from China Highway Construction Association of China, JICA of Japan and Korea are inspecting the strength of 29 suspension bridges all over the country.

Department of Urban & Housing Development had completed drawing up urban planning for 33 cities in the country. In the housing sector, a million housings are planned to be constructed by 2030 and during the two year period 10,924 housing rooms of which 5,748 housing rooms were 100 per cent constructed while 5,176 housing rooms were 70 per cent completed. During the coming three year period, a total of more than 8,000 rooms will

be constructed. Under the Private-Public Partnership (PPP) system, the department is constructing more 4,000 rooms and the companies are constructing 6,000 rooms totaling 10,000 rooms.

Department of Rural Department will construct all weather village roads for 80 per cent of villages for 80 percent of the rural population by 2030.

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

U Hla Tun, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, said the ministry granted land use certificates for more than 24.8 million acres to farmers, reaching more than 91.99 per cent of the target of the ministry in the second year in office. In the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year, more than 17 million acres were put under paddy in summer and rainy seasons and more than 1,300 million baskets of rice were produced.

Up to February, 2018 of the 2017-2018 Fiscal year, paddy were grown on more than 17 million acres in both rainy and summer seasons and more than 1,100 million baskets of rice were produced.

In the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, more than 3 million of metric tons of rice were exported up to March, 2018. It shows that the export volume of rice in 2017-2018 Fiscal Year has doubled than that of 2016-2017 Fiscal Year.


One of the significant achievements of the ministry set K500,000 for one hundred baskets of paddy as the basic index for the price of rice. The Ministry also formed 96 cooperative societies with 1896 people who are carrying out private farming services. Besides, the ministry sold 15,306 power tillers and 363 tractors to the farmers in the second one-year period of the government.

The ministry's agricultural research department discovered 25 new species of rice.

In the fishery sector, the ministry's 27 hatcheries produced more than 1.2 billion fingerlings in the second one-year period.

The fishery sector earned more than US\$711 million from fish export to more than 40 countries in the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year. The ministry is carrying out the National Residue Monitoring Plan to export fish and prawn to EU countries.—Myanmar News Agency

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Ministry of Education
Invitation for Bids

Date:	16 May 2018
Loan/Grant No. and Title:	MYA 3472 – Equipping Youth for Employment
Contract No. and Title:	MYA 3472/EYE/NCB/Goods/ CBMSC/ Dorms-Furniture/01
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	15 June 2018

1. The **Government of Myanmar** has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of **Equipping Youth for Employment Project (EYE)**. Part of this financing will be used for payments under the Contract named above. Bidding is open to Bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.

2. The Ministry of Education (represented by the Department of Education Research, Planning & Training) (“the Employer”) invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the supply of Furniture and Bedding Materials for Student Dormitories at 16 GTHS/ITC Locations.

List of Goods and Related Services			
No	Items’ Description	Unit	Qty
Lot 1 (Supply to 4 ITC locations)			
For supply to the following 4 locations: Pakkoku ITC, Mandalay ITC, Magway ITC, Tha Ga Ya ITC			
1	Bunk Beds for Students	Each	144
2	Single Beds for Teachers	Each	8
3	Single Bed Mosquito Nets	Each	372
4	Single Iron Box	Each	372
5	Single Bed Mattress	Each	372
6	Bed Sheets	Each	740
7	Lockable Cabinet	Each	80
8	Lockable Cupboard	Each	8
9	Long Table	Each	16
10	Plastic Chairs	Each	296

No	Items’ Description	Unit	Qty
Lot 2 (Supply to 6 GTHS locations)			
For supply to the following 6 locations: Waibargi GTHS, Aung San GTHS, Taungoo GTHS, Pha-An GTHS, Pathein GTHS, Mawlamyine GTHS			
1	Bunk Beds for Students	Each	216
2	Single Beds for Teachers	Each	12
3	Single Bed Mosquito Nets	Each	558
4	Bed Pillows with Pillow Cases	Each	558
5	Single Bed Blankets	Each	558
6	Single Bamboo Bed Mats	Each	558
7	Lockable Cabinet	Each	120
8	Lockable Cupboard	Each	12
9	Long Table	Each	24
10	Plastic Chairs	Each	444

No	Items’ Description	Unit	Qty
Lot 3 (Supply to 6 GTHS locations)			
For supply to the following 6 locations: Nay Pyi Taw GTHS, Meikhhila GTHS, Mandalay GTHS, Lashio GTHS, Monywa GTHS, Kale GTHS			
1	Bunk Beds for Students	Each	216
2	Single Beds for Teachers	Each	12
3	Single Bed Mosquito Nets	Each	558
4	Bed Pillows with Pillow Cases	Each	558
5	Single Bed Blankets	Each	558
6	Single Bamboo Bed Mats	Each	558
7	Lockable Cabinet	Each	120
8	Lockable Cupboard	Each	12
9	Long Table	Each	24
10	Plastic Chairs	Each	444

3. National competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB’s NCB procedure and is open to all Bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.

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

EYE Project Management Unit (PMU)
Department of Education Research, Planning & Training, Ministry of Education, Bldg No 13,
Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Telephone: +95 67407534/67407273
Fax: +95 67407406
E-mail address: projectmanager.EYEPMU@gmail.com
With copy to: procurement.EYEPMU@gmail.com

5. To purchase the Bidding Documents in English, eligible bidders should

- write to the address above requesting the Bidding Documents for MYA3472/EYE/ NCB/Goods/CBMS/Dorms-Furniture/01
- pay a nonrefundable Bidding Document Fee of *MMK 10,000 either by cash payment or through bank transfer to:*

Bank A/C No: MD-012898
Bank Name: Myanmar Economic Bank
Bank Address: Thiri Kyaw Swa Street, Near Bank Zone, Zabu Thiri Township, NayPyi Taw
Account Name: Department of Education Research, Planning & Training, Ministry of Education

6. Deliver your bid

- to the address above
- on or before the deadline: **15 June 2018 (15.00 Hours MST)**
- **together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document**

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

7. The Ministry of Education will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

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N Koreans visit Beijing to learn about China’s reforms: ministry

BEIJING — A North Korean delegation has visited Beijing to learn about China’s experience in economic reform and opening up, the foreign ministry said on Tuesday, the latest diplomatic outreach by the isolated regime.

The Cold War-era allies have stepped up contacts in recent weeks as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un prepares for a historic summit with US President Donald Trump in Singapore on 12 June.

China said Pak Thae Song, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the ruling Workers’ Party of Korea, visited Beijing on Monday at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Party.

“This visit is a concrete example of the important consensus

between (Communist Party) General Secretary Xi Jinping and Chairman Kim Jong Un,” foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang told a regular press briefing, confirming media reports about the trip.

The delegation came to “learn about the achievements of China’s domestic economic development and reform and opening-up process, and promote an exchange of experience between the two parties on governance issues,” Lu said.

Analysts have said Kim’s promise last month to build “socialist economic construction” could herald more Chinese-style economic reforms, which transformed the communist-led country into the world’s second largest economy.—AFP ■



NUMALIGARH REFINERY LIMITED
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

For import of Diesel at Tamu, Myanmar

Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL), a Government of India Enterprise, operating a 3 million metric tonnes per annum (60,000 bpd) Petroleum Refinery located at a distance of around 425 kms from Moreh (India) - Tamu (Myanmar) border invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested parties in Myanmar to import NRL diesel at Tamu, Myanmar. NRL is interested to export diesel to Tamu and establish a market for its products in the Sagaing region. The product will be dispatched from NRL Refinery in Assam, India and transported in tank lorries and made available at the Moreh-Tamu border. Interested companies/parties may please send a proposal containing details about their credentials and particulars to the address as mentioned below:

Sr. Chief General Manager (Marketing & Business Development)
Marketing & Business Development Office,
Numaligarh Refinery Limited, 4th Floor, NEDFI Building, Dispur, Guwahati - 781006 (Assam)

Proposals can also be sent in soft copies to eebon.dutta@nrl.co.in
Please visit www.nrl.co.in for details about the Company.

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (088N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (088N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

ONE Championship officially launches free mobile app

SINGAPORE — Asia is the biggest in the history of world sport ONE Championship (ONE), which is held on 14 May, held a press conference in Singapore, Marina Bay Sands Hotel ONE: UNSTOPPABLE DREAMS those who will compete in tournaments today. In addition, the ceremony, the new One Championship with a mobile app One Championship Live events and digital information in one place, which can be accessed free One Championship Mobile will introduce an application.

ONE Championship press conference, president and CEO of Chatri Sityodtong, ONE atomic weight world champion women's (ONE Women's Atomweight World Champion) "Unstoppable" Angela Lee, Mei "VV" Yamaguchi, its rivals Remove ONE piston and piston-time world champion (ONE Featherweight & Lightweight World Champion) named Martin "The Situ-Asian" Nguyen, Its rival, Christian "The Warrior" Lee, Famous Muay Thai player Sam-A Gaiyanghadao, Its rival, Sergio "Samurai" Wielzen, Famous Muay Thai player Yodsanklai Fairtex and its rival Chris Ngimbi attended.

Millions of people worldwide martial arts fans who liked the thyroid from the new One Championship with a mobile app One Championship Live events

and digital information in one place, can be accessed for free. One Championship superstar like them, and related information, Background You can see the full quality HD. In addition, fans will compete on 29 June with stomach Smith Darren weight and heavyweight world champion Anna Sun ONE: SPIRIT OF THE WARRIOR match the characters can see through the application. The app is available for download for Android and iOS phones.

New One Championship mobile app for Android Devices <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.onefc.android.app> and iOS Devices <https://itunes.apple.com/in/app/one-championship/id1351178131> available via download.

The ceremony One Championship who will compete on the upcoming Friday unveiled plans Grab announced its cooperation with Singapore.

The stomach Championship (ONE Championship) is being held in Asia, the biggest in the history of world sport. Singapore headquarters opened belly Championship (ONE Championship) is a place of flourishing martial arts martial. The world's most exciting martial arts martial Muay Thai, Kickboxing, Karate, Kung Fu, Silat, Sanda, Lethwei, Mixed Martial Arts, Tae Kwon Do, Submission Grappling, and



includes a variety of martial arts martial is being held games. The world's biggest sports entertainment throughout Asia that is being provided. World experts and world champion to Prime treaties from Asia are the largest media broadcast. In addition, digital platforms, as well as events in more than 128 countries whole congregation

for more than 1.7 billion belly Champions from eight (ONE Championship) Fox Sports, ABS-CBN, Astro, ClaroSports, Bandsports, Startimes, Premier Sports, Thairath TV, Skynet, Mediacorp and OSN, the world's largest broadcasting stations, including, among other broadcast station broadcasts are shown. — ONE Championship ■



Photo taken on 18 April, 2018, shows the House of Peace in South Korea in the border village of Panmunjeom. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Two Koreas to hold ministerial-level meeting on Wed.

SEOUL—North and South Korea agreed on Tuesday to hold a ministerial-level meeting at a border village on Wednesday to follow up on a series of agreements reached at last month's inter-Korea summit, the South's Unification Ministry said.

The meeting will mark the first high-level contact between the two Koreas since the landmark summit between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae In at Panmunjeom on 27 April.

Possible items to be discussed include military talks "at the rank of general" that the two leaders agreed in their Panmunjeom Declaration to hold this month and a reunion event for separated families agreed to be held on or around 15 August.

The meeting will be held at the Peace House on the enclave's southern side, the same building in

which the two leaders held their summit. The border village straddles the Military Demarcation Line dividing the two Koreas.

The North Korean delegation will be led by Ri Son Gwon, head of the Committee for Peaceful Reunification of Fatherland, while the South Korean side will be represented by Unification Minister Cho Myoung Gyon, the ministry said.

South Korea's presidential office launched a commission on 3 May to help implement a series of agreements reached at the summit. At its inaugural meeting, the commission decided to seek to hold a ministerial-level meeting with North Korea by mid-May.

The South had proposed holding the meeting this Monday, but only on Tuesday did the North make a counteroffer for a Wednesday meeting, according to the ministry. —Kyodo News ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (586N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY. NO. (586N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MONTOK V-04

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MONTOK V-04 are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 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 MERIDIAN SHIPPING AGENCIES PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V NORWID V-003

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V NORWID V-003 are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-3 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 MYANMAR COSCO LTD.
Phone No: 2301928



People watch as participants launch a home-made rocket during the 'Bun Bang Fai' festival in Yasothon on 13 May, 2018. The annual rocket festival celebrated in Thailand's rural Isaan region is aimed at prodding gods into unleashing rain ahead of the rice-farming season. **PHOTO: AFP**

Fire and rain: Thais launch home-made rockets to welcome monsoons

YASOTHON (Thailand) — Huge home-made rockets tore through the clouds on Sunday as folk bands played for crowds at a rollicking festival in rural Thailand aimed at encouraging the beginning of the monsoon season.

Known as "Bun Bang Fai", the annual rocket festival celebrated in the northeastern region of Isaan is aimed at prodding gods into unleashing rain ahead of the rice-farming season.

The raucous event, which involves religious processions, mud wrestling and plenty of booze-fuelled dancing to Thai country music, also has a competitive edge. Teams tour the rural region and compete to see who can send their home-made rockets highest.

On Sunday around 500 people gathered in a field in Yasothon province — the festival's flagship venue — to watch crews haul massive rockets made of blue pipes and bamboo onto towering launch pads.

"It takes about ten people to make these rockets," explained Asan Luamakam, a 48-year-old train station worker taking part in the competition.

"I don't think it's that dangerous... we've been doing this so long, we know what we're doing," he added. Minutes later one rocket malfunctioned and exploded before take-off, setting a patch of grass on fire.

But it was only a momentary distraction and revellers cheered

as other rockets shot into the sky, disappearing into the clouds and leaving plumes of white smoke in their wake. Judges assess the rockets based on how dramatically they take off, how far they fly and how pretty a smoke trail they leave.

The festival — which produced about one minute of rain in the afternoon during launching — is also celebrated in neighbouring Laos, which has close cultural and linguistic links with Thailand's northeast.

"I've made rockets for 38 years and I'm a five-time champion," said 58-year-old Baramee Gonchuarakan, a Yasothon native. "We do this because it's our way of life."—AFP ■

Modigliani sells for \$157.2 mn in New York: Sotheby's

NEW YORK — A stunning nude that is the largest painting produced by Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani sold for \$157.2 million in New York on Monday, becoming the fourth most expensive work of art sold at auction.

Painted a century ago, Modigliani's masterpiece "Nu couche (sur le cote gauche)" fetched the highest price in Sotheby's history and was the star single lot in the May art auction season in New York.

Modigliani follows Leonardo da Vinci and Pablo Picasso as the third highest-selling artist at auction. Monday's sale failed to eclipse the \$170.4 million paid for another Modigliani nude at Christie's in 2015.

Nearly 58 inches (147 centimeters) wide, the picture was the cover star of a recent retrospective at the Tate Modern gallery in London.

Modigliani reinvented the nude for the modern era, and when his series of paintings were first exhibited in 1917, they were considered so shocking that police closed the show in Paris.

Bidding was restrained, lasting three to four minutes

and opening at \$125 million before auctioneer Helena Newman brought the hammer down at \$139 million. The final price includes a buyer's premium.

The price chalks up a healthy profit for its seller, who acquired the picture in 2003 for \$26.9 million.

Modigliani completed 22 reclining nudes and 13 seated nudes between 1916 and 1919. Most of the former are found in museums, such as The Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Simon Shaw, co-head of impressionist and modern art at Sotheby's, said the painting sold Monday, while rooted in tradition, reflected the changing status of women during World War I.

"This is a nude of a very self-possessed, sexually confident woman who is not looking out from a distance. She's absolutely meeting our gaze," he told AFP prior to the sale.

Modigliani's dealer Leopold Zborowski gave him a stipend of 15 francs a day and paid the models five francs to pose in a Paris apartment. —AFP ■

Australian wins lottery twice in a week

SYDNEY — A stunned Sydney man who was celebrating an Australian lottery windfall could not believe it when he won again less than a week later.

The unidentified man, in his 40s and from the suburb of Bondi, picked up Aus\$1,020,487 (US\$770,000) on Monday last week and then scooped another Aus\$1,457,834 on Saturday.

"I just thought this is too good to be true," he told NSW Lotteries Monday after being informed of his good fortune.

"The chances of winning twice in such a short period of time must be non-existent.

I wish I had some advice to others on how to win the lottery,

but I don't."

Asked what he would do with the cash, he said: "I'm not going to be stupid with it." He plans to invest in some Sydney real estate, buy a new car and "a holiday to Honolulu goes without saying".

Lottery organisers could not estimate the likelihood of winning twice in a week, but the odds of winning once are one in 1.845 million.

"We don't know of anyone else who has won twice in a week," NSW Lotteries spokesman Matt Hart told AFP.

"We have had people win twice in their lifetime, but not twice in a week. It is very unusual



The man bought his two winning lottery tickets from a shop in Bondi, the famous beach side suburb in Sydney, Australia. **PHOTO: AFP**

and unique."

Lotteries are hugely popular in Australia, with various govern-

ment-owned and private-sector operators.

The biggest recent winner

was a man from Victoria state who woke up Aus\$55 million richer in January—AFP ■

Myanmar Club to play Philippines Club today

YANGON United FC of Myanmar National League will play against Ceres-Negros Football Club of the Philippines Football League today (3.30p.m.) in the second-round match of the ASEAN Zone 2018 Asian Football Confederation tournament at Thuwanna Stadium in Yangon.

At a press conference held at the conference hall of Thuwanna Stadium yesterday, chief coach U Myo Min Tun said Kyaw Zin Htet would captain the Myanmar team for the match. "We were defeated 4-2 in the first round, but we have put that loss behind us. We will prove our capability in this match. I believe our team will do well even though David Htan and Suan Lam Mang have been transferred," he said.

Captain Kyaw Zin Htet said,

"We will play according to our coach's instructions. We will play our best on our home ground, taking lessons from the mistakes we made in the first round. All players have prepared well for the game."

Risto Vidakovi, head coach of Ceres-Negros, said, "There is no difference between Myanmar and the Philippines teams. We won the first-round match at our home ground. But we are not thinking of that and will play our best. I believe my team will advance to the next level."

Ceres-Negros defender Martin Steuble said his team was not worried about playing the away match. "We will play as our coach instructed. Our team will reach the next level," he added. — GNLM ■

Carrick makes immediate switch to coaching role at Man Utd

LONDON — Michael Carrick is making an immediate switch from Manchester United's playing squad to the coaching team in time for Saturday's FA Cup final against Chelsea.

The former England midfielder hung up his boots on Sunday after United's final Premier League game of the season against Watford.

The following day he began his new job as a member of manager Jose Mourinho's coaching staff, with this weekend's clash against Chelsea at Wembley his first assignment.

"It changes overnight," Carrick said. "I am not training this week. I am going to jump on the staff." The 36-year-old had other options



Michael Carrick applauds the Old Trafford crowd at the end of the English Premier League match between Manchester United and Watford on 13 May, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

as he approached the end of his playing career but the chance to work under Mourinho was too good to refuse. "A couple of years ago I thought maybe it would be a good thing to spend time with the

family, but then it's about timing and opportunities," said Carrick, who made 464 appearances for United over 12 years after earlier spells with West Ham and Tottenham.—AFP ■

Mancini given 'dream' job of rebuilding Italy

ROME — Roberto Mancini will hold his first press conference on Tuesday a day after being handed his "dream" job as Italy head coach with the task of reviving Azzurri fortunes six months after their shock failure to qualify for the World Cup.

Italy have been without a permanent coach since Gian Piero Ventura was sacked after the four-time world champions failed to qualify for the World Cup for the first time since 1958.

Mancini — former coach of

Manchester City and Inter Milan — will meet the media for the first time as Italy boss at 12:00 (1000GMT) at the national team's training centre at Coverciano near Florence.

"Roberto is the new coach of Italy, it's done," Italian FA commissioner Roberto Fabbri declared after Mancini signed his new deal in Rome on Monday night.

"There is satisfaction, also on the part of Mancini — his enthusiasm was decisive in the choice.

"Roberto had a great desire to sit on the Azzurri bench, he proved that in a concrete way."

The two-year contract reportedly worth two million euros (\$2.3 million) a year will see Mancini lead Italy to Euro 2020 with the option to extend until June 2022 before the World Cup in Qatar. The Italian federation had been looking for a prestigious coach to rebuild an Azzurri side decimated after their play-off defeat to Sweden in the San Siro last November.

The names of former Bayern Munich coach Carlo Ancelotti and Chelsea boss Antonio Conte had also been touted, with Ancelotti reported to have said "no".

Mancini had shown an early interest in taking over the national side and was ready to sever his lucrative contract with Zenit Saint Petersburg. He will give up a reported 13 million euros in wages over the two remaining years on his Zenit contract to do national service. After his three-year contract with the Russian club was

officially terminated by mutual consent on Sunday, Mancini flew immediately to Rome on Monday morning declaring at the airport he was "happy to be back in Italy".

He signed his new deal later in the day. His task will be to rebuild and qualify Italy for the 2020 European Championships, with his first match in charge a friendly on 28 May against Saudi Arabia in Switzerland. "It went the way we wanted, we are happy and Roberto is happy," Fabbri told journalists.—AFP ■

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