

## NATIONAL

Vice President U Myint Swe receives  
Bangladesh Foreign Minister

PAGE-3

## NATIONAL

Myanmar-Bangladesh Ministerial  
Meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw

PAGE-7

## NATIONAL

MIC meeting  
held in Yangon

PAGE-10

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## State Counsellor: The best inheritance we leave behind for our youngsters includes good morality and knowledge

**S**TATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ye Aung and Dr. Myint Htwe, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung and Deputy Minister U Min Thu, opened a village hall and 'Pwintlin Thuta' reading room in Nyaungpin Village, Singu Township, yesterday morning.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi viewed the books and journals in the library (reading room), after cutting the ceremony ribbon to open the village hall and 'Pwintlin Thuta' reading room.

The village hall and reading room were constructed by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation on a land donated by U Than Swe, U Htay Ko family to Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Ashin Nanda Marla Bivamsa. The village hall and reading room is a concrete single-storey building that costs Ks 36 million to construct and the construction cost, 1,392 books and two computers were donated by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation.

State Counsellor and party then went to Nyaungpin Village women household work vocational training school to observe the sewing machine course conducted for young women from nearby villages.

The training school was opened on 14 December 2015 and seven basic household work courses and six sewing machine advanced courses were conducted for 390 trainees, it is learnt.

Next, the State Counsellor



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi donates robes to Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Ashin Nanda Marla Bivamsa. **PHOTO: MNA**

met with local populace from Singu Township, Nyaungpin village tract in the training school hall.

At the meeting, the State Counsellor said, "I'm happy to visit this village and meet with the villagers. As the majority, 70 per cent of our country's people live in rural villages, we must come to villages to know the true life situation of the people. I came here first to donate a monastery (school) to the

Sayadawgyi, and now to donate a library."

I want to open libraries extensively all over the country. I say extensively, because I want to open the eyes and ears of our people so that they will gain knowledge. By opening libraries, youngsters will want to read books since a young age and will be attracted to and love books.

But for youngsters to be attracted to and love books, elders need to encourage them.

The inheritance we leave behind for our youngsters include both good and bad. This is unavoidable in ordinary human beings.

That is why I always said that the best inheritance to leave behind is good morality and knowledge. If we leave these behind, we don't need to worry much. Money and houses can disappear. Material is something that can be lost or stolen, but knowledge could not be lost or stolen.

That is why I encourage knowledge. Being a graduate is not having knowledge. I want people in rural areas to know this. Some are very simple minded and admire graduates, and want their sons and daughters to become university graduates. This is the goodwill (cetana) of the parents. But knowledge is not something that you obtain only by going to a university.

**SEE PAGE-3**

## INSIDE TODAY

## NATIONAL

Full-dress rehearsal conducted for  
All-Round Youth Development  
Festival at Mandalay University

PAGE-6



## NATIONAL

Anti-Corruption Commission  
Chairperson U Aung Kyi receives  
New Zealand Ambassador

PAGE-10

## WORLD

Russia vows to  
retaliate against  
new US sanctions

PAGE-12





## Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 9<sup>th</sup> regular session holds eighth-day meeting

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its eighth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing.

### Asterisk-marked questions

In the question and answer session, Daw Khin Hnin Thit of Padaung constituency raised a question on whether there is a plan to expand Emerald Green Project in Padaung Township. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that Emerald Green Project has been implemented in 23 villages of Padaung Township, while people-centered project will be implemented in all the villages of the township for the full four-year cycle of the project. As the Emerald Green Project is being implemented in other townships, there is no plan to expand the project in Padaung Township at the moment, explained the Deputy Minister.

U Myat Lay Oo of Htilin con-

stituency then raised a question on plans to provide electricity to nine villages of Kyin village area in Htilin Township. Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing replied that a 66 KV Pauk-Kyaukhtu power line passes near the subject villages but electricity can be supplied only when sub-stations are constructed and a 11 KV power line laid. Due to the geography of the region and technical requirements, it would be difficult to provide electricity from the power grid. Off-grid system (solar) is the most appropriate way of providing electricity to the subject villages and the Department of Rural Development is being informed and coordinated about this, said the Deputy Minister.

In replying to a question posed by U Nay Myo Htet of Kyauktada constituency on plans to implement base load hydro-electric projects and provide electricity to required places in Myanmar, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing said hydro-electricity is not appropriate to produce base load. The Deputy Minister explained further that there are 27 installed hydro-electric plants generating 2,800 MW. Of the 27, 21 are reservoir type, generating



Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw. PHOTO: MNA

intermediate load of 2,170 MW and only 6 are run-off-river type plants, generating 630 MW for base load. Feasibility studies are being conducted to construct more hydro-electric projects with government fund, local and international investment. Survey and investigation will take at least three years while construction period is from four to ten years, explained the Deputy Minister.

Questions raised by U Myint Oo of Thanatpin constituency, U Win Win of Minbu constituency and U Khun Than Htoo of Hsihseng constituency were also answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing.

### Forest Bill to be submitted to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat obtained the decision of the Hluttaw on the Forest Bill sent with amendments by Amyotha Hluttaw.

Bill committee tabled a motion to submit the bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as the two Hluttaws are in disagreement over the bill. After Hluttaw agree to it, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's decision to submit the bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and proceed further on it.

### Motion to review and provide necessary support to Department of Cooperatives

Afterwards, a motion tabled by Daw Wint War Tun of Shadaw constituency urging the government to review and provide necessary support for the Department of Cooperatives to successfully implement its policy, aim and work processes was discussed by Hluttaw representatives.

U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency, U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu constituency, U Sein Han of Kanma constituency, Dr. U Khin Maung Thin of Ayadaw constituency,

Dr. Daw Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon constituency, Dr. U Sein Mya Aye of Dala constituency, U Tin Ko Ko Oo @ U A Tut of Bilin constituency, U Thein Tan of Hlegu constituency, U Bo Bo Oo of Sangyoung constituency, Daw Nan Htwe Thu of Pasawng constituency, U Nyunt Aung of Monywa constituency, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency and U Ye Lwin of Ahlon constituency discussed the motion.

In his discussion on the motion, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw explained about the history of the Department of Cooperatives that started as the Ministry of Cooperatives on 5 April 1951. He then said the incumbent government is monitoring whether the policy, aim and work processes of the cooperatives sector is in accord with the economic policies set, and recommended that the motion be put on record.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then announced the Hluttaw putting on record and keeping the matter under observation after obtaining decision of the Hluttaw.

The ninth-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session will be held on 14 August it is learnt.

## Second Amyotha Hluttaw's 9<sup>th</sup> regular session holds eighth-day meeting

By Myo Myint (MNA)

THE Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its eighth-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, five questions on health sectors was raised, a bill discussed and a motion tabled to discuss a bill.

### questions on health sector

In the first question of the day, U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2 asked if the government has a plan to increase nurses and fund for Yangon Eye Hospital. Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein said the Department of Medical Services will give priority to assign nurses to Yangon Eye Hospital when new nurse appointments are made in December 2018. As for the fund, the hospital was allocated Ks 1,188.627 million in fiscal year 2017-2018 and when there was a request for additional fund, Ks.

68.97 million was provided, said the Deputy Minister.

U Kyaw Thaung of Sagaing Region constituency 1, on the other hand, asked if hospitals have plans to inform and educate visitors to hospitals, and family member, close relative or friend of a patient who tend to the patient in the hospital to follow the hospital rules. Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein replied that hospitals display the hospital rules on notice boards in the hospital. Doctors and nurses occasionally provide demonstration on washing hands and informative talks on prevention against communicable diseases to visitors and those tending to the patient. As visitors and those tending to the patients are worried about their patients, education and information programs for them in person are impractical and thus distribution of pamphlets on prevention against communicable diseases will be made through hospital support group. Health



Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein. PHOTO: MNA

information will also be provided through media said the deputy minister.

Replying to question raised by U Ko Ko Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 8 on arrangements made for transfer of Township Medical Officers (TMO) and Assistant Surgeons (AS), Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein said when TMO, SMO (Senior Medical Officer) and AS are transferred, the replacement medical personnel is required to work together with the trans-

ferred medical personnel for a minimum of two days of overlapping period before duties and responsibilities are transferred. Instructions were given to State and Region Medical Services departments and Departments of Public Health to follow this requirement, said the deputy minister.

Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein also replied to questions posed by Daw Htu May of Rakhine State constituency 11 on plan to upgrade a rural health clinic in Yanbye Township, Anauk village to a station hospital and U Whey Tin of Chin State constituency 11 on plans to provide an ambulance and a diesel generator to Chin State, Paletwa Township, Simi town and Miza village station hospitals.

### Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Bill

Next, Dr. Mya Thaung of Bago Region constituency 7 dis-

cussed the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Bill.

### Motion on second amendment of Penal Code

Afterwards, a motion to accept and debate the second amendment of the Penal Code was tabled by U Aung Thein of Bago Region constituency 12 and the Hluttaw decided to accept the motion. In his discussion to the Hluttaw for tabling the motion, U Aung Thein said the Penal Code was enacted and practiced for more than 150 years and punishment for offences like Section 376 rape case are outdated and no longer serves as deterrence. This causes the rise in rape of minors and thus the motion to amend the Penal Code was tabled, explained U Aung Thein.

The ninth-day meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw will be held on 14 August it is learnt.



## State Counsellor: The best inheritance we leave behind for our youngsters ...

### FROM PAGE-1

Knowledge can be gained wherever you are if you know how to seek it. The reason we are opening libraries are to instill the habit and mindset of gaining knowledge through them. Knowledge is something that supports your livelihood. I don't want to produce unemployed university graduates. Graduates should be able to obtain jobs that are suitable for them. But our country also needs many people who possess other knowledge (and skills,) although not university graduates.

Now our government is encouraging vocational education system. In fact, vocational training is practical. If properly arranged and taught, they will have many job opportunities. Thus, instead of being an unemployed university graduate, those who complete vocational trainings would be able to work on their own for a living, gaining much benefits.

First, youths will have confidence. After they complete a course, they wouldn't worry about what to do as they are given an opportunity to choose.

Therefore, in future, we plan to reduce the requirement to attend such vocational training courses. Anyone who can read and write would be able to attend it. We are thinking of opening schools (training courses) that can be attended by a student who passes the eight standard. Only then, will our youth have opportunities in life.

We also need to think about middle-aged person who didn't have the opportunity to get an education when they were young. Yesterday, when I went to Daw Khin Kyi Foundation computer course, some students there, who are not so young, told me to please think about people who didn't

have an opportunity for education.

As our education system was weak, there are many people who were unable to get a good education. We need to think of how to support these people so that they can live their lives well.

When we meet such people, we want to know their thoughts and views. When I ask the young women in the sewing course earlier, they all told me of their wish to go back and work in their own places. Only a small number said

That is why, at this moment, I want you all to tell the government what it should do, so that it could support your ability to help yourself. The government will put much emphasis on health and education. Our people need to be full of strength, both physically and mentally. Only when you are knowledgeable, can your mental strength be strong. Health and education is connected. According to research conducted on health, children below two years old who

viding nourishment for a year is not sufficient. In my view, our youngsters are quite developed up to two years old because they are being breast fed by their mothers. But, after this age, they need more nourishment. I want our people to be strong, both physically and mentally, as well as in knowledge. Villagers, please suggest what our government should do to help you. Ask us for what you want to know, said the State Counsellor.

party then paid homage to a pagoda built in Thitsa Nanda Dhamma center in Yetkansintaung region and then offered 'soon' (lunch) and offertories to Rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Ashin Nanda Marla Bivamsa. The State Counsellor also donated cash offerings made by the Ministry of the Office of the President to the pagoda trustees.

Later in the afternoon, the State Counsellor, accompanied by Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung and Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing, went to No. (3) Police Training School (Sagaing).

At the training school briefing hall, the State Counsellor met with Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu, Myanmar Police Force Chief Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo and officials.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu explained about the construction of police training schools. In response to the explanation, the State Counsellor said that in the past people did not trust the police, but now the police force was being renamed. After this, the police force needs to strive towards becoming a force that the people trust. And in striving for people's trust, mentality is the main thing that needs to be changed and improved. At this opportune time, the police force must become a trustworthy force for the people, remarked the State Counsellor. The State Counsellor then inspected the training courses conducted and attended a lecture together with the trainees. Afterwards, the State Counsellor inspected by car the buildings in the school compound constructed with the President's emergency fund. — MNA ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attending a lecture together with trainees at the No. (3) Police Training School in Sagaing. **PHOTO: MNA**

they will go to the city and work with what they learnt. I want to help our people gain the ability to help themselves.

The government needs to create opportunities for them to return to their villages and earn a living. Those who want to settle back in their villages also need to put in their efforts, too. They must strive hard and seek out opportunities. Opportunities won't simply drop down from the sky. The government will help. So can you all help yourselves. We will give our people the strength to help themselves.

are not physically fit will not have a fully-developed brain. If children below two years old are full of nutrition, their brain will grow strong. But if they are lacking in nutrition, they'll be affected for life. I'm concerned about our children. From the standpoint of health, the youngsters in this village, as well as in my constituent of Kawhmu Township, lack growth. Many of whom I think are 4 or 5 years old are already 8 or 9 years old. They are very small in stature.

This is because they are not well nourished. In this case, pro-

Afterwards, villagers in the meeting spoke of how they will cooperate with the government for rural development and their electricity requirement and Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung explained about the support that will be provided.

Following the discussion, the State Counsellor donated exercise books, stationeries, school uniforms, sports equipment, snacks for students and solar plates and lamps for the village to school principal and head of village administration.

The State Counsellor and

## Vice President U Myint Swe receives Bangladesh Foreign Minister

VICE President U Myint Swe received a delegation led by Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 August at 2 pm.

During the meeting, matters pertaining to promoting bilateral relations and cooperation, enhancing trade and investment and people to people contact between Myanmar and Bangladesh, and the progress

achieved in Myanmar Governments' efforts in preparatory works to receive the displaced persons from Rakhine State were discussed.

Present at the meeting were U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the State Counsellor's Office, U Thein Swe, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population, Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, U Myint



Vice President U Myint Swe receiving Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali. **PHOTO: MNA**

Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

and responsible officials and Mr. Manjurul Karim Khan Chowd-

hury, Bangladesh Ambassador to Myanmar.—MNA ■



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# Snail fever preventive measures taken in Rakhine State

By Nyein Nyein

MORE than 300 patients have been affected with snail fever, an acute and chronic disease caused by parasitic flatworms released by freshwater snails, in Rakhine State. Snail fever is also known as schistosomiasis. Therefore, authorities are conducting snail fever prevention measures as well as treatment activities, said Dr. Toe Thiri Aung, Deputy Director of Epidemiology at the Department of Public Health.

Among the 574 suspected patients from ten townships in Rakhine State, it was found that 302 were suffering from schistosomiasis. Symptoms of schistosomiasis include rash, abdominal pain, diarrhea, fever, headache, cough and body sores.

There were some cases of snail fever occurrences in the past, but this is the first time it was discovered in such a high number. Therefore, we are conducting investigation and preventive measures on

this case, Dr. Toe Thiri Aung added.

World Health Organization (WHO) is providing medicine and medical equipment to treat the disease. Moreover, experts from Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and WHO head office will visit Myanmar at the end of this month to conduct research over the outbreak of schistosomiasis as well as to provide technical assistance, prevention and treatment under the WHO's Schistosomiasis dis-

ease prevention and measurement strategy, according to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

"An effective method will be used to control schistosomiasis disease. The Ministry of Health and Sports will conduct paper-reading sessions in cooperation with the Myanmar Medical Association, to provide awareness and knowledge of schistosomiasis disease to the public, doctors and health staff," said Dr. Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports. ■

## Rubber quality certification to be issued

MYANMAR Natural Rubber Quality Testing Laboratory will issue rubber quality certificates that would encourage fetching a good price in the export market.

"Certification is required for rubber quality. We need to follow the rules and regulations set by China and South Korea. Myanmar, being the sixth world's largest rubber exporting country, needs accreditation. Other countries are also trying to seek certificates like that, said U Zan Htoo Maung, Kayin State Rubber Growers Network member.

This laboratory is operating under public-private partnership at the Information Technology and Quality Management Division (Hlegu Township) of the Consumer Affairs Department, under the Ministry of Commerce. It is also endeavoring to be accredited by the International Rubber Association. The laboratory will grant certificates to Myanmar Standard Rubber 5,10 and 20, said U Myint Lwin, Director General of the Consumer Affairs Department.



Workers turning out sheets of raw rubber to dry in the sun. PHOTO: KHON (WIN PA)

Of 1.6 million acres of rubber farming, about seven million plants can be tapped for latex. There are around 50,000 old trees which cannot be tapped.

Dr. Ye Tint Tun, Director General of the Agriculture Department said that private sector role has become crucial in boosting rubber quality and improving rubber processing businesses. In order to main-

tain quality, private businessmen should lead the industry by forming rubber associations, as individual producers cannot ensure equal quality standard. Myanmar is also trying to be a member of inter-governmental Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC).

According to data from worldexports.com, Myanmar ranks at the sixth place,

behind Thailand, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Malaysia and Ivory Coast, among 15 global rubber exporting countries, which accounts for 95.4 per cent of export. Eighty per cent of rubber supply in the global market are from Asian countries, while Africa makes up 8.5 per cent and European Union constitutes 4.7 per cent of market shares.—Zar Lin Thu (AMIA) ■

## Over 1600 hotel licenses granted as of July 2018

THE number of operational hotels and guesthouses as of 31 July 2018 has reached 1,676, providing some 67,350 rooms across the country, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

To ensure tourists can travel to Myanmar conveniently, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism

approved the licences after scrutinizing the applications of the hotels.

There are 64 hotels with 5,515 rooms in the capital of Nay Pyi Taw, 399 hotels and guesthouses with 20,845 rooms in Yangon, 216 hotels with 8,995 rooms in Mandalay, 85 hotels with 3,019 rooms in Bagan and Nyaung U,

and 145 hotels with 4,612 rooms in Taunggyi and Inlay.

The number of hotels and guest houses which were granted licenses by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has increased every month. To be able to increase the number of tourists, the Ministry has relaxed the restriction of visa and opened new

tour ports at the border gates.

The ministry has also granted 2,802 travel and tour agency licenses, including to 2,802 companies owned by local residents. In addition, the ministry has granted 2,568 transport licenses, 4,404 tour guide licenses and 3,803 regional tour guide licenses, as of July 2018.—Zwe ■



## Increased existing investments account for more than half of FDI value in past four months



Thilawa Special Economic Zone attracts foreign investors. PHOTO: KYAW KYAW

By May Thet Hnin

MORE than half of foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow in the past four months are an increase of investments by existing companies, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Over US\$1 billion of FDI, including increased investments, were brought into the country in the past four months. A total of 53 newly-permitted enterprises made investments of only \$442 million. Thilawa Special Economic Zone absorbed FDI worth

over \$171 million including increased investment.

Yangon Region attracts sixty per cent of foreign investments, especially bringing into the manufacturing sector. Those enterprises are engaged in manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, vehicles, container boxes and garments through Cutting, Making and Packing (CMP) basic, said U Myo Khaing Oo, director of Yangon Region DICA.

Myanmar Companies Law 2017 came into effect starting from 1 August 2018. Previously, foreigners were anticipating that law. This being so, more

foreign investments are likely to be brought into the country later on, said U Aung Naing Oo, secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC).

MIC has prioritized ten sectors for investment in Myanmar. They are agriculture, livestock and fishery production, export promotion businesses, import substitution businesses, power supply, logistics, education services industry, healthcare industry, construction of affordable housing and establishment of industrial estate. MIC will speed up processing time for investment proposals in those ten prioritized areas. ■

## Myanmar-Thailand border trade worth \$430 million since April

MYANMAR-Thailand border trade between 1 April and 27 July totalled US\$431 million, an increase of US\$40.9 million against similar period of last fiscal year 2017-2018, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar and Thailand are conducting the border trade through these border checkpoints: Tachilek, Myawady,

Kawthoung, Myeik, Htikhee, Maese and Mawtaung. Of the seven gates, Kawthoung and Htikhee checkpoints show a slight decrease, compared to similar period of last FY.

Myanmar-Thailand border trade values in the past four months are worth \$29 million in Tachilek, over \$271 million in Myawady, \$46 million in Kawthoung, \$79.6 million in Myeik,

nearly \$1.79 million in Htikhee, \$3.03 million in Mawtaung and \$0.37 million in Maese.

Myanmar mainly exports fishery products, including fish, crabs and shrimps, as well as agricultural products to Thailand while cosmetics, machineries, food products and agricultural equipment are imported from Thailand.—Mon Mon ■

## Trade deficit shows decline against same period last year

Trade value showed a deficit of US\$988.9 million in nearly four months. The figure shows a decrease compared to the similar period of last FY 2017-2018, according to data of the Ministry of Commerce.

In the same time of last FY 2017-2018, there was a trade deficit of \$1.85 billion.

Between 1 April and 27 July, in the current six-month interim period prior to next fiscal year 2018-2019, external trade amounted to over \$11.57 billion, with export worth \$5.29 billion and import valued \$6.27 billion, according to statistics provided by the commerce ministry.

During that period, maritime trade is registered at \$8.98 billion, while border trade has \$2.58 billion.

Myanmar exported agricultural products, animal products, minerals, forestry products, finished industrial

goods, whereas capital goods, raw industrial materials and personal goods were imported into the country.

The country's export sector is depending more on the agriculture and industrial products of small- and medium-sized enterprises, while lessening its reliance on natural resources, such as natural gas and jade.

The government is trying to reduce trade deficit, screening luxury import items and boosting export.

During the last 2017-2018 FY, trade deficit narrowed to \$3.97 billion. There were trade deficits of US\$91.9 million in 2012-2013 FY, US\$2.5 billion in 2013-2014, US\$4.9 billion in 2014-2015, US\$5.4 billion in 2015-2016 and \$5.5 billion in 2016-2017 FY respectively, according to the statistics released by the Central Statistical Organization.—Mon Mon ■

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Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)	City Mart (Sule Square)
Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)	City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
Market Place by City Mart (Junction City)	City Mart (Waizayandar)
City Mart (Yankin)	City Mart (Hledan)
City Mart (China Town)	City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)	City Mart (Junction 8)
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## Union Minister for Information inspects preparations for All-Round Youth Development Festival at Mandalay University

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun and other officials inspected preparations for holding the All-Round Youth Development Festival at the Mandalay University yesterday.

First, the Union Minister and party visited the university's Main Building where the opening ceremony of the festival will be held today.

The dignitaries also inspected the preparation at the university's Convocation Hall for holding the literature round-table talk between the State Counsellor and broadcast live by the Myanmar Radio and Television.

The literature talk will be broadcast live at 9 am today by MRTV, MNTV, Sky Net Up to Date, Sky Net's ethnic channel, Myanmar Radio, MOI Webportal Myanmar Facebook, MRTV Facebook, Myanmar Digital News Facebook, President Office Facebook, Myanmar State



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint seen inspecting preparations for All-Round Youth Development Festival at the Mandalay University yesterday. **PHOTO: MANDALAY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE**

Counsellor Office Facebook and Information Committee Facebook.

During the festival, Science Fair booths will be staged at the ground floor, with programs showcasing IT-related items, IT Quiz, Cyber Security Awareness, IT Power Test, IT consultants, Project Show, IT Book Show and Mine-

craft Game. Besides, local and foreign companies have offered job opportunities to youths outside the building. Similarly, universities and basic education schools also set up booths displaying education affairs and health awareness, drug awareness and eradication of child abandonment.—Mandalay Sub-Printing House ■

## Full-dress rehearsal conducted for All-Round Youth Development Festival at Mandalay University

A FULL-dress rehearsal for opening the All-Round Youth Development Festival was held at the Mandalay University yesterday.

The rehearsal was conducted in the presence of Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Chairman of the Work Committee for holding the All-Round Youth Development Festival Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu, Mandalay Region Minister for Develop-

ment Affairs Dr. Ye Lwin and officials. The three-day festival will officially open today at the University of Mandalay.

The All-Round Youth Development Festival (Mandalay) is being held with the aim of promoting the development of the five strengths of youths – physical, knowledge, character, friendship and wealth – to support their vision and ideas in building up the future of Myanmar's society.—Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House) ■



Students participate in the full-dress rehearsal of the All-Round Development Festival at Mandalay University yesterday. **PHOTO: TIN MAUNG**

## All-Round Youth Development Festival opens today in Mandalay



U Nay Win Aung.



Dr. Te Zar Thant.



Ko Aung Htay Myint.



Daw Myat Mon Zaw.



Dr. Kay Thari Kyaw.



Ma Nann Thinn Myat Su Aung.

All-Round Youth Development Festival will be opened today at the Mandalay University. Following are the voices from the people who will participate in the literary talk at the festival.

### U Nay Win Aung Mandalay Region Computer Professional Association

On behalf of the Mandalay Region Computer Professional Association, I will discuss the basic points for digital technology focusing dos and don'ts for digital technology to benefit our socio-environment. The reason why I choose this topic is that the mobile phone density has reached 30 million of the total population of the country and the use of digital technology has reached media, business, socio-economy, education and health sectors. I will discuss

ethics for mobile phone users to prevent ill effects from the digital technology and to make the best of use of digital technology for their health, social, business and education affairs.

### Dr. Te Zar Thant Executive Director, Yon-Kyi-Yar Knowledge Dissemination Society

This festival is held for the youths of the country. So, I will discuss the title "Future Myanmar and the role of youths" at the literary talk. The discussions will focus on which role the youths are taking part today and how they can bring better benefits to the country. Myanmar is home to diverse ethnic minorities and ethnic people will also participate in the talk. Another title is "National Reconciliation". The

population of youths makes up over 30 per cent of the country's total population.

This mass of youths is a huge force for development of the country. Hence, I have chosen this topic.

It is clear that our leaders are relying on youths in transition to democracy. Therefore, I want to let the youths know that their capability is necessary for the development of the country.

### Ko Aung Htay Myint Mandalay Region Youths Affairs Committee

I will discuss the benefits of the youth affairs policy. The age of youths is considered between 15 and 35 years. The youth affairs policy comes to create good environment for youths. Currently, the participation of youths in the political

sector has gained speed. The festival shows strong linkage between the government and the youths. I will let youths know the youth affairs policy so that they can review and give suggestions.

### Daw Myat Mon Zaw Entrepreneurs Association

I will discuss the title "Youths and choice of path for future of their life". My discussion will mainly focus on job opportunities and change of mindset of youths in accordance with the current era. I see that today youths have more opportunities. After my discussion, I hope that youths can know how they can find jobs after their graduation.

### Dr. Kay Thari Kyaw Entrepreneurs Association

As an entrepreneur, I will discuss what youths should prepare to find jobs and possible challenges for them. Previously, youths think about finding jobs after their graduation. After this talk, youths will understand that they should prepare while attending their university or college to find jobs.

### Ma Nann Thinn Myat Su Aung Primary Colour Civic Education Network

I will be in charge for time management for the talks. The topics chosen are very good for youths. I will be a moderator for the topics including arts, sports, literature and drugs, and I am responsible for time management.—Aye Mya (Mandalay) ■



## PRESS RELEASE/NEWS RELEASE

MYANMAR-BANGLADESH Ministerial Meeting was held on 10 August 2018 at Thingaha Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was chaired by the Union Minister of the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, U Kyaw Tint Swe, and the Foreign Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali. Union Ministers U Thein Swe and Dr. Win Myat Aye, officials concerned and delegates from both sides participated in the meeting.

The meeting discussed the implementation of the bilateral agreement, the 'Arrangement on Return of Displaced Persons from Rakhine State' signed between the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh in November 2017. The meeting reached agreement on the following points:-

1. Both parties agreed that there should be early repatriation of displaced person from Rakhine who recently fled to Cox's Bazar. Repatriation will be in a voluntary, safe and dignified manner. In this regard, a hotline has been established between the Ministers to facilitate ease of discussions.
2. It was agreed to distribute the agreed Verification Forms to those at Cox's Bazar, for the displaced persons to fill up the forms themselves. Signatures, finger-prints, and photo IDs, are to be completed when filling the forms to indicate voluntary return and assist with Myanmar's verification process.
3. As agreed in the Arrangement, Myanmar has built two reception centres and one transit camp. Bangladesh has confirmed progress on the five transit camps; one is complete, another under construction, and remaining three to be built.
4. Both parties agreed to intensify cooperation on counter-terrorism and the fight against drug trafficking through exchange of intelligence, closer cooperation between the border-guard officials and conducting enhanced coordinated border patrols.
5. Both parties agreed to cooperate on the issue of repatriation of displaced persons currently residing along the international border between Myanmar and Bangladesh, in particular the area between the international border and the fence erected on Myanmar's territory in an expeditious manner.
6. It was also agreed that any humanitarian aid given to those inhabiting the area on Myanmar's territory should be given by the aid agencies from Myanmar side.
7. Bangladesh has agreed to revise the language used in the ID cards being issued to those who are currently residing in Cox's Bazar.
8. They also agree to conduct a joint inspection of the boundary line between the boundary pillars BP34 and BP 35.

Both Ministers reiterated their commitment for closer consultation in resolving the issue of displaced persons from Rakhine State in the spirit of good neighbourliness. They also agreed to promote closer economic and trade relations of interest of both countries.

Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor  
Nay Pyi Taw  
10 August 2018



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe shakes hand with Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali. **PHOTO: MNA**

### Myanmar-Bangladesh Ministerial Meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw

MYANMAR-BANGLADESH Ministerial Meeting was held on 10 August 2018 at Thingaha Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was chaired by the Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe and the Foreign Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali. Union Ministers U Thein Swe and Dr. Win Myat Aye, officials concerned and delegates from both sides participated in the

meeting.

Both Ministers reiterated their commitment for closer consultation in resolving the issue of displaced persons from Rakhine State in the spirit of good neighbourliness. They also agreed to promote closer economic and trade relations of interest of both countries.

Afterwards, the delegation led by Bangladesh Foreign Minister was hosted a luncheon by Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe. —Myanmar News Agency ■

### Bangladeshi delegation, UEHRD hold talks over Rakhine issue

A BANGLADESHI delegation led by Foreign Minister Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali called on the officials of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development (UEHRD) in Rakhine State, at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, officials of the UEHRD elaborated on the work of the ten task forces of the UEHRD which is led by the State Counsellor, repatriation readiness in accordance with the bilateral agreement, measures taken for repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement, in accordance with the existing laws, construction of houses for returnees with assistance from India and Japan, undertakings on the ground by the technical working group for repatriation and rehabilitation in Rakhine State after signing agreement with the UNHCR and UNDP, UEHRD's approaches with the Private Public Partnership for sustainable development and absence of conflicts in the state and implementation of more than 80 points suggested by the advisory



The meeting between Myanmar and Bangladesh focuses on resolving the Rakhine issue amicably. **PHOTO: MNA**

commission.

The meeting between the two neighbouring countries focused on resolving the Rakhine issue amicably and in a friendly manner.

At the meeting, the Bangladeshi side was accompanied by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Prime Minister's Office, Immigration and Passport Department and Disaster Management Ministry, officials

from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, while the Myanmar side was led by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Chief Coordinator of UEHRD Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Information and Communications Director of UEHRD U Kyaw Myaing, Adviser to the UEHRD U Toe Oung and departmental officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

### Local journalists visit Maungtaw

A VISITING media delegation visited the Myanmar-Bangladesh Friendship Bridge near Taung Pyo Letwe Town and observed the two countries' borders. Later, they questioned officials concerned about the situation of the region yesterday.

Afterwards, the delegation visited the Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre and viewed the repatriation readiness.

They met with officials from the centre to collect news.

Later, the media group ar-

rived near the border between the two countries and took photos of people living on the border line.

In the afternoon, the media group arrived in Sittway and then departed for Yangon by flight.—Min Thit (MNA) ■



Journalists collect news in Maungtaw. **PHOTO: KO MIN**



# Peace can only be achieved through understanding

FOR nearly seventy years, peace, stability and development in Myanmar have fallen victim to conflict. Our people over successive generations have seen their socio-economic situation and morale undermined, while our country's future has been gradually corroded.

Peace is concerned with all the people. The peace talk between the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and local people in Pakokku two days ago represents what our people have been waiting for almost seventy years to witness the ray of hope for a better future.

We need right leaders and right followers in the democratic system to achieve our goals, including peace in the country.

The right people are the most valuable resource to choose the right leaders and to become right followers. Because, in a democratic system, we have to choose our own leaders. Democracy is people-based.

The most important thing for our people is to be aware of their part of the responsibility for establishing democracy in the country.

There is a saying by American essayist and lecturer Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Peace cannot be achieved through violence, it can only be attained through understanding".

While looking at the future, we need to look at and tackle the present challenges. We should not let ourselves be trapped in the past.

At the peace talk, one participant said that there is no peace because there is a lack of understanding. Lack of understanding has created challenges on the way of achieving peace.

There is a saying by American essayist and lecturer Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Peace cannot be achieved through violence, it can only be attained through understanding". It is a precious saying for everyone around the world who loves peace. If we desire a society of peace, we need understanding with each other. We cannot achieve such a society through violence.

Understanding is based on respect of others. Only with respect can a person listen. We need to discard anything that affects peace. And we need to encourage anything that will bring about peace. In this, the people need to participate.

We want to bring peace which is lasting and permanent that gives support to every Myanmar.

# Anti-corruption in Hong Kong: Random Jotting

Written by Sayar Mya (MOFA)

*[With the community, the Independent Commission against Corruption is committed to fighting corruption through effective law enforcement, education and prevention to help keep Hong Kong fair, just, stable and prosperous.]*

## Mission Statement of ICAC in Hong Kong

On a cool Sunday morning under the clear blue sky in the first week of August, I was strolling around the city in Hong Kong and happened to pass the area of Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC) Headquarters Building on Java Road, North Point. I stopped for a moment near the elegant and prestigious ICAC building. While admitted into the structure, my mind rushes back to two recent events related to anti-graft matters such as that of the workshop on "Risk Assessment in Public Procurement" held in June 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw, and that of the ICAC delegation, led by Commissioner Mr. Simon Peh Yun-lu, official visit to Myanmar in April 2018. The delegation was in Myanmar with a view to sharing the Hong Kong anti-graft experience as well as exploring opportunities to offer training assistance to anti-corruption agencies.

In Nay Pyi Taw, capital of Myanmar, Mr. Peh and the ICAC delegation called on the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of Myanmar and held discussions with its Chairman U Aung Kyi. The ICAC chief had engaged in an exchange session with Hong Kong businessmen operating in Myanmar to better understand the local business environment and the areas that ICAC can be of assistance to help the ACC of Myanmar enhance their anti-corruption capacity for the creation of a level-playing field for investors.

Myanmar's Anti-Corruption Commission and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) held a workshop titled "Risk Assessment in Public Procurement" in the commission's office building in Nay Pyi Taw in June 2018.

Present at the discussion were Anti-Corruption Commission Chair U Aung Kyi, Commission Secretary U San Win and commission members, and UNODC experts Mr. Constantine Miltchev Palicarsky and Ms. Cornelia Anna Kortl. In his opening speech, U



(ICAC Building in Hong Kong)

Aung Kyi said public procurement takes up a huge share of public expenditures and is the most corruption-prone area as department heads can have close relations with business owners. According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2013 report, 20 to 25 per cent of funds spent on public procurement were lost due to corruption in countries around the world, said U Aung Kyi. He added that losses caused by corruption in Myanmar may exceed this average percentage.

Preventing losses of public funds triggered by violations of rules and regulations will soon become a duty of the Anti-Corruption Commission, said U Aung Kyi.

In the first week of July 2018, the Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi warned that those who pay bribes will also be punished, not just those who take them. His warning, at a seminar on business ethics hosted by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce, follows amendments made to the 2013 Anti-Corruption Law.

"We have amended Article 3 (a), defining in greater detail the giving and receiving of bribes. The original article didn't specify the giver and recipient. Now the amended provision allows us to take action against anyone involved," U Aung Kyi said.

The law had already been amended on three prior occasions — in 2014, 2016 and 2017 — but the changes were not significant. "There is a Burmese saying that you succeed by giving. Myanmar people by nature are willing to give out of generosity. But according to the [new] law, I would say that it is too risky now," said U Aung Kyi.

In this connection, the author of this article would like to share about the ICAC of Hong Kong in a few paragraphs. Hong Kong has a long and successful history of fighting corruption, evident in the recent high-profile convictions of the former Chief Secretary for Administration of the Hong Kong Government Rafael Hui Si-yan and former Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen.

Hong Kong's bribery laws date back to as early as 1898, when bribery was first made an offence under the Misdemeanors Punishment Ordinance (MPO) enacted in 1898, and then in the Prevention of Corruption Ordinance (PCO), which replaced the MPO in 1948. From 1971 till today, the main anti-corruption legislation in Hong Kong has been the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance, Chapter 201 (POBO), which targets both official and commercial bribery.

The POBO is enforced by the Independent Commission against Corruption, an independent body established in 1974, just a few years after the POBO came into force. The ICAC is accountable only to Hong Kong's Chief Executive, led by a Commissioner who is directly appointed by the Chief Executive, and as of the end of 2016, it has a force of 1,457 employees or officers.

It has been and remains an integral part of Hong Kong's fight against corruption and is one of the main reasons that Hong Kong enjoys a reputation as one of the least corrupt places globally (currently ranked 15 out of 176 countries on Transparency International's 2016 Corruption Perceptions Index).

## Major ICAC cases

1974-75: Former police chief



(ICAC Building in Hong Kong)



(ICAC Building in Hong Kong)

superintendent Peter Fizroy Godber was charged with bribery and conspiracy after investigators linked to bank accounts worth

HK\$4.3 million. Extradited from England in 1975, he was convicted and sentenced to four years jail.

1976-78: ICAC shut down a

heroin racket at the Ya Mau Tei fruit market in West Kowloon where police had received kickbacks from drug dealers. Some 87 police officers were arrested on suspicion of taking bribes in the ICAC's single biggest operation.

1976-79: Former detective sergeant Lui Lok, forced to retire early in 1968 when he could not explain his extensive assets, was later investigated and arrested in 1978. He was eventually convicted, sentenced to two years and fined HK\$16 million. 1983-2000: Structural defects at 26 public housing blocks in Kwai Fong built between 1964 and 1973 were traced to construction companies who cut corners after winning multi-million dollar government contracts. Three contractors were convicted.

1986-87: The ICAC uncovered fraudulent loan practices at the Overseas Trust Bank which clocked HK\$700 million in bad debts. The bank's chairman and other senior executives fled Hong Kong but were extradited. All received prison sentences. 1998-2000: The chief property manager of the Government Property Agency was arrested for accepting kickbacks that favored one company, in exchange for contracts worth more than HK\$100 million. He was imprisoned for 30 months.

## Recent cases

31 July 2018

A director-cum-shareholder of a trading company, charged by the ICAC, was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment at the District Court after being convicted of defrauding a bank of export invoice financing loans totaling about HK\$13 million by using false commercial invoices.

## 27 July 2018

A man, charged by the ICAC, was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment at the Eastern Magistrate's Court after admitting that he had offered a bribe of 400 Renminbi Chinese Yuan to an officer of the Immigration Department for allowing him to enter Hong Kong.

There are many more.

In conclusion, the author of this article would like to share with the esteemed readers that after forty years since its creation, the ICAC has methodically and systematically cleaned up corruption in Hong Kong. The graft-busting agency, 40 years old today, has helped transform the city beyond all recognition.



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## Flood Warning

(Issued at 15:00 hrs MST on 10-8-2018)

According to the (14:30) hrs MST observations today, the water level of Ngawun River at Thabaung is observed as about (1) inch below its danger levels. The water level may reach its danger levels during the next (1) day.

It is especially advised that people who have settled near the river banks and low lying areas at Thaboung Township, to take precautionary measures.

## Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 15:00 hrs MST on 10-8-2018)

## Flood condition of Sittoung River

According to the (14:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (1) foot at Madauk above its danger level. It may fall about (½) foot during the next (2) days and may remain above its danger level.

## Flood condition of Thanlwin River

According to the (13:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River has exceeded by about (3) feet at Hpa-an above its danger level. It may rise about (1) foot during the next (2) days and may remain above its danger level.

## Advisory

It is especially advised that people who have settled near the river banks and lowlying areas in Hpa-an township and Madauk, to take precautionary measures.

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2018)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal. **FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2018:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw and Chin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavy falls in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions, Kayin and Mon states and isolated heavy falls in Yangon Region and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (100%). **STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35)mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (8-10)feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (5 -7)feet in off and along Rakhine Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Strong monsoon. **FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2018:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2018:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2018:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region, widespread in Yangon Region.



## Myanmar Investment Commission meeting held in Yangon

THE Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) meeting (12 / 2018) was convened in Yangon on 10 August, 2018 and reviewed investment proposals consistent with the Myanmar Investment Law.

U Thaung Tun, Chairman of MIC and 12 members of MIC attended the meeting.

The submission of proposals

and endorsement applications from investors and post-permit activities of MIC-permitted companies were discussed in the meeting.

The MIC meeting (12 / 2018) decided to issue 5 investment permits and 3 endorsements in relation to the investment proposals. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission focuses on activities of MIC-permitted companies during yesterday's meeting. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Anti-Corruption Commission Chairperson U Aung Kyi receives New Zealand Ambassador



Anti-Corruption Commission Chair U Aung Kyi holds talks with New Zealand Ambassador Mr. Steve Marshall. **PHOTO: MNA**

CHAIRPERSON of the Anti-Corruption Commission U Aung Kyi received New Zealand Ambassador Mr. Steve Marshall and party at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed about Corruption

Prevention Units (CPU) to be formed in governmental departments, cooperation in drawing rules and regulations for public and private business sectors, and for public and non-governmental organizations to participate in anti-corruption work.— Myanmar News Agency

## National Day ceremony of Singapore held in Yangon

The 53<sup>rd</sup> National Day of the Republic of Singapore was celebrated at Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon yesterday evening. Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and wife attended the ceremony.

The ceremony was opened with the Myanmar and Singapore national anthems.

Later, Union Minister U Kyaw Tin and Singapore

Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Chan Yuen Ying Vanessa Elisabeth delivered speeches.

Next, the union minister and wife and the ambassador took commemorative photographs, together with other officials.

Later, a dinner party was held for the officials attending the ceremony.

The ceremony was also attended by Union Minister for

Construction U Han Zaw and wife, Lt-Gen Myo Zaw Thein of Commander-in-Chief's (Army) office and wife; Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Thet Pone and wife and other army officials and wives; ambassadors and diplomats from foreign embassies in Myanmar; and representatives from the United Nations and other invited persons. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Officials pose for a documentary photo at the 53<sup>rd</sup> National Day of Singapore. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Governor of CBM meets Chair of Pyithu Hluttaw's Banks and Monetary Affairs Development Committee

U KYAW KYAW MAUNG, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, met Daw Khin San Hlaing, Chairperson of Banks and Monetary Affairs Development Committee of Pyithu Hluttaw, and Hluttaw representatives at Zabu

Thiri Hall, Nay Pyi Taw on 9 August.

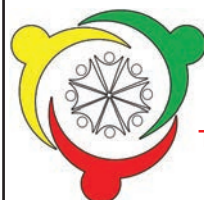
The Governor of CBM discussed situation of foreign currency market in Myanmar, CBM's activities to develop foreign exchange, plans conducted by CBM to

stabilize the foreign exchange rates and coordinations work with other ministries concerned.

Also present at the meeting were deputy governors and directors general of CBM. — Myanmar News Agency ■



**Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons**



**Myanmar Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day**

13<sup>th</sup> September

**The entire public needs to participate,  
Trafficking in persons to eliminate...**

### 2018 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day's Objectives

- ❖ To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combating human trafficking as a national duty;
- ❖ To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- ❖ To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
- ❖ To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders – government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.



## Nestlé continues its campaigns to fight against iron deficiency in Myanmar

NESTLÉ, the world's leading food and drink company, continues its awareness raising campaigns in some big cities in Myanmar, donating one-million cups of its Bear Brand malted milk.

Organised by Nestlé Myanmar, the campaigns have initially been conducted in Patheingyi, Mandalay and Magway towns in July and August, with several programmes, consisting of free medical examination and other

edutainment programmes. The campaign was conducted in Patheingyi Town last month, with organisers planning to carry out the campaign in the remaining towns this month. The move aims to raise knowledge on food nutrition value and eating practices among the general public through these social campaigns.

This is a part of efforts of Nestlé Myanmar, which launched Bear Brand Malted Milk in late 2017, designed for Myanmar to help people fight against iron deficiency.

Iron deficiency is the most prevalent nutritional disorder all over the world, particularly in developing countries. Iron requirements are especially high in infants, young children and pregnant women.—GNLM ■



A health officer takes medical record from a customer of the Nestlé. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

## Pan Pacific Yangon's wedding showcase on 11-12 August

PAN Pacific Yangon operated by Pan Pacific Hotels Group in Myanmar will launch a 'Wedding Showcase' on 11 and 12 August at its Pacific Ballroom, planning to feature dresses created by five well-known Myanmar designers.

This is the first of its kind organized by Pan Pacific Yangon, performing beautiful wedding dresses of the five designers—Ma Myint Zu, Ma Latt, Mogok Pauk Pauk, Pyae

Soe Aung and Kaung Myat, under the theme of "A Moment of Love", with a lucky draw programme. Interested individuals may also watch the event through TV channels.

The two-day event provides guests with opportunities to engage with the hotel's events and wedding planning experts, view venue setting, explore ideas for their special day with wedding consultants, get inspiration for floral arrangement, video and

photography, cosmetics and accessories, invitation cards and other wedding essentials.

In addition, couples who confirm their wedding banquets from 1 August this year will enjoy 20 % savings and stand a chance to win prizes including a one-night stay at the hotel's most luxurious Presidential Suite. The 20 % offer on wedding banquets is available throughout this month.—GNLM ■



Models and officials pose for a photo at a press conference of A Moment of Love Wedding Showcase 2018. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

MYANMAR GAZETTE

## Head of organization confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Rector Professor Dr Khay Mar Mya of University of Public Health, Yangon, Department of Human Resources for Health, under the Ministry of Health and Sports, on the expiry of the one-year probationary period.—Myanmar News Agency

## Incomplete facts hinder online company registration

By May Thet Hnin

DIRECTORATE of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) is currently unable to approve registration and re-registration of companies through online system as most of the companies have incomplete data, said its director U Myo Min.

The DICA is now implementing MyCO, an online registration system, according to the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, he added.

U Myo Min said; "Most of the companies cannot fill in the forms correctly. They don't understand meanings exactly and read guidelines issued for the registration process. Therefore, the DICA receives incomplete registration data." Under the new online registration system, the DICA will approve the online registration only when companies can fill required facts correctly. Although the DICA is conducting educative program through its website and TV channel, the majority of applicants still fail to follow the guidelines.

U Myo Min continued to say that there occurred a system error on 1 August this year, when the online registration system was launched, as many people used it simultaneously. Therefore, the DICA approved only three companies on the first day. The DICA's website became active again on 6 August. Until 10 August, the number of local and foreign companies which have made online registration has reached 591. However, nearly 1,000 companies are under scrutiny. The DICA phoned some companies which did not get approval.

Dr Soe Tun, managing director of Farmer Auto Car Showroom, said; "I submitted my application through online yesterday but I don't know whether my application is approved or not as I have not received confirmation letter yet. I find it difficult, as I don't get any feedback. No email replies and the phone line was busy when I called the DICA."

At all DICA's offices, there are service providers offering online registration services for companies with a set certain service fees. A few companies joined the DICA's services while many other companies requested the DICA to explain the process of online registration.

According to the new law, entrepreneurs can enjoy reliefs and a business can be set up even with one share and a director. The new law ditches the renewal of licenses, blacklisting, court cases and objectives of establishment of a company. Small companies no longer need to submit their financial statements. In addition, the new law allows a 35-per-cent stake by foreign investors. Foreign-based companies can also run insurance and stock exchange businesses in the country.

Under the new system, 24/7 services are available for all companies to make registration, re-registration and payment through [www.myco.dica.gov.mm](http://www.myco.dica.gov.mm).

Developed by local and foreign experts, the new Myanmar Companies Law was enacted in 2017. The new law replaced the old Myanmar Companies Act 1914. The emergence of the new law took four years. ■



# Aftershocks rock Indonesia's Lombok as quake death toll tops 300

MATARAM—The death toll from a devastating earthquake on the Indonesian island of Lombok jumped to 319 Thursday, as strong aftershocks triggered panic among traumatised survivors waiting for aid in the worst-hit regions.

The shallow 6.9-magnitude quake Sunday levelled tens of thousands of homes, mosques and businesses across Lombok, with relief agencies only just starting to reach survivors in some of the worst-hit areas four days later.

"Our latest update is that 319 people died," said Indonesia's chief security minister Wiranto, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, adding that rescue efforts were ongoing and complicated by aftershocks.

The number forced from their homes in the disaster has soared to 270,000, national disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said, with around 1,000 people severely injured.

Most of the displaced are sleeping under tents or tarpaulins near their ruined homes or in evacuation shelters that are short of food, clean water and medical help.

Makeshift medical facilities have been set up to treat the injured.

Survivors of the quake have also been shaken by hundreds of aftershocks, including a shallow 5.9-magnitude quake Thursday which caused people to flee evacuation shelters crying and screaming.

Motorcycles parked on the street in northern Lombok's Tanjung district toppled over and the walls of some nearby buildings collapsed.

"We were stuck in the traffic while delivering aid, suddenly it felt like our car was hit from behind, it was so strong," witness Sri Laksmi told AFP.

"People in the street began to panic and got out of their cars, they ran in different directions in the middle of the traffic."

Twenty-four people were injured by falling debris in the tremor; Nugroho said.

## 'Exceptionally destructive'

Authorities and international relief groups have begun organising aid, but badly damaged roads have slowed efforts to reach survivors in the mountainous north of Lombok, which

bore the brunt of the quake.

Aid had begun trickling into some of the most isolated regions by midday Thursday, officials said, but many displaced people still lack basic supplies.

In some parts of northern Lombok, survivors can be seen standing on the road with cardboard boxes asking for donations and food.

"It is already clear that Sunday's earthquake was exceptionally destructive," Christopher Rassi, the head of a Red Cross assessment team on Lombok, said in a statement.

"I visited villages yesterday that were completely collapsed."

Workers with heavy machinery are searching the rubble of homes, schools and mosques, with hope of finding any survivors fading.

There are fears that two collapsed mosques in north Lombok had been filled with worshippers.

Rescuers have found three bodies and also managed to pull one man alive from the twisted wreckage of one mosque in Lading Lading village, while at least one body has been spotted under the rubble in Pemenang. Authorities are gathering information from family members with missing relatives to determine how many more people may have been in the buildings when they collapsed, national search

and rescue agency spokesman Yusuf Latif told AFP.

## Waiting for aid

Across much of the island, a popular tourist destination, once-bustling villages have been turned into virtual ghost towns.

Evacuees in some encampments say they are running out of food, while others are suffering psychological trauma after the powerful quake, which struck just one week after another tremor surged through the island and killed 17.

There is a dire need for medical staff and "long-term aid", especially food and medicine in the worst-hit areas, government officials said.

About 200 cars packed with food, medicine and basic supplies were sent to heavily impacted regions in the north and west Thursday morning, Agung Pramujaya, a spokesman for Mataram mitigation disaster agency, told AFP.

But some evacuees have complained of being ignored or experiencing long delays for supplies to arrive at shelters. At a shelter in hard-hit Kayangan, new mother Rusnah, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, said she needed basic supplies for her children.

"I'm still in pain from giving birth," she told AFP. "I need diapers, I need milk." —AFP ■



The ruble tumbled as investors took fright at the impact of new US sanctions. PHOTO: AFP

# Russia vows to retaliate against new US sanctions

MOSCOW—The Kremlin on Thursday vowed to retaliate against "unacceptable" new US sanctions against Russia over its alleged role in a nerve agent attack on a former spy in Britain, which prompted the ruble and Russian stocks to tumble.

The action by the US State Department is the latest salvo in a series of disputes between the rival powers and comes less than a month after US President Donald Trump met his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Helsinki.

The State Department said Wednesday the new sanctions were in response to "the use of a 'Novichok' nerve agent in an attempt to assassinate UK citizen Sergei Skripal" -- who was a Russian double agent -- and his daughter Yulia on English soil in March.

They were aimed at punishing Putin's government for having "used chemical or biological weapons in violation of international law," spokeswoman Heather Nauert said in a statement.

But the punitive measures triggered a furi-

ous reaction from Moscow.

Russia will "work on developing retaliatory measures," foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told journalists.

"Whatever the sanctions against Russia are, the retaliatory measures will be the same," she said.

"If they dream up some (measures), we will answer -- it's not our choice."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov was equally emphatic.

"We consider categorically unacceptable the linking of new restrictions, which we as before consider illegal, to the case in Salisbury," he told journalists.

He said Moscow felt it could now "expect anything at all from Washington" but nevertheless retained "hopes of building constructive relations."

The announcement of sanctions caused Russian stock markets to drop dramatically on opening and the ruble reached its lowest point since November 2016. The markets and the currency rebounded slightly over the day while remaining sharply down.—AFP ■



Indonesia earthquake. PHOTO: AFP

## Transferring Distributors Registered Pesticide

Distribution of pesticide Forum, registered by BASF Myanmar Co., Ltd is transferring from Myanmar Awba Group Co., Ltd to Aka Yar Zar Co., Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within 7 days.

BASF Myanmar Ltd.,  
Ph: 01-544041

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SAN PEDRO VOY. NO. (045N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SAN PEDRO VOY. NO. (045N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-8-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S GOLD STAR LINES LTD  
Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (011N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (011N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-8-2018 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 INTERASIA LINES  
Phone No: 2301185





Glaciers are a vital source of freshwater. PHOTO: XINHUA

# “Aggressive” climate change eroding Andean glaciers, says expert

LIMA — Stepped up global warming is eroding glaciers in South America’s Andean mountain range, Peruvian expert Erick Soriano warned on Thursday.

According to the president of a special commission at the National Glacier and Mountainous Ecosystems Research Institute (Inaigem), “the loss of glacial mass has accelerated.”

“We are experiencing a period of very aggressive climate change and the possibility that we will continue to lose glacial mass is imminent,” Soriano told Xinhua.

Soriano spoke of the phenomenon at the start of a two-day regional conference in Lima on public policy to address the problem.

Peru has lost about 50 per cent of its glaciers in the past 40 years and “if the trend continues, the situation would be serious,” said Soriano.

The glaciers are a vital source of freshwater, he noted, calling for the construction of large reservoirs to capture the runoff and for reforestation to attract more rainwater.

“Water is an essential element for the country’s

development, we have to learn to conserve it, treat it and use it rationally,” he said.

Southern Peru has already lost three medium-size glaciers, leading to shortages of water in surrounding communities and more migration to the cities.

Peru’s glaciers are especially vulnerable to rising temperatures because the Peruvian Andes are close to the tropics, he said.

Experts from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia and Ecuador attended the event.

—Xinhua ■

## Mexico to construct seaweed barrier at Mayan Riviera to protect its beaches



Children are seen next to Sargassum (macroalgae) in Puerto Morelos, Quintana Roo state, Mexico, on 8 August 2018. The Mayan Riviera is suffering a seaweed onslaught this year, which the government is trying to stop with a barrier in the sea. The Sargassum color the water brown and give off a fetid smell. PHOTO: AFP

The Ladda Co., ltd manufacturer incorporated in Thailand has been registered and approved the following pesticide product by the Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar. It is hereby informed that the product manufacturing company is changed to ICP Ladda Co.,ltd whereby suppling, importing, distribution and sale will be continued.

Item Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
Temeguard 1% SG	Temephos 1% w/w SG	Provisional	2015-2790

Regarding to the above manufacturer name changing, those who wish objection, shall have to be raised within 2 weeks from the date of announcement to the Joint Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein. Distributor – Eternal Victory General Trading Co., Ltd (Room No.803, No.310, Winshwewar Building, Warden St, Lanmadaw Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar)

### CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V WAIMEA VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V WAIMEA VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-8-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 WILHELMSSEN SHIP  
SERVICE (S) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

### CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V PACITA VOY. NO. (026 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V PACITA VOY. NO. (026 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-8-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.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 LINES

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V AS FENJA VOY. NO. (048 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V AS FENJA VOY. NO. (048 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-8-2018 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185



## Death of Margot Kidder, Lois Lane of 'Superman' fame, ruled suicide

LOS ANGELES — The death of Margot Kidder, the actress who soared to fame in the '70s playing Lois Lane in the "Superman" movies, has been ruled a suicide, a Montana coroner's office said.

When she died in May at age 69 neither her agent nor the funeral home who handled her arrangements specified a cause, but Montana's Park County coroner's office has announced she killed herself.

"Ms. Kidder's family urges those suffering from mental illnesses, addiction and/or suicidal thoughts to seek appropriate counseling and treatment," the statement said. Her death came one month before designer Kate Spade and chef Anthony Bourdain took their own lives, casting a spotlight on the jarring global spike in suicides and the importance of confronting the issue.



Diagnosed with bipolar disorder, Margot Kidder became an activist for mental health issues as well as a champion of left-wing causes **PHOTO: AFP**

Kidder starred in the Superman trilogy released between 1978-1983 as hotshot reporter Lane, who was also the love interest

of Clark Kent — played by Christopher Reeve, who died in 2004. She also made a cameo appearance in the 1987 film about the DC Comics superhero titled "Superman IV: The Quest for Peace."

Born Margaret Ruth Kidder on October 17, 1948 in Canada's Northwest Territories, her career crested in the '70s and '80s, as she worked with film stars including Robert Redford and Richard Pryor.

She continued to act in her later years but her popularity waned after she suffered a highly publicized mental breakdown in 1996. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder, the actress became an activist for mental health issues as well as a champion of left-wing causes. She became a US citizen in 2005. —AFP ■

## Multitasking helps me as performer

MUMBAI — From promoting her upcoming film "Stree" to doing prep work for Saina Nehwal biopic, Shraddha Kapoor is multitasking at the moment and the actor says while it takes a toll on her, it also helps her as a performer.

It has been a busy year for Shraddha with "Stree" and "Batti Gul Meter Chalu" releasing back-to-back, the shooting of "Saaho", and prep work for Saina Nehwal biopic. "Sometimes working on films simultaneously can get difficult. It takes a toll on you. But it also helps switching between characters. I feel taking a break from one character to another helps me. "But at the same time, you do not want to over-exhaust yourself thinking about one character. One day you are this person, the other day you are another, it is the perk of being an actor that we can be someone else," Shraddha told PTI.

At the beginning of her career, Shraddha was seen as a girl-next-door, but today she feels blessed to be getting diverse roles. "With "Haseena Parkar", I had the opportunity to try something different. Also, all my characters be it in 'Stree', 'Batti Gul Meter Chalu' and Saina Nehwal biopic are very different from each other. I am glad that makers are looking at me in a different way."

While she is proud of doing

"Haseena Parker", its box office failure disappointed her.

"I think a lot of people watched on TV, which is ironical because why did not you go to theatres? I don't hold both success and failure close to me. That is bound to happen. The only thing I can control is on working hard and giving my best."

The "Ok Jaanu" star has now shifted focus on the Saina Nehwal biopic, for which she starts shooting from next month. The film will be directed by Amole Gupte.

"It is a physically demanding film. But it is an inspiring story as so many people look up to her. I feel grateful to be playing that part. I will begin shooting for it next month and the prep is on."

"I am having a great time playing badminton. It is fabulous to be part of such a great story," Shraddha says. Asked if she has mastered the game by now, she said, "I don't know that. I am trying to. It is the second most difficult sport in the world. It is not easy."

The 31-year-old is equally happy to be a part of Prabhas's next film "Saaho", that is being shot simultaneously in Tamil, Telugu and Hindi. She will be doing her own stunts. "It is difficult but I want to do as much as I can do it on my own. If there is a stunt for which I am not qualified enough, I will be happy to use a body double for it. "So one has



Indian actress Shraddha Kapoor. **PHOTO: PTI**

to be responsible. Sometimes I tend to get over excited and over involved but the professionals know what you have to do and what not, I follow what I am told." She says an action film is quite difficult to do and comes with its own set of challenges.

"Certain level of fitness always helps. I am pushing myself maximum for 'Saaho', Saina Nehwal biopic and whatever is the demand of the role."

Currently, Shraddha, is busy promoting "Stree", a horror comedy with Rajkumar Rao. The film directed by Amar Kaushik is produced by Raj Nidimoru and Krishna D.K. and Dinesh Vijan under the banner of Maddock Films and will release on 31 August.—PTI ■

## French traveler completes journey to Moscow on Russian-made Ural motorcycle

MOSCOW — Philippe Verger, a traveler from the French city of Tours, has completed his 3,500-kilometer journey to Moscow on a Russian-made Ural motorcycle and arrived to the Russian capital on Thursday evening, as scheduled.

"It was a wonderful journey. And we are happy to reach our main goal," Verger told TASS in an interview. "We are excited, because this is our first-ever visit to Russia, and we want to see as many things as possible."

During his voyage, Verger was accompanied by his 14-year-old son. They visited Germany's Berlin, Poland's Poznan and Warsaw, Lithuania's Kaunas and Velikiye Luki (Russia's Pskov region), and other cities.

"We travelled at the speed of about 80-85 kilometers per hour on our reliable Ural motorcycle," he said. "We experienced no technical problems throughout the entire journey."

Verger said that upon his arrival to Moscow, he made a phone call to his wife in Tours and they agreed to make their next journey to Russia together.

During their three-day stay in Moscow, the travelers want to visit the Red Square and the World War II museum and memorial at Poklonnaya Gora

(Bow Hill).

According to earlier media reports, the French traveler has been interested in Russia for many years.

He was elected vice president of the French national club of French owners of Russian-made motorbikes, Ural-France, which sees its mission in organizing trips, meetings and exhibitions to promote technical and economic exchanges between the countries.

Currently, Verger rides a motorcycle that he bought last year for 16,000 euros. He carries just three bags and a rain shelter.

Verger's trip was funded by a number of French sponsors, and a film will be made about his journey. According to the traveler, he plans to transfer the sponsors' funds to the French association Magie à l'hôpital, which provides assistance to gravely ill children.

Verger has also said his tour was linked to the history of World War II. "It is important to keep the memory of the nations' fight against Nazism and pass it over to next generations," he noted on 2 August. "Russia made a decisive contribution to the defeat of Nazism and France pays tribute to its outstanding role in the common struggle." —Tass ■



During his voyage, Verger and his 14-year-old son will go to Poland's Poznan and Warsaw, Lithuania's Kaunas and Velikiye Luki in Russia's Pskov region. **PHOTO: TASS**



# Scientists win new funding for pioneering work to map every cell in human body

LONDON—Pioneering scientific research to create the world's first map of all the cells in the human body will be able to go ahead following a 7-million pound (about 9 million US dollars) grant, it was announced on Thursday.

Wellcome, a charitable scientific foundation, announced the grant for the Human Cell Atlas project, which aims to transform biological research and medicine by allowing scientists to define the exact characteristics of every single cell type, creating a map of human bodies.

The cutting-edge international research has been compared to the Human Genome Project in its scale and ambition.

The Wellcome grant is the first major financial commitment to fund the British contribution to the research which will power the collection, sequencing and analysis of cells. The entire project

currently covers 27 scientists in 10 different countries.

The project will build on a long history of research in genomics and biomedical issues by British scientists, aided by strong links between research groups, tissue biobanks and hospitals.

Researchers hope that insights gained from the atlas could give a better understanding of how diseases such as asthma and cancer develop and progress, or point to new diagnostic tools and treatments.

"The human body is made up of 37 trillion cells and the atlas seeks to create a three-dimensional map of those cells — where they are, what kind of cells they are, what are their features, how do they relate to each other, where do they sit," Dr. Katrina Gold, of Wellcome, told Xinhua in an exclusive interview on Thursday afternoon.

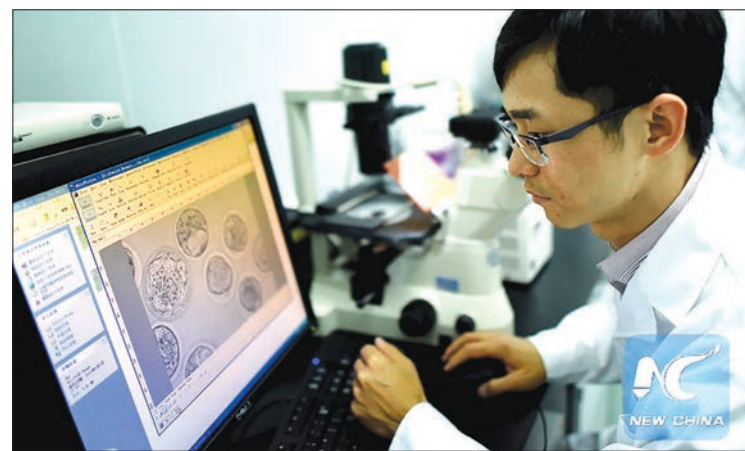
"That is the first layer of

information and then when you know what a healthy organ, for example, looks like you can zoom into the organ and understand in a detailed way what is there and how cells talk to each other and start to compare that to a situation where a tissue may be diseased and understand what is going wrong," said Gold.

"Because this is a fundamental research science project looking at the nature of cells, most of the problems are caused by cells misbehaving in some way and in order to understand these processes you have to go back to how are those cells working when normal and how they react when they are disturbed by disease," Gold also said.

The research on both donated adult and developing tissues will allow scientists to compare the properties of cells and tissues present at different stages of life.

The aim is to understand a



Researchers hope insights gained from atlas could give a better understanding of how diseases such as asthma and cancer develop and progress. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

period of human development that has previously been a dark area for researchers.

This could include new understanding about cancers, many of which hijack the same pathways that are involved in early development, or answer specific questions such as why adult tissue scars, but developing skin does not.

"The grant is to be spent over about two to three years; this is the first draft atlas and there is an estimated five years needed for that," said Gold. "There will probably be another phase, when things will be scaled up to give a more solid final draft. This is

roughly a 10-year timescale."

The new project will be led by Dr. Sarah Teichmann, head of cellular genetics at the Wellcome Sanger Institute in Cambridge. She said: "The Human Cell Atlas will transform our understanding of human health and disease, and we are excited to be able to embark on the next stage of this important project."

Five British institutions besides the Sanger Institute will collaborate on the project, including Newcastle University, King's College London, the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge and the European Bioinformatics Institute. —Xinhua ■

## Samsung unveils newest smartphone hoping for sales boost



Samsung employees wave as they introduce the new Samsung Galaxy Note 9 smartphone. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEW YORK—South Korean electronics giant Samsung unveiled the new Galaxy Note 9 smartphone Thursday, its latest effort to address flagging sales of the high-functioning gadgets.

Boosting the power and the price, Samsung hopes to win back customers in the competitive market. The consistent leader in the global smartphone market, the company nonetheless suffered a 22 per cent drop in mobile technology sales in the second quarter.

The company blamed the drop in part to disappointing

demand for the Galaxy S9, but it also has been pressured by growth in Chinese competitor Huawei.

At a glitzy the launch event in Brooklyn, Samsung unveiled a suite of high tech products, including a smart speaker and watch, and then showed off the new Galaxy Note 9, which will be available for purchase on 24 August.

The phone contains a series of improvements but was described by analysts as having no radical new innovations. The latest model boosts memory capacity, and allows customers

to play video games such as the popular Fortnite.

Customers will have the option of 128 or 512 gigabytes of memory, and also can insert a micro card to boost capacity beyond a terabyte, a record for a smartphone.

Samsung also enhanced the gadget's batteries so it can now be used for an entire day without needing to be recharged — a common headache for cell phone users.

Other improvements include tweaks to the device's "S Pen" feature, which can be used as a remote control for taking pictures or selfies using Bluetooth technology.

And the new model has enough capacity for video games. Samsung has set up a promotion with the popular Fortnite game that lets users download a special mobile version.

According to some trade media sources, the Galaxy Note 9 version with 512 gigabytes will be the most expensive smartphone geared towards the general public. —AFP ■

## Britain in race to launch 2,000 satellites into space by 2030

LONDON — British Business secretary Greg Clark said Thursday Britain was poised to compete for the launch of an estimated 2,000 satellites by 2030.

Clark expanded on the commercial opportunities to be gained by Britain's increasing role in the space sector during his first visit to the site of a future UK spaceport in the Sutherland region of Scotland.

The UK Space Agency said Thursday the commercial vertical and horizontal satellite launch demand is worth a potential 5 billion US dollars to the British economy over the next decade.

Clark said that because of Britain's location, planned regulatory framework, private sector strategy and space ecosystem, it has a competitive advantage to compete for a substantial share

of a market for launching an estimated 2,000 small satellites by 2030.

During the visit, Clark viewed plans for the spaceport site and held discussions with local people and businesses to hear their thoughts. Low cost access to space is important for the UK's thriving space sector which builds more small satellites than any other country, with Glasgow building more than any other city in Europe, he said.

The 23 million US dollars Sutherland spaceport is being developed by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE).

Roy Kirk, project director for the Sutherland Spaceport development said: "The international space sector is set to grow very significantly in the coming years." —Xinhua ■



Britain was poised to compete for the launch of an estimated 2,000 satellites by 2030. **PHOTO: XINHUA**



## Final, third place matches of AFF U-16 Championship to play today

THE final and third place matches of ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) U-16 Championship will be played this evening at the same Gelora Delta Stadium, Sidoarjo in Indonesia.

The third place match between Myanmar and Malaysia will be played first at 3:30pm local time (3pm Myanmar time) after which the final match be-

tween Thailand and Indonesia will be played at 7pm local time (6:30pm Myanmar time).

With the scores 1-0 each at the semi-final matches, Thailand and Indonesia have advanced to the final place after beating Myanmar and Malaysia, respectively.

Top goalscorer so far is Amiruddin Bagus Kahfi Al-Fikri from Indonesia, garnering 12

goals, followed by Viet Nam's Dinh Thanh Trung with eight goals and Singapore's Zikos Vasileios Chua Ming Xun with four goals.

The best goalscorer of last year's AFF U-16 Championship was Sieng Chanthea from Cambodia, with five goals, and the top goalscorer in 2016 was John Roberts, with eight goals, from Australia.

**AFF U-16 CHAMPIONSHIP 2018**

**THIRD PLACING**

MALAYSIA VS MYANMAR

11 AUG 2018 DELTA SIDOARJO STADIUM 3:00 PM (MMT)

**FINAL**

INDONESIA VS THAILAND

11 AUG 2018 DELTA SIDOARJO STADIUM 6:30 PM (MMT)

**PHOTO: MFF**

The AFF U-16 Champion of last year was Viet Nam while the winner of 2016 was Australia.—K. Banana ■

## How Premier League's top five stand after transfer window



Last season's runaway champions Man City added former Premier League winner Riyad Mahrez to their already-impressive squad. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON—With the Premier League's transfer window closing on Thursday, the top title contenders have completed their squad building until January.

Here AFP Sport looks at how the division's elite teams fared in the transfer market and what their prospects are for the coming season:

### Manchester City

After sweeping to the title with a record 100 points and more wins and goals than any

previous team in the Premier League era, it was tough for Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola to improve his stylish side. Guardiola opted for only one significant new recruit, landing Algeria winger Riyad Mahrez from Leicester in a £60 million swoop. Mahrez bolsters City's already impressive array of attacking talent and, while Guardiola missed out on Italy midfielder Jorginho, who instead joined Chelsea, the champions' combination of youthful swag-

ger and world-class talent still makes them favourites to reign supreme again at the end of the season.

### Manchester United

Jose Mourinho made an early splash as he spent £52 million on Shakhtar Donetsk's Brazil midfielder Fred and a further £19 million on Porto defender Diogo Dalot, but the Manchester United manager was still underwhelmed by his club's business. Mourinho spent much of United's pre-season tour of the

United States grumbling about the lack of depth in his squad and reportedly feuding with executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward over failed approaches for defenders Harry Maguire, Yerry Mina and Toby Alderweireld. After finishing second last season -- 19 points behind City -- United look no closer to bridging the gap to their hated rivals.

### Tottenham

Mauricio Pochettino had challenged his club to be "brave and take risks" when asked what Tottenham needed to do to improve their squad following their third-place finish last season. Fast forward three months and the north Londoners are under-fire from their fans after failing to make a single signing. Pochettino is adamant Tottenham's lack of transfer activity isn't a problem because it was just as important to hold onto the club's key players. Harry Kane,

barked on a £160-million spending spree. Klopp landed Roma goalkeeper Alisson Becker for £66 million and paid £52 million for RB Leipzig midfielder Naby Keita. Not content with those eye-catching deals, Klopp added midfielder Fabinho from Monaco for £39 million and landed Stoke playmaker Xherdan Shaqiri in an £18-million move. Having knocked City out of the Champions League last season, while also beating them in domestic action, Liverpool are expected to mount a strong challenge for the title as they look to end their 29-year wait to be crowned kings of English football.

### Chelsea

Hired to replace the sacked Antonio Conte, Blues manager Maurizio Sarri insists he is happy to leave the wheeling and dealing to Chelsea's hierarchy—a stark contrast to his predecessor's constant complaints about transfers. Jorginho was Chelsea's first close-season signing as the Italy midfielder followed Sarri from Napoli in a £57-million deal. Belgian goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois was allowed to join Real Madrid to be closer to his children, with Croatia midfielder Mateo Kovacic moving to Chelsea on a season-long loan as part of the deal. The £31-million fee for Courtois was immediately reinvested in Spain international Kepa Arrizabalaga, who arrived from Athletic Bilbao for £72.1 million—a world record for a keeper. Crucially, Chelsea have so far staved off interest from Real and Barcelona in Eden Hazard and Willian. —AFP ■