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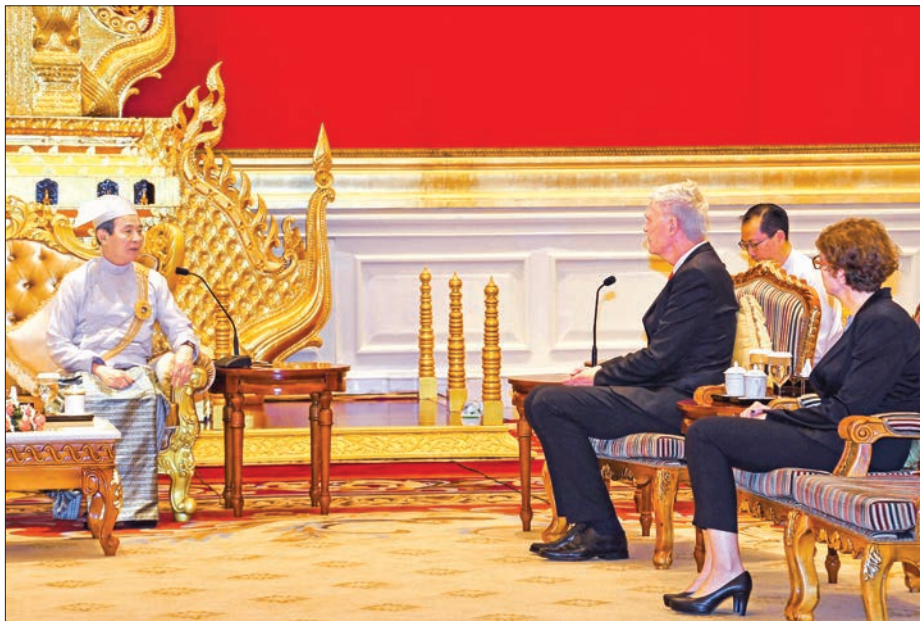
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Wednesday, 5 September 2018



President U Win Myint welcomes Mr. John Nielsen, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

President U Win Myint accepts credentials from the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark

H.E. Mr. John Nielsen, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence to U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, in Pyi

Taw at 10:00 am yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu and Director-General of the Protocol Department U Thant Sin.—MNA ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor receives Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal

Bilateral friendship, human resource development, natural disasters discussed

STATE COUNSELLOR and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, VM, ADC at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday

afternoon.

During the meeting matters relating to friendship between the two countries, human resources development, natural disasters as well as increasing bilateral cooperation were discussed. — MNA ■

Six family members return to Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre

A family of six, who went to another country returned to Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre, Maungtaw District, in Rakhine State on 4 September in the morning around 8 am, according to the Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre.

The Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre in charge and the officials have scrutinized Marmat Shawret and his

five family members.

In the afternoon, Marmat Shawret and his five family members arrived at the Hla Pho Khaung Transit Centre. The camp in-charge U Soe Aung and officials assisted them with food and other items including kitchen utensils. Then, the authorities handed over the returnees to their relatives through the

ward administrator.

The returned six family members include four males and two females. Earlier, this family had lived in Ye Aung Chaung Village, MeeTaik village track, in Maungtaw Township.

Myanmar has been ready to accept the verified returnees as from 23 January 2018.

Myanmar government is making both bilateral efforts with Bangladesh and cooperation with the UNDP and UNHCR.

Myanmar and UN had successful experience of cooperation in the area of voluntary, safe and dignified return of displaced persons in early 1990s. — MNA ■

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's ninth regular session holds 17th-day meeting

MPs discuss bills, obtaining IFAD and EDCF loans

THE 17th-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's ninth regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning, where National Planning Bill, Union Budget Bill and obtaining two loans were discussed.

Discussion on National Planning Bill and Union Budget Bill

Hluttaw representatives first discussed the basic principles, project works and budgets of the National Planning Bill and the Union Budget Bill.

In her discussion, Dr. Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon constituency suggested and urged the Union Government to review the 1989 State-owned Economic Enterprise Law to be in accord with the system and time, as well as to draw up and implement a reform program that covers the entire State-owned enterprise sector.

In his discussion, U Pe Than of Myebon constituency pointed out this year's Union budget to be more than Ks24,954 billion, while states/regions budget was a little more than Ks2,160 billion or 8.65 per cent of the Union budget. Every year, this is below 10 per cent and he noted the development gap between states/regions and the center. He pointed out the reason for this budget gap to too much centralization of



Dr. Thet Thet Khaing.



U Nay Lin Aung.



U Pe Than.



Daw Yin Min Hlaing .



Dr. Khun Win Thaung.



Dr. Aung Khin.

budget by union ministries. He discussed that even small works of constructing primary schools, clinics, roads connecting villages, digging of ponds and wells amounting to below Ks 10 million was put under the union ministry budget.

Similarly, the bills were discussed by U Ye Htut of Sagaing

Region constituency 5, U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency, U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency, U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5, U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency, U Nay Soe Aung of Wuntho constituency, Dr. Lin Lin Kyaw of Myittha constituency, Dr. Salai Riyanbel of Falam constituency and Daw

Aye Mya Mya Moe of Kyauktan constituency.

Discussion on loans

Next, Hluttaw representatives discussed about obtaining US\$8.984 million loan from International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to conduct Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock

and Irrigation projects and Ministry of Planning and Finance project works.

U Nay Lin Aung of Mindat constituency, Dr. Aung Khin of PyinOoLwin constituency, Dr. Tin Tin Win of Bago Region constituency 5, U Yan Lin of Kyaiklat constituency, U Whey Tin of Chin State constituency 11, Daw Sha Mu of Kayah State constituency 5 and Dr. Kyaw Ngwe of Magway Region constituency 10 discussed the matter.

Afterwards Dr. Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Toe Lwin, U Nay Kyaw of Dagon Myothit (East) constituency, Dr. Aung Khin of PyinOoLwin constituency, Dr. Saw Naing of South Okkalapa constituency, Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency, U Aung Min of Zalun constituency, U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency and U Thein Tan of Hlegu constituency discussed about US\$61.816 million Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) loan from EXIM Bank of Korea to conduct project works of Ministry of Construction.

The Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's ninth regular session will hold its 18th-day meeting on 6 September; it is learnt. — Myo Myint, Han Lin Naing (MNA) ■

Union Attorney General receives Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Deputy Chief Prosecutor



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo meets with Mr Luo Shaohua Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the People's Procuratorate of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo receives People's Republic of China, Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the People's Procuratorate of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Mr Luo Shaohua at

Union Attorney General office yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting cooperation in bilateral legal matters, continuing cooperation in trainings and scholarships for human resources develop-

ment, exchanging experiences on rule of law works, mutual assistance in combating cross border crimes and increasing cooperation between attorney general office and prosecutor office were discussed. —MNA

Appointment of Head of Department confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Dr San San Aye as Director-General of the Department

of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, on expiry of the one year probationary period. — MNA

Electoral presentation from Shan Nationalities Democratic Party to be published in newspapers on 6 September

ELECTORAL presentation from the Shan Nationalities Democratic Party will be broadcast on radio and TV after the 8pm news programme on 5 September and will be published in the 6 September issues of the Myanmar Alinn, Kyemon and The Global New Light of Myanmar. —MNA ■

President U Win Myint accepts credentials from the Ambassador of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

H.E. Mr. Nandimithra Ekanayake, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence to U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 10:45 am yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for International Co-operation U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu and Director-General of the Protocol Department U Thant Sin.—MNA ■



President U Win Myint accepts the credentials of Ambassador of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Ambassador Mr. Nandimithra Ekanayake at the Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal B. S. Dhanoa in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: TATMADAW NEWS**

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal B. S. Dhanoa, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, VM, ADC at the Zeya Thiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting matters relating to increasing and strengthening friendship between Myanmar-India armed forces, sharing experiences of the two air forces, cooperation in training and defending air spaces, works on maintaining peace and stability along the border of the two countries, exchanging friendly visits between the two armed

forces and increasing relations between the two countries were discussed.

Present at the meeting with the Senior General were Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Maung Maung Kyaw, Lt-Gen Soe Htut of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and senior military officers and the Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal was accompanied by senior officers from the Indian Air Force, Indian Defence Attache to Myanmar Colonel Naveen Mahajan and officials according to a news release from the Tatmadaw News.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Maung Maung Kyaw welcomes Indian Air Force Chief

Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Maung Maung Kyaw welcomed the Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal B. S. Dhanoa, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, VM, ADC with a guard of honor at the Bayint Naung Guesthouse in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Afterwards, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Maung Maung Kyaw met with the Indian Air Force Chief and party at the Bayint Naung Guesthouse. During the meeting the status of increasing relations between Myan-

mar-India air forces, sending trainees, sharing information and technology and exchanging friendly visits were discussed.

Present at the meeting together with the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Tun Aung and senior officers while the Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal was accompanied by Indian Defence Attache to Myanmar Colonel Naveen Mahajan and officials according to a news release from the Tatmadaw News.—MNA ■



Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Maung Maung Kyaw meets with Indian Air Force Air Chief Marshal B. S. Dhanoa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: TATMADAW NEWS**

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission issues statement 9/2018

MYANMAR National Human Rights Commission issued a statement yesterday on convictions of Reuters reporters Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo.

The statement 9/2018 said it is now learnt that the two of them have

been sentenced to seven years imprisonment by Yangon Northern District Court. According to the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law, the Commission has no particular comment on the sentencing of the two

journalists.

However, there have been serious criticisms and comments both domestically and internationally.

In the statement, the commission urged the Government to seriously

consider all aspects in the larger interest of the country, at the same time to provide basic human rights to the two journalists including the right to appeal and to consult their lawyers.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSZaw Min,
zawmin.gnlm@gmail.com
Win Ko Ko Aung,
kowink2aung@gmail.com**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTER**May Thet Hnin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
mayreporter.mmm@gmail.com**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax — (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
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UMFCCI signs food safety practices cooperation MoU with IFC

By Nyein Nyein

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation of food safety practices yesterday at the UMFCCI office.

They will jointly conduct courses, workshops and educative talks with a view to improving food safety practices for exporters, suppliers and processors of Myanmar's agriculture, livestock and fishery

and food manufacturing sectors to gain more international markets.

"We signed with IFC to cooperate in offering food safety training courses and conducting awareness campaigns. We will try to improve food safety procedures to meet international standards and norms", said U Ye Min Aung, vice chair of UMFCCI.

Additionally, food safety practices are needed to be widely adopted to increase export and maintain the market.

"In a bid to enhance Myanmar's export, grasp more international market shares

and maintain current market shares, our export products need to ensure food safety and quality", U Ye Min Aung continued.

Investment in food safety management system is a prerequisite for the growth of Myanmar's agribusiness, a key sector for the nation's economy, according to IFC.

"Implementation of food safety standards and practices can help food enterprises improve efficiency and cut costs, contributing to a stronger brand value and enabling Myanmar to diversify opportunities in new markets", said

Vivek Pathak, IFC Director for East Asia and the Pacific.

Currently, Myanmar has food safety risk management. More awareness campaigns are required, said U Hnin Oo, vice chair of Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

"We need to educate all stakeholders engaged in the value chain, market chain and production chain in a bid to enhance their capacity to ensure food safety practices", U Hnin Oo maintained. As Myanmar greatly needs to adopt food safety practices, UMFCCI has worked hand in hand with IFC since November 2017. ■

Supply planning workshop for procurement of medicines, medical products held

A SUPPLY planning workshop for procurement of medicines and medical products was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Health and Sports, Nay Pyi Taw, on 3 September.

In her opening speech at the workshop, Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein said implementing universal health coverage is the main goal of the National Health Strategy, and supply planning for procurement of medicines and medical products plays a major role in the ministry's efforts towards reaching this goal in cooperation with other related departments.

The deputy minister also urged experienced hospital superintendents and persons in charge of procurement and distribution from various states and regions to discuss on find-



A workshop for procurement of medicines and medical products being held in Nay Pyi Taw.

PHOTO: SUPPLIED

ing a good solution and establishing a model distribution system in cooperation with the central (department).

The workshop was attended by 180 attendees, including Ministry of Health and Sports deputy permanent secretary,

Department of Medical Services deputy directors General, officials from Ministry of Industry and Nay Pyi Taw Council, heads of states/regions Public Health Department and Medical Services Department, hospital super-

intendents, project managers, persons in charge of procurement and distribution and invited guests.

The three-day workshop is being held from 3 to 5 September, it is learnt. — GNLM ■

DICA releases disclaimer regarding MyCO registry system abuse

THE Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) recently released a disclaimer regarding a Facebook posting under the name of Synergy service, using the symbol and logo of DICA, which cannot be used by anyone besides DICA, when providing service for company registration and re-registration on Myanmar Companies Online (MyCO).

DICA has not allowed any

private organization to provide service for MyCO electronic registry system. Synergy service advertisement on Facebook can make people misunderstand as it misused DICA's logo. Therefore, DICA notified them to take caution in choosing words used in their service advertisement.

Companies can re-register electronically online through MyCo system at the offices of the DICA, without any service

charges.

Those who face hurdles in the registration process can enquire by calling 01-657891, 01-658105 and 01-658103 (extension 103,104,105).

There are over 60,000 registered companies, according to data from DICA. All companies are required to re-register electronically online through MyCo system or in person using the prescribed forms for re-registra-

tion by 31 January 2019. Those companies which fail to re-register within the set time period will inevitably be cancelled from the list.

Over 100 new companies are daily registering on MyCO electronic registry system. In August, over 1,500 new companies and 5,500 old companies have registered or re-registered through the MyCO system.— GNLM ■

Border trade exports through Muse gate increase by over \$450 million

EXPORTS through Muse border, a major trading point between Myanmar and China, in nearly five months this year, valued at US\$1.68 billion, an increase over \$450 million matched against the same period in the last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The total value of trade through the Muse border gate reached \$2.4 billion, covering \$675 million in imports. At this time

last FY, the border trade value at the Muse trade station was \$1.9 billion, with exports worth \$1.2 billion and imports \$674 million. Myanmar-China bilateral border trade is conducted chiefly through Muse, Lwejel, Kanpikete, Chinshwehaw and Kengtungland border gates. Of these, the Muse gate sees the largest volume and value in terms of border trade.

Usually, Myanmar exports agricultural, marine and forest

products, minerals and manufactured goods to China, and imports consumer goods, raw materials, construction equipment, automobiles, motorbikes and capital goods from the world's most populous country. According to the ministry, the value of trade from all borders between April and August this year exceeded \$3 billion, registering an increase of over \$500 million from this time last year.—Khine Khant ■

Border trade through Chinshwehaw gate down by over \$90 million

MYANMAR'S border trade with China through Chinshwehaw gate from 1 April to 24 August, during the six-month interim period prior to next fiscal-year 2018-2019, is worth US\$126.7 million, which is a decrease of \$90.9 million, compared to the similar period of last FY 2017-2018, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

In the past five months,

export through Chinshwehaw was worth \$106.4 million, while import was valued at \$20.3 million. Both export and import decreased compared to those of last FY. Myanmar mainly exports pulses, corns, sesame, rice, rubber, fisheries, sugar and sugarcane to China, while fertilizers, construction materials and consumer goods are imported into the country.

Myanmar's border trade with China, the world's most populous country, is registered at \$2.35 billion at Muse gate, \$76.7 million at Lwejel, \$126.7 million at Chinshwehaw, \$80 million at Kanpikete and \$80 million at Kengtung. Sino-Myanmar trade in the past nearly five months amounted to \$2.63 billion, an increase of \$384 million against last FY.—GNLM ■

Unfavorable weather causes less apple yield this season in Chin State

CHIN STATE'S apples had a poor yield this season because of unfavorable weather conditions and weaknesses in cultivation technology. Apples from Chin State usually yield high every season. But this year, there were lower supply of apples compared to the same period of last year.

Apples are grown mostly in Tiddim Township, and this year's yield produced mostly small and sour apples because of unfavorable weather conditions, such as heavy rain and high temperature, adding to poor cultivation technology.

"At present, local people do not grow Chin Hills apples, which were popular over the past years. The Chin Hills apples are no longer competitive in the market in terms of price and quality, to imported apples. Therefore, local farmers need agricultural technical assistance to produce

quality apples," said U Doh Za Nang, an apple farm owner from Bwin village in Tiddim Township.

Apples are cultivated mostly in Haka, Falam and Tiddim townships. Apples from Tiddim Township are annually supplied to India's Mizoram State at the Myanmar-India border Kalewa, Monywa, Mandalay and Yangon through Kalay, Sagaing Region, and the apples are also supplied to upper Chindwin River area.

Currently, other kinds of apples, such as Aik Wah, Ruby and Koriko, sell well in Tiddim apple market. The price of Aik Wah apple is Ks3,500 per viss (3.6lb), while the price of Ruby and Koriko apples is between Ks 2,500 and Ks 3,000 per viss. The price of other kinds of apple is around Ks 1,500 and Ks 2,000 per viss.—Nay Su (Chin Yoma) ■



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Democratic Party (Myanmar) presents its policy, stance and work program



Daw Than Than Nu, Secretary-General of Democratic Party (Myanmar).

SECRETARY-GENERAL Daw Than Than Nu of Democratic Party (Myanmar) has presented the party's policy, stance, work program and other issues from radio and television on 4 September.

Following is a translation of the presentation:

Allow me to extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes for the health and happiness of all.

First of all, I wish to clarify why our Democratic Party (Myanmar) is competing in the election. Whenever a political party is being formed, it is quite natural to take part in every election.

Taking part in an election means a resolution has already been made to serve the state and the people to the best of one's ability. At the same time, it is to apply efforts to train and equip ourselves with qualified skills in striving for the people.

Since my childhood, my parents had imparted me with valuable words of advice. They are the preaching and words of the Lord Buddha. A person must train and maintain not only to be talented, but also to be worthy in character.

In Myanmar, we have many good politicians. However, due to wrong perceptions, there are also many others who chase after power, money, drinking and gambling, and therefore, they cannot become good politicians. Only when politicians are talented and decent, they could lead and guide the people and serve the national interests of the country.

Esteemed and respected parents, brothers and sisters,

When an election is held, there is a customary and usual saying, which I always remember: "During an election campaign, never give promises to the people, but ask the people what they actually want". A party candidate should know this saying. In fact, it is not necessary to ask the people what they actually want. Just by observing the environment, one can see ugly scenes everywhere, such as damaged roads, blocked drainages, stinking garbage, ramshackle bamboo huts built across smelly drainages, tangled and dangerous overhead electric wire lines, negligent rubbish dump, side walls of buildings dirtied with red saliva of beetle quid, and stairways with red dirty patches. These ugly images could not be taken up lightly. These situations are to be addressed and fixed by each and every citizen, and politicians have more responsibilities in doing so.

Due to lack of civic subjects in the school education curriculum, obligatory disciplines that every student should follow have been unnecessarily shattered. Instead of forming many committees for the reformation of the education system, it would be wise to take up suggestions from the bottom to the top levels in creating a new system of education.

Compulsory free education for the primary level should be effectively implemented. In some villages, it is found that there are only five to six students in the fourth standard. Similar instances are seen all over the country.

The worst happening is the rising number of drug abuse and addiction cases in the country. According to information received from friends in border areas, the number of illicit drug producers is rising and they are making a huge amount of money. Those who enter the illicit drug business know that they could make lucrative illegal income, and therefore, many persons join this unlawful trade. The friends sadly recount that at least one family member in every household has become a drug addict. It may not be wrong to say that the future of Myanmar is jeopardy with the danger of drugs. In suppressing and eradicating the scourge of narcotics, politicians must initiate and lead the way.

In countries with a democratic system, citizens are nurtured and guided to abide by discipline, and at the same time, lawmakers in the parliament must make themselves well-versed with the State Constitution. The administrative sector must work in accordance with laws. The legislative and the administrative sectors must maintain checks and balances to avoid breach of discipline. Only then the nation will be stable and developed. This is the aspiration and goal of our Democratic Party (Myanmar).

At this juncture, I would like to take this opportunity to explain and submit the social activities of our party. Our party joined hands with democratic friends in helping out anguished and distressed households afflicted by a fire that broke out in Mingala Taungnyunt Township. The Democratic Party (Myanmar) also carried out humanitarian tasks, such as distribution of water during summer, when water was scarce, in Dala and Kawhmu townships. Similarly, cash donations were made at Maha Panna Beikman monastic school in Shwegyin Township. Until 2017, necessary household utensils were distributed to families in flood-stricken areas.

Esteemed and respected parents, brothers and sisters,

The leadership of the Democratic Party (Myanmar) have been asked to equip them-

selves with applicable skills and expertise in the administrative sector or any relevant sphere they are talented. This is meant to serve the country and people efficiently.

Moreover, I have closely witnessed and still remember the events during which my parents and their political colleagues served the people and the nation, sacrificed their lives in defending the nation, built the nation to be at the top economically in Southeast Asia, participated in the lead role in the adoption of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, took part in the consolidation of Asian-African countries, transforming into a force of non-aligned movement for world peace, endeavoured in uplifting of the social standard of the people, and carried out the propagation and promotion of the Buddhist Sasana in the world by holding the Sixth Buddhist Council. I would like to say that "to be fully patriotic and to work hard is the aspiration and goal of our Democratic Party (Myanmar)".

It is very much vital that politicians in the government sector and also the politicians in the opposition must be talented and decent persons. It is important that they accept the responsibility and accountability of the nation and serve to the best of their abilities. They must convince their responsibility towards the nation and should exert their efforts to fulfill the task. Those who are taking initiative in the nation must step on the chosen right path and be examples themselves so that the people would come together on the right path. The hope and goal of our Democratic Party (Myanmar) is to lead in a happy and blissful manner for attaining a decent life, according to the saying "As human beings to lead a life worthy of human beings".



Party logo.

Esteemed and respected parents, brothers and sisters,

Whenever any eminent danger is likely to befall over the nation, we will defend and fight back with the unity and strength of the people. Unfortunately, we have witnessed the collapse of nations due to disunity, in the chronicles of Myanmar as well as of the world. When we formed the Democratic Party (Myanmar), it was based on non-discriminative approach, irrespective of status, race, nationality, religion and gender equality. Our Democratic Party (Myanmar) has solemnly committed in forgetting and leaving behind the bitter past and looking ahead to the future for a genuine democratic new era of the Union of Myanmar on a developed and prosperous pathway. Moreover, our party also has committed, in accordance with the people's desire, freedom of speech and expression and act in line with democratic norms. It means to enjoy one's own democratic rights without breaching the rights of others, and move ahead towards the construction of a democratic nation.

In this modern age, no nation could stand alone in isolation, and therefore, nations in the Asian continent have come together in various groups, nations in Southeast Asia as the ASEAN, or others forming the non-aligned countries. They are all working in cooperation. That is why we are referring ourselves as "a global village instead of the world nations". Therefore, when we are talking about a modern and developed nation, let us pledge that we must never discriminate among ourselves, but work in cooperation in the building of a federal union.

Thank you very much.

Translated by UMT



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye accepts cash donation from Chinese Ambassador Mr.Hong Liang and party yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Donations for flood victims handed over to Ministry of Social welfare, Relief and Resettlement

AMBASSADOR of China to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Hong Liang and party donated US\$ 100,000 and Natmauk Network and Natmauk Township Association (Nay Pyi Taw) donated Ks720,500 for the flood victims yesterday morning at the Ministry of Social welfare,

Relief and Resettlement. Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye received the donations and then presented certificate of honors to the donors. The donations will be used effectively for the flood victims it is learnt.—MNA ■

Hotels and projects in archaeological site in Bagan deterring UNESCO nomination



Horse-drawn carriages wait for passengers in the vicinity of an ancient temple in Bagan.

PHOTO: THANT ZIN MIN

HOTELS and projects constructed and conducted in restricted archaeological sites in Bagan are deterring Bagan's nomination in UNESCO World Heritage Site, said U Thura Aung, a secretary of Myanmar Archaeology Association.

"We said we'll follow UNESCO's management plan and will stop (construction and operation of) hotels (and project) in 2018. If not, experts will consider that we lack management in maintaining cultural heritage and it would not be easy to nominate Bagan as

UNESCO World Heritage Site," he added.

According to Myanmar Archaeology Association, Bagan's nomination will be brought up for deliberation at 43rd session of the 2019 UNESCO World Heritage Site convention in Azerbaijan. "If Bagan is listed in UNESCO, we will receive technical assistance/methods in conservation of cultural heritages. International experts on conservation will help conserve the cultural heritages. We'll get more international support both technically

and financially. That is why we are striving towards nomination. If we can do these properly, we wouldn't need to go for nomination," said Daw Sandar Khin, chairman of Myanmar Archaeology Association.

UNESCO adopted World Heritage Convention in 1972 in order to protect and maintain cultural and natural heritage. Myanmar became a member of UNESCO in 1949. Ancient Puyi city was Myanmar's first entry onto the World Heritage list in 2014. — Min Thit (MNA) ■

Myanmar-Bangladesh continue coordinated patrol



Myanmar Border Police troop conduct coordinated patrol along the Myanmar-Bangladesh border. **PHOTO:MYANMAR POLICE FORCE**

A 15-member troop led by Police Captain Tun Tun Soe of Aungmye Area Police Force, No. 1 Border Guards Sub-division in Region-2, Maungmye Township, Rakhine State and a 15-member troop led by Officer Naib Subedar Md. Abul Kalam of No. 11 Border Guard Police Bangladesh of

Nikuchari Outpost conducted a coordinated patrol from 10:25am to 12 noon on 3 September.

They conducted the patrol from Mile Post No. 42 to 43 according to the Information Department of the Myanmar Police Force. —Myanmar Police Force ■

Police fire on two suspected robbers in self-defence in Twantay Canal

Police shot dead two suspected robbers in self-defence on early morning of Tuesday as the two men attacked them with machete in an incident in which the police deterred the suspects from robbing a ship in the Twantay canal. Another one suspect jumped into the canal and managed to escape, but police said

they are not sure the third man is still alive or not.

In the incident, one police officer was seriously injured on his face in the machete attack and was taken to hospital. The incident happened while the police were staking out a shop acting on a tip off that water crafts anchored in the canal are robbed

by robbers. Around at 12:30am on Tuesday, three suspects in a motorized boat approached the ship where the police and authorities were staking out, and of them, two reached the deck. Police asked them to surrender but the two suspects attacked the police with machetes. — Shwe Myint Oo (Shwe Pyi Thar)

Six family members return to TaungPyoLetwe Reception Centre



Immigration officers and six family members seen inside the TaungPyoLetwe Reception Centre in Maungmye. **PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE-1)**

Investment, technical assistance key to Myanmar's sustainable agricultural development

AGRICULTURE is the mainstay of the economy for many of us. It further contributes to regional sustainable development in terms of food security and nutrition.

One of the daunting challenges of the world is to ensure food and nutrition security for the rapidly growing population, which is estimated to reach 9.6 billion by 2050. There is no exception for BIMSTEC region which is home to 22 % of the global population.

While appreciating the excellent work done by the BIMSTEC Expert Group Meeting on Agriculture recently, President U Win Myint has informed the member countries that Myanmar, as a Lead Country of the Agriculture sector, will host the first BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture in Myanmar in 2018/2019 to address the emerging challenges and further enhancement of the cooperation.

Agriculture is an area where Myanmar has a significant comparative advantage, with abundant land and water resources. Myanmar's highest export volume comes from the agricultural sector, but we need to have more cooperation with ASEAN and BIMSTEC member countries to remove modern farming technology and capital constraints.

We hope that the coming ministerial meeting on agriculture would improve the prospects for agricultural growth of Myanmar.

The meeting is expected to produce good outcomes for promoting investment not only in the agricultural sector but also in the livestock sector among member countries.

Myanmar has placed emphasis on the development of agricultural interconnectivity since all member nations of BIMSTEC focus primarily on agriculture.

We should not forget the fact that small farmers are playing a crucial role in ensuring sufficient food and nutritional supply, abolishing poverty, and promoting inclusive and sustainable agricultural development operations.

To achieve the sustainable development goal in the agriculture sector, Myanmar is encouraging Public-private-partnership while assessing the strengths and weaknesses of rice and other crops, and making efforts for improving the agricultural technologies.

Meanwhile, we are facing some challenges in transformation from traditional farming to mechanized farming. In addition, a shortage of farm labourers is another obstacle of the agricultural sector.

There are several ways to solve that issue. Mechanized farming is one of the answers to overcome the manual labour shortage, which is a major problem in the country.

Also, modern processing machinery and technologies are beyond our farmers' means. There are many other obstacles, including lack of storage facilities.

Attracting investment is high on the government's list of priorities, but foreign direct investment in agriculture is still low.

Hence, investment and technical assistance from the ASEAN and BIMSTEC member countries are invited to the agricultural sector. Now is the perfect time to bring your investment to Myanmar.

Prioritizing the spread and development of school libraries

By Dr Aung Aung Min
(Rector- Retd)

A library is a knowledge bank

A library can be defined as a knowledge bank where collections of books about knowledge and literary fiction, CDs and newspapers are kept. Men have to learn a lot in their respective careers. Whatever work you happen to get engaged in, it will be difficult for you to succeed, unless you have experience, knowledge and ideas. You get them by reading books which are normally kept in libraries. That is the reason why libraries are greatly in need not only in schools, colleges and universities but also in villages, towns and cities.

In the 21st century, most people in developed countries get intelligence, knowledge and ideas by reading books; they are eager to read books and take much interest in the study of literature, music, art and culture. In developed countries, such as the US, Russia, England, France and Germany, millions of books concerning knowledge, literary fiction and classic literature are kept in century-old libraries for the public to read or borrow in order to develop a reading habit. Now, they are transformed into digital libraries, so that readers can easily access them through the internet. School libraries, from basic schools to universities, are established to get students associated with books and to help build a reading habit among them. Parents as well as teachers are obliged by law to send their children to schools. They are also obliged to instill a reading habit in their school children so that they take delight in that habit when they are grown up.

People from Asia's developed countries, such as China, Japan, South Korea and Singapore, have read a lot; they are seen reading books or newspapers while waiting at bus-stops, airports and railway stations. We should emulate their way of spending invaluable time.

Weakening of library culture

Among Asean countries, all have focused on the development of public libraries and those in universities, colleges and schools, except Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia. Myanmar was under military rule for about 50 years, experienc-



ing closed-door policy, which kept the people in the dark. The culture of using libraries has diminished with time. Young and old persons alike are not willing to read in libraries. It is considered that rote-learning system has made students lack interest in books of knowledge, literary fictions and classic novels, or rather, they take their exams seriously.

With the spread and development of libraries across the country, the standard of that country will improve considerably. The high standard of education, health, social economy and culture is closely related with intellectual pursuits of the general public of a country. High intelligence and good ideas are directly related to a high standard of a public library. The increase of school libraries in the country will make primary students get familiarized with books, journals and

newspapers, in addition to school books. The high intelligence of school children will help make a right decision in their lives. Students who have not developed a reading habit in their young days are reluctant to go and read books in libraries, when they continue their studies in colleges and universities. Graduates who lack literary knowledge and brilliant ideas will put our country with a heavy heart.

No chance for students to use libraries

As there are not enough libraries in schools in the country, students have no chance to study; there are only 20,000 school libraries for a total of 46,000 schools across the country. It is regrettable that most school libraries remain closed throughout the academic year. From primary to high schools, students have to run between schools and private tuitions, having burdened themselves with much homework. It is time to find a solution for schoolchildren.

Literary campaigns and the culture of mobile phones

Even though there are many libraries in wards and villages as well as private ones, the number of readers or users is decreasing day by day. When we were young, there were small book-borrowing shops in wards, and now they have disappeared due to a decline in the number of readers; sadly, they have been replaced by the culture of mobile phones. In Myanmar, 18 million out of a population of 54 million use mobile phones, extremely exceeding the number of readers in the country. From children to adults, including civil servant, street vendors, manual workers and trishaw drivers, use mobile phones for playing games and wasting their time. Literacy campaigns were launched to erad-

icate illiteracy, but it was of little avail. Social media has flourished, forcing people with negligible intelligence and weak ideas to breed hatred and harassment among themselves. Fake news and reckless disregard through Facebook will prompt unintelligent persons to create negative causes for the future of our country. People will have to solve this problem by collective efforts under the supervision of the government.

How to fulfill the need of libraries

First, the existing libraries must be revived. Since 2015, the Myanmar Library Association has carried out a project for the revival of libraries across the country, with assistance from the Asian Foundation. Now ten high schools have been chosen with a purpose of revitalizing the libraries in their schools. Books on education, furniture, computers and accessories are added, according to their need. From primary to high schools, students are required to go to the libraries twice a week for studying, making it a compulsory requirement to be included in their respective class schedules. Accordingly, instructions should be sent out by the Ministry of Education to all schools in the country, in order to succeed.

The school principals and teachers, in turn, should bring

students to libraries in order to get them familiarized with books they should read or to gradually develop a reading habit. The parents should also see to it that their children's time is organized so that they can read books on general knowledge and ideas, without having to interrupt their school lessons and note-taking. Because of rote-learning system, it is not surprising that parents have become worried that their children will pass the exams with low marks. The government, on its part, has exerted its utmost efforts to transform the education system so that it would soon reach its international standard.

State Counsellor's guidance

In a literary roundtable talk in Mandalay, the State Counsellor has urged school authorities to include in their curriculum a requirement of sending students to libraries once a week to instill a reading habit in them. There could still be a library period, even if there is no library. Even if there is no reading room, an interesting book that has nothing to do with school lessons could be picked out from a book cabinet to be discussed. In addition, the State Counsellor has urged teachers to try to include reading in the hobbies of their students, so that they can enjoy reading books. She also urged parents to do the same.

Try on a self-help basis

When compared to private schools, government schools are short of libraries and modern books. This is a major defect in the development of school libraries due to stringent educational budget; primary and middle schools do not have libraries of their own. Also, libraries in high schools are not open regularly. Here, the principals and teachers are kindly advised to rely on themselves. The teachers are instructed not to ask for financial donations, but they are allowed to ask for periodicals, journals, newspapers, CDs, and so on. Consulting with the PTA on the development of a library, furniture and materials requirement is suggested. If closely linked to private and university libraries, school libraries will greatly benefit on the exchange of books, journals, CDs and newspapers. In this context, the State Counsellor's advice is really encouraging, in that the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Information should cooperate for the speedy development of school libraries.

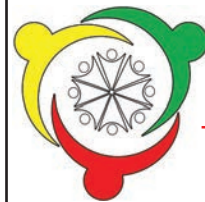
Creating a learning environment

"Creating a consistent learning process and suitable and comfortable libraries built for students to enjoy reading and develop a reading habit" is a basic educational principle. In an international aspect, the role of libraries is seen to be in keeping with the changing times. For instance, budget allocation is put aside for the development of libraries. At the same time, the Ministry of Education will have to cooperate with other ministries concerned, such as the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, Asia Foundation, Japan International Cooperation Agency and Korea International Cooperation Agency. It is time to accelerate the development of libraries in the country by linking up with libraries from Southeast Asian universities, colleges and schools for further cooperation. In conclusion, the spread and development of school libraries should be given a top priority under the guidance of the Ministry of Education.

Translated by
Arakan Sein
■■■



Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons



Myanmar Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day

13th 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.

ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန
အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာနနှင့် ကျောက်ဆည်မြို့ပြည်သူ့လူထု
ပူးပေါင်းကျင်းပသော



က င လ : စာ ပ ဝ ပွဲ င တံ
ကလေးစာပေပြပွဲနှင့် စာအုပ်ချေးရောင်းပွဲတော်
(ကျောက်ဆည်မြို့)



၂၀၁၈-ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလ (၇/၈/၉) ရက် သောကြာနေ့၊ တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့များတွင်
နံနက် (၉) နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅) နာရီအထိ ပညာပေးပွဲ၊ ဖိတ်ခေါ်ပွဲ၊ ပြပွဲ၊
အထက် (၁) ကျောက်ဆည်မြို့။



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 4 September 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 5 September 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Sagaing and Magway regions and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavy falls in Mon State and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Chin, Rakhine and Kayin states. Degree of certainty is (100%).
STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Wave height will be about (8-10) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.
OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of increase of rain in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states.
FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 September 2018: Some rain or thundershowers which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).
FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 September 2018: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).
FORECAST FOR Mandalay AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 September 2018: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Office of the President

Press Release No. 13/2018

8th Waning of Wagaung, 1380 ME

(3 September 2018)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 1 September 2018 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

No	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken			
1	Information received of people selling and using opium tablets in Panhike Ward 8, Namtu Twp, Shan State.	On 31-8-2018, local police waiting near water tower, Panhike Ward 8, Namtu Twp, arrested Aik Naing, 45, from Hotone Village, Mantone Twp, together with heroin and WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 6/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.	6	Information received of U Naing Win selling illegal drugs at the Thazin intersection in Hlinethaya Twp, Yangon Region.	On 26-8-2018, entered the unnumbered house of U Naing Win, 45, at the Thazin street, Alae Village, Hlinethaya Twp, and arrested him together with marijuana in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hlinethaya) MaYa(Pa) 60/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
		Investigations into related cases led police to stake out the cemetery in the same ward. Police arrested Lin Naung Naung Win, 36, from Panhike Ward 10 together with heroin. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 7/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.	7	Information received of U Kyaw Lin selling illegal drugs in Tema Village, Phaungpyin Twp, Sagaing Region.	On 30-8-2018, police entered the house of Kyaw Lin, 40, in Tema Village, Nanbote Village-tract, Phaungpyin Twp and arrested him together with heroin in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 68/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
		Police continued staking out near the cemetery and arrested Mar Naw, 30, from Panwar Village, Mantone Twp, together with heroin. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 8/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.	8	Information received of Khway Balu selling illegal drugs in Nawarat Street, Ward 3, Bogale Town.	On 22-8-2018, police on stake out near Kwyechan Yaykyaw bridge in Bogale Twp, stopped a motorcycle ridden by Phyo Ko Ko (a) Khway Balu, 21, from Ward 3 in Bogalay Twp, and Myat Min, 15, from Ward 4. Police discovered WY psychotropic tablets in their possession. The two were arrested and a case has been opened with MaMaSa (Bogale) MaYa(Pa) 3/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Zaw Oo, son of U Chit Maung (deceased) selling illegal drugs in Thanga Village in Phaungpyin Township, Sagaing Region.	On 29-8-2018, local police entered the house of Zaw Oo (a) Thein Myint Soe, 45, in Tangar Village, Phaungpyin Twp, and arrested him together with heroin in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 65/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.	9	Information received of Min Zaw selling illegal drugs on a large scale in Baingle Village in Phaungpyin Twp, Sagaing Region.	On 30-8-2018, local police entered the hut of Min Zaw, 31, in Baingle Village, Phaungpyin Twp and arrested him together with heroin in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 67/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Ko Htoo selling illegal drugs in Ward 1, Setawgyi Village, Madaya Twp, Mandalay Region.	On 26-8-2018, local police entered the house of Poe Htoo (a) Ko Htoo (a) Tun Lin, 55, in Ward 1, Setawgyi Village, Madaya Twp, and arrested him together with WY psychotropic tablets in his possession. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Setawgyi) MaYa(Pa) 3/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.	10	Information received of U Maung Shwe selling illegal drugs in Kanyinmyaing Village-tract, Mogaung Twp, Kachin State.	On 14-8-2018, local police entered the house of U Maung Shwe (a) U San Le, 57, in Kanyinmyaing Village, Mogaung Twp and arrested him together with black opium in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Mogaung) MaYa(Pa) 41/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Chit San Maung selling illegal drugs on a large scale in Nansaungpu Village, Kalay Twp, Sagaing Region.	On 26-8-2018, local police on stake out near the western farm field in Nansaungpu Old Village, Kalay Twp, arrested Chit San Maung, 45, from Nansaungpu Village, together with heroin in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kalay) MaYa(Pa) 113/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.	11	Information received of U Tar Pu (a) U Myint Oo selling illegal drugs on a large scale in Kawtgun Village, Hpa-an Twp, Kayin State.	On 1-9-2018, local police entered the house of U Myint Oo (a) Thar Pu, 67, in Kawtgun Village, Hpa-an Twp and arrested him with WY psychotropic tablets in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hpa-an) MaYa(Pa) 29/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	A report was submitted urging action to be taken against a group of 18-19-year old youths easily purchasing and using illegal drugs in Dawbon Twp.	On 14-8-2018, local police entered the house of Kyaw Kyaw (a) Kyaw Wunna (a) Mohammed Ali, 36, in the ground floor of building no. 75, Nagar Ni Street 4, New Aye Ward, Dawbon Twp, and arrested him, Win Naing (a) Mahmed Sabi, 38, from Tharkayta Twp, Ko Phyo (a) Tin Phyo Maung, 29, from Thingangyun Twp, and Daw Hla Myint, 56, from Dawbon Twp, together with WY psychotropic tablets in their possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Dawbon) MaYa(Pa) 33/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.	12	Information received of Nagar selling illegal drugs in Area 8, Ahmutan Ward, Thanlyin Twp, Yangon Region.	On 26-8-2018, entered the house of Zin Thaw Aung (a) Nagar, 25, in Pwintphyoyay Street 5, Ahmutan Ward, Area 8, Thanlyin Twp, and arrested him with WY psychotropic tablets in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Thanlyin) MaYa(Pa) 29/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
		Investigations into related cases on 26-8-2018 led police to search the house of Zaw Oo, 35, at Ywarma Kannar Street, Yamona Ward 2, Dawbon Twp. Police arrested Zaw Oo, Hla Tun (a) Ko Myo, 42, from Mingalar Taungnyunt Twp, Ye Yine (a) Ko Maline, 15, from Dagon Myothit South Twp, Saw Wai Lin Htet, 35, from Thingangyun Twp, Aung Yadanar Moe, 24, from Dawbon Twp, Win Myint Htike (a) Kalar, 23, from Kannar Street, Yamona Ward 2, Dawbon Twp, and Wai Wai Lwin, 25, from Yamona Ward 1, Dawbon Twp, together with WY psychotropic tablets and ICE stimulant drugs in their possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Dawbon) MaYa(Pa) 34/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.	13	Information received of U Aung San Htay selling illegal drugs over many years in from huts in the sand pit in ThaTaLa Ward 1, Namtu Town, Lashio Twp.	On 1-9-2018, police waiting near the sand pit in ThaTaLa Ward 1, Namtu Town, arrested Aung San Htay, 35, from the same ward, together with WY psychotropic tablets and heroin in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 9/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Investigations into related cases led police to continue surveying the roads near the sand pit where they arrested Shaw Paung, 50, from Panhike Ward 9, Namtu Twp, together with heroin in his possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 10/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

14	Information received of Galone Gyi selling illegal drugs in Thaunggyi Street, Ward 7, Hlinethaya Twp, Yangon Region.	On 31-8-2018, local police searched the living quarters of Kyaw Min Htet (a) Don Gyi (a) Galone Gyi, 35, in room no. 10, building no. 422/A on Thaunggyi Street, Ward 7, Hlinethaya Twp. Police arrested him, Kyaw Zaya, 32, from Ward 8, and Wai Yan Tun (a) Paing Paing, 17, from Ward 7, together with WY psychotropic tablets in their possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hlinethaya) MaYa(Pa) 65/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
15	Information received of Ko Zaw Latt selling heroin and WY psychotropic tablets in Minthamee Village, Khampat Twp, Tamu District, Sagaing Region.	On 27-8-2018, local police entered the house of Zaw Latt, 43, in Minthamee Village, Khampat Twp and arrested him together with raw opium in his possession. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Khampat) MaYa(Pa) 44/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
16	Information received of Ko Soe Min Htike selling illegal drugs in U Shwe Than Ice Factory lane in Ye Theipan Street, Kanphyar Ward, Myeik Town, Myeik District, Taninthayi Region. Numerous reports of deeply worried parents of youths have been submitted.	On 25-8-2018, local police entered the house of Soe Min Htike (a) Myo Min Htike (a) Min Htike, 34, at building no. 56, U Shwe Than Ice Factory Lane, East Kanphyar Ward, Khanpyar Area, Myeik Town, and arrested him together with Min Min Khaing, 27, from Aung Chantar Ward, Yazar Min, 23, from Wunhtan Ward, Paing Zay Oo, 30, from Kalin Ywarma Ward, and Thurein Soe, 22, from Kayutaw Taungpaw Ward with WY psychotropic tablets in their possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Myeik) MaYa(Pa) 161/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
17	Information received of U Hla Min selling illegal drugs on a large scale in Latpangone Village, Nawngkhio Twp, Shan State (North).	On 31-8-2018, local police entered the house of U Hla Min, 48, in Latpengone Village, Nawngkhio Twp, and arrested him and his brother-in-law San Aung, 33, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Nawngkhio) MaYa(Pa) 58/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
18	Information received of Poe Thar, son of U Poe Aye and his wife Daw Win May, selling illegal drugs in Maubin Ward, Kamine Town, Kachin State.	On 27-8-2018, local police entered the house of U Poe Aye, his wife Daw Win May and their son Poe Tar in Maubin Ward, Kamine Town, but could not find them. Police instead found Soe Min Naing (a) A Naing, 33, and then searched the bedroom of Poe Thar (a) Soe Thura, 34, and discovered crude opium, raw opium, two rifles, one air gun, 3 boxes of gunpowder, twenty 5.56 bullets, and one grenade. An interrogation revealed Soe Min Naing purchases and consumes illegal drugs with Poe Thar. A case has been opened against the two with NaMaSa (Karmine) MaYa(Pa) 28/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/22-B/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

19	Information received of Ma Wah Wah Min and her nephew Sitt Kaung Han selling illegal drugs on a large scale in Natgyi Sin Street, Aung Mingalar Ward, Ye-U Town, Sagaing Region.	On 28-8-2018, local police entered the house of Daw Wah Wah Min, 45, in Natgyi Sin Street, Aung Mingalar Ward, Ye-U Town, and arrested her and her nephew Sitt Kaung Han, 30, together with heroin in their possession. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Ye-U) MaYa(Pa) 6/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.
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3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far 209 cases have been opened as of 1-9-2018, and 283 men and 52 women have been arrested with seizures of 1,964.19 g of heroin, 2.15 g of ICE, 327.65 g of black opium, 31,440 g of raw opium, 300.50 g of low-quality opium, 27.50 g of opium residue, 1,502 g of powder opium, 3,266 g of speciosa, 93,472 stimulant tablets, 2,866.08 g of marijuana, 0.10 liters of opium tincture, 213.40 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 1.60 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 6 firearms, 179 different bullets, and one grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.
4. In addition to the investigations and arrests conducted on drug related complaints mentioned above, the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force have also carried out separate investigations on drug complaints, search and arrests at border gates, and searches of vehicles acting upon given information. During the current week, in Shan State, Muse Town, Nampaw bridge, police arrested 11 men and confiscated 25,000 liters of ethyl/ether, 2,100,000 g of caffeine, 26,000 liters of hydrochloric acid, 17,000 liters of acetone, and 3 twelve-wheeled vehicles. Police conducting clearance operations 12 miles to the east of Lwekan Village in Kutkai Twp confiscated 6,000 liters of sulfuric acid and 400 liters of lwinezaw. In Sittway Twp in Rakhine State, six men and one woman were arrested and a seizure of 323 stimulant tablets, 300.6 g of marijuana were made. One arrest involving firearms was made of two men with a seizure of 12 stimulant tablets and two rifles. There have been 341 cases being opened between 26-8-2018 and 1-9-2018, and 418 men and 53 women have been arrested. Seizures of 1,843.12 g of heroin, 250.64 g of ICE, 3,409.78 g of raw opium, 3.30 g of low-quality opium, 547.66 g of powder opium, 300 g of speciosa, 200,634 stimulant tablets, 0.4 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 9,643.70 g of marijuana, 122.83 g of opium blocks, 0.6 liters of opium tincture, 10 buprenorphine tablets, 10 capsules of tramadol, 2,100,000 g of caffeine, 6,000 liters of sulfuric acid, 26,000 liters of hydrochloric acid, 17,000 liters of acetone, 25,000 liters of ethyl/ether, 400 liters of lwinezaw, and 2 home-made gun.
5. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** of the Office of the President through the following contact numbers:

Contacts
Auto telephone No. — 067-590200
Fax No. — 067-590233
Email address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Black sesame gets good price in Gangaw

AFTER harvesting monsoon sesame, an edible oil crops, black sesame planted in Gangaw Township under the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) system were reported to be fetching good price between Ks 50,000 and Ks 55,000 per basket (one basket = 33.33 kg).

Traders are offering between Ks 50,000 to Ks 55,000 per basket for black sesame and they came to buy at our houses. Last year, the price of black sesame was only Ks 28,000 to Ks 29,000 per basket. At that time, yellow and white sesames received the handsome price.

This year, yellow and red sesames are fetching good prices of Ks 45,000 per basket while white sesame price is only Ks 40,000 per basket said U Myint Htay, a local sesame grower from Taung Yar Pyin village.

This monsoon sesame season, local farmers from Gangaw Township planted 444 acres of black sesame with GAP system after receiving the technical assistance from Township Agricultural Department. The traders pay a handsome price after they measure the free fatty acid content in the GAP sesame.—465 ■

Fisherman survives crocodile attack

A fisherman was injured after he was attacked by a crocodile in Bogale, Pyapon District, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday morning.

The victim, U Kyaw Hsan, a 42-year-old man, who lives in Hlaylonegwe Village in Chaungbyaegyi Village tract, was washing his foots in a creek while sitting on a bridge when the attack occurred.

He managed to escape from the attack after he and his wife drove the reptile away but U Kyaw Hsan was injured in his legs and hands.

Myanmar’s delta region is no stranger to crocodile attacks, as they occur yearly. Yet, there is no specific data that shows how frequent or at what time of year attacks are most prevalent.

Endanger species of crocodile are being held for protection in the Mainmahla Island Wildlife Sanctuary along the coastal in Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Region, by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. —Moe Sat (Bogale) ■



U Kyaw Hsan attacked by a crocodile in Bogale.

Deadly ‘rat fever’ in flood-ravaged Indian state

KOCHI (India) — “Rat fever” and other diseases have killed 14 people in the southern Indian state of Kerala after the worst floods in almost a century, authorities said on Tuesday.

The separate death toll from the monsoon floods that forced more than a million people from their homes in Kerala last month has meanwhile risen to 486, the government said.

“We had anticipated leptospirosis (rat fever) due to contaminated water and are taking all measures to distribute preventive drugs in camps,” Kerala health director Sarita R L told AFP.

Leptospirosis, transmitted in water containing urine from rodents and other animals, has killed six people and infected more than 100 while other diseases have left eight dead.

Cases of malaria, dengue fever and chicken pox have also been reported. More than 5,100 people have acute diarrhoea, authorities said.

The floodwaters have now receded and fewer than 10,000 people remain in temporary camps, down from 1.4 million at the height of the crisis.

The monsoon, which lasts from June to September, causes widespread death and destruction across South Asia each year. The death toll in India this year currently stands at 1,400 across 10 states, and heavy rainfall is forecast in several areas in the coming days. In the north-eastern state of Nagaland, 11 people have died and 50,000 others are stranded across some 530 villages, with roads including the national highway into the state cut.—AFP ■



Keisuke Tsumura (C) of the Democratic Party for the People, Japan's second-largest opposition party, speaks at an extraordinary party convention in Tokyo on 4 September, 2018. Yuichiro Tamaki (far R) beat Tsumura in the first leadership contest since the party was formed in May through a merger between two splinters of the now-defunct Democratic Party of Japan. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Japan’s 2nd-largest opposition party chooses chief amid low support

TOKYO — Japan’s second-largest opposition party, the Democratic Party for the People, elected one of its two co-leaders as its sole head on Tuesday as it struggles to boost its low support ratings ahead of key elections next year.

Yuichiro Tamaki, a four-term member of the House of Representatives, beat challenger Keisuke Tsumura in the first leadership contest since the party was formed in May through a merger between two splinters of the now-defunct Democratic Party of Japan, which was in power between 2009 and 2012.

“Let’s join hands to create politics for the people. I will make utmost efforts to lead” the move, Tamaki told party members shortly after being elected. Tamaki, who worked for the Finance Ministry before winning his parliamentary seat, had led the party together with House of Councillors member Kohei Otsuka, who did not compete in the election. The 49-year-old Tamaki will lead the party until September 2021.

A total of 61 lawmakers across both Diet chambers belong to the party, making it the second-largest opposition force after the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, which also emerged from the Demo-

cratic Party of Japan. The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan has 75 seats.

Tamaki will be tasked with broadening the party’s support base and promoting cooperation with other opposition parties in the run-up to the unified local elections and the upper house election next year.

In a press conference, Tamaki expressed his party’s readiness to coordinate fielding candidates with other opposition parties, in particular in single-seat constituencies, to challenge the ruling bloc led by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party in the upcoming national election. —Kyodo News ■

Seal Tender Invitation

Invitation for the quotation of Self-Pulverization Mill (Rice Flouring Machine) Seated tenders are invited for the quotation of Self-Pulverization Mill (Rice Flouring Machine) one unit, Semi-wet and dry type, correspond for white and brown rice, capacity 10-30kg/hr and range size after milling at D50, 30-50 microns and low percentage in starch damage. Starch damage after flouring should be less than 5%. Moisture content after flouring should be 12-13%.

Payment Term : 50% after order and 50% after completed installation.

Documents to be attached : Catalogue and documents for specification

Submit the Sealed Quotation to : Shan Maw Myae Co., Ltd. No. 243, 1st floor, Boaungkyaw St, Kyauktada Tsp, Yangon. Myanmar

Contact Phone : +95 18370969 (for Detail information)

Email address : nyanlin49@gmail.com

Tender closing Date : 25.09.2018 (17:30PM)

Tender opening Date : 26.09.2018 (10:00AM)

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(17 / 2018)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-021(18-19)	Applied Research Center, Mud Logging Unit and Geology Workstation (10) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-022(18-19)	LITHO SI Software (1) No	US\$
(3)	IFB-023(18-19)	Telecommunication Equipment (4) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-024(18-19)	Three Phase Separator for Production 1000 PSI (1) Set	US\$
(5)	IFB-025(18-19)	Echometer Digital Well Analyzer (1) Set	US\$
(6)	IFB-026(18-19)	Cat 3512B Engine Assy (2) Units	US\$
(7)	IFB-027(18-19)	9 5/8" Seamless Steel Casing (3) Items	US\$
(8)	IFB-028(18-19)	Assorted Sizes of Drill Pipes (3) Items	US\$
(9)	DMP/L-099(18-19)	Mobile Type Welding Machine Engine Driven 400 AMP and Accessories (7) Sets	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-100(18-19)	Welding Set and Accessories (400 V) Maximum Current At 100% Duty Cycle 400 AMP (4) Sets	Ks
(11)	DMP/L-101(18-19)	Portable Welding Machine with 14 HP Engine and Accessories (5) Sets	Ks
(12)	DMP/L-102(18-19)	Portable Fire Fighting Pump and Accessories (1) Set	Ks
(13)	DMP/L-103(18-19)	Gas Detector (6) Nos	Ks
(14)	DMP/L-104(18-19)	Telephone Cable (2) Items	Ks
(15)	DMP/L-105(18-19)	Electronic Private Branch Exchange(2)Nos	Ks
(16)	DMP/L-106(18-19)	Data Acquisition, Data Processing Center and Interpretation Work Station (8) Items	Ks
(17)	DMP/L-107(18-19)	Mud Testing Equipment, Geological Survey Instrument & Field Equipment, Applied Research Centre and Mud Logging Unit (22) Items	Ks
(18)	DMP/L-108(18-19)	Soft-Start (Model-3RW 4074-6BB44) (15)Nos	Ks
(19)	DMP/L-109(18-19)	1000 KVA Transformer for CNG Station (1) No	Ks
(20)	DMP/L-110(18-19)	33/0.4 KV, 500 KVA Transformer & 11/6.6-0.4 KV, 500 KVA Transformer(2)Nos	Ks
(21)	DMP/L-111(18-19)	132 KW Main Motor (China) for L-Type CNG Compressor (1) No	Ks
(22)	DMP/L-112(18-19)	Foam Pig (20) Nos	Ks
(23)	DMP/L-113(18-19)	Welding Electrode (3) Items	Ks
(24)	DMP/L-114(18-19)	Heat Shrinkable Sleeve and Closure Patches (2) Items	Ks
(25)	DMP/L-115(18-19)	Gas Detector Equipment with Complete Accessories (5) Sets	Ks
(26)	DMP/L-116(18-19)	Mobile Welding Machine with Complete Accessories 600 AMP (2) Sets	Ks
(27)	DMP/L-117(18-19)	D3 T2 SR-I Drilling Rig DC Motors Control System Upgrading (1) Lot	Ks
(28)	DMP/L-118(18-19)	Fire Fighting Truck (5000 Liter) (1) Unit	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy Website Portal (www.moeec.gov.mm) as from 5 September 2018. Tender forms will not be sold.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm on 2 October 2018**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time- 2-10-2018, 14:00 pm

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411206

Typhoon makes landfall in western Japan

TOKYO — The most powerful typhoon to make landfall in Japan in 25 years arrived in western Japan on Tuesday afternoon, with the weather agency warning of heavy rain and strong winds in both western and eastern regions.

Typhoon Jebi hit the southern part of Tokushima Prefecture, the Japan Meteorological Agency said, prompting the cancellation of flights and train services, and closure of commercial facilities such as a popular theme park in Osaka.

The agency, which also warned of high waves, has called on the public to be vigilant against flooding

and mudslides caused by the typhoon.

Categorized as “very strong” based on its top wind speeds, Jebi is the strongest typhoon to make landfall in Japan since 1993.

As of 11 am on Tuesday, Jebi was packing winds of up to 216 kilometres per hour with an atmospheric pressure of 950 hectopascals at its centre.

Japan has been hit by a succession of typhoons recently, with western parts of the country devastated by massive flooding and landslides that left more than 220 people dead in July. The agency said the typhoon is expected to pass over the Sea of Japan

by late Tuesday and move northward, and by Wednesday morning, weaken to an extratropical cyclone.

The imminent arrival of Jebi in western Japan affected the operations of transportation systems and commercial facilities.

Domestic airlines have decided to cancel more than 600 local and international flights mainly scheduled to depart and arrive in airports in western and central Japan.

All Nippon Airways Co and Japan Airlines Co have canceled 289 and 180 flights, respectively.

Railway operators also halted some services, including on the Tokaido

Shinkansen and Sanyo Shinkansen lines.

Some parts of expressways are also expected to be closed.

Department stores in western Japan including Osaka and Kyoto prefectures decided to close for the day. USJ Co, the operator of Universal Studios Japan in Osaka, also closed the park.

In the 24-hour period through 6 am on Wednesday, up to 500 millimeters of rain may fall in central Japan and up to 400 mm in western Japan.

The typhoon is unlikely to come close to the Japanese capital.—Kyodo News ■



High waves triggered by Typhoon Jebi batter a fishing port in Aki, Kochi Prefecture, western Japan on 4 September, 2018. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Sri Lanka probes deaths of wild elephants

COLOMBO (Sri Lanka) — Sri Lankan authorities on Monday began investigating the deaths of wild elephants in the east of the island after pulling seven carcasses out of a marsh, a minister said.

Wildlife Minister Palitha Thewarapperuma said six out of the seven animals found in the swamp were young — below the age of 12 — and he suspected that many more may have died there.

“We have wildlife experts and vets who are investigating the cause,” Thewarapperuma told AFP from the district of

Polonnaruwa, 220 kilometres (135 miles) east of Colombo.

He said a possible reason was that the swamp is currently strewn with water hyacinth, an invasive plant known locally as Japan Jabara.

The swamp is located on a migratory route and the animals may have become bogged down and exhausted battling through the plants and then drowned.

Japan Jabara was introduced to Sri Lanka at the turn of the last century and has spread rapidly since World War II.

Allied forces stationed in Sri Lanka planted the free-floating species on waterways in a bid to mislead Japanese pilots on bombing missions into thinking that they were grassy fields suitable for landing in emergency.

“It is heartbreaking to see so many young elephants killed here. We are trying to see how we can flush out Japan Jabara and make this area safe again,” Thewarapperuma said.

Sri Lanka considers elephants a national treasure and they are protected by law.

However, human-el-

ephant conflict near wildlife sanctuaries have led to the deaths of 375 people in the past five years, according to official figures.

Enraged villagers have retaliated by slaughtering nearly 1,200 of the beasts.

Last month the government said authorities would begin constructing 2,651 kilometres (1,556 miles) of new electric fencing to keep elephants away from villages bordering wildlife reserves.

The Sri Lankan elephant population in the wild is estimated at 7,500.—AFP ■

Indian Ocean tsunami warning system to be tested

PARIS — The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on Monday announced 24 countries bordering the Indian Ocean will take part in two tsunami warning exercises on 4-5 September to test their local systems and implemented mechanisms to cope with such disaster.

Promoting scientific exchanges and efforts to set up warning systems for various types of natural disasters, UNESCO, in cooperation with International Oceanographic Commission, had put two scenarios to simulate the countries being put in a tsunami warning situation,

the UN body said in a press release.

The first test is scheduled for Tuesday with a magnitude 9.0 earthquake off the coast of Iran. The second scenario of 9.3 earthquake will be applied on Wednesday off the west coast of Northern Sumatra, it said.

“These exercises will be an opportunity for the participating countries to test their operational procedures, the communication channels between the various actors involved as well as the population’s readiness and the evacuation procedures, said the press release.—Xinhua ■

Myanma Port Authority “Notice of High Tide”

Exceptionally high spring from 20.21 feet to 21.40 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of September 8th to September 14th, 2018. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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ပုံနှိပ်စက်ဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်လေ့ရှိသည်။

Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. 09-254435478

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (1823/1824)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (1823/1824) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P 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 MCC TRANSPORT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (1011W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO. (1011W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-8-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 2301185

UAE postpones Da Vinci unveiling at Louvre Abu Dhabi

DUBAI (United Arab Emirates) — The UAE said on Monday it had postponed the unveiling of the Louvre Abu Dhabi's most prized acquisition — a painting attributed to Leonardo da Vinci, bought for a record \$450 million.

The painting, which was bought last year, had been due to be unveiled on 18 September.

But Abu Dhabi's culture and tourism department on Monday announced "the postponement of the unveiling of Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi*" in a tweet.

"More details will be an-

nounced soon," it said.

The "*Salvator Mundi*", a portrait of Jesus Christ painted in 1500, was the only one of the fewer than 20 paintings believed to be the work of the famed Renaissance Old Master still in private hands when it went under the hammer, and sold, at Christie's in November.

The painting was declared authentic six years ago, after long being dismissed as a copy by one of Da Vinci's students.

The Louvre Abu Dhabi has kept tight-lipped over the identity of the painting's buyer, saying

only that the emirate's Department of Culture and Tourism had "acquired" it.

Last December, the *New York Times* identified the buyer as an obscure member of the Saudi royal family, Prince Badr bin Abdullah.

The *Wall Street Journal* later reported Bin Abdullah was acting on behalf of Saudi Arabia's powerful crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman. He has never confirmed or denied the report.

Prince Badr was appointed to head the kingdom's culture ministry in a government shake-



Christie's employees pose in front of a painting entitled *Salvator Mundi* and attributed to Leonardo da Vinci at a photocall at the auction house in central London on 22 October 2017 a month ahead of its sale. **PHOTO: AFP**

up in June.

Saudi Arabia and the neighbouring United Arab Emirates are very close allies who are

both engaged militarily in the war against rebels in Yemen, and diplomatically and economically against Gulf rival Qatar.—AFP ■

London design biennale offers sensory exploration of the world

LONDON — Filled with sounds, smells and interactive installations, the second London Design Biennale offers visitors a sensory exploration of the world, intended as an antidote to the "island mentality" of Brexit.

"We obviously live in a very emotionally turbulent and politically polarized time and the choice of theme was intended to reflect and confront that," said Christopher Turner, artistic director of the exhibition, which this year has the theme "Emotional States".

Barely a few months before Britain leaves the European Union in March 2019, the biennale is "intended as a corrective to that

island mentality", Turner said.

He said the event, which opens at Somerset House on Tuesday and runs until 23 September, shows that "London is open, not only to business but to the creative community".

The exhibition includes installations from 40 countries, from China to Canada and Saudi Arabia, allowing visitors to take the pulse of the world.

One uses video projections to put them at the virtual centre of an indigo production site in India, accompanied by the noise of the workers and the earthy smell of the indigo.

Another exhibit, inspired by the humid climate of Riga,

allows visitors to write on a window covered in condensation, listening to the sounds of a battering storm and the smells of a Latvian forest.

It is intended to "show the existence of nature in our daily lives and hopefully make us re-evaluate the importance of it", said curator Arthur Analts.

The Hong Kong exhibit includes painted paper which, when scratched, unleashes smells of opium or roast duck.

It highlights the link between smell and memories, in a nod to novelist Marcel Proust, for whom the taste of a Madeleine cake brought childhood memories rushing in.—AFP ■



'Disobedience', by Greek artist Nassia Inglessis, is a tunnel that moves as the visitor walks along, reflecting different emotions of those who break the rules. **PHOTO: AFP**

Van Gogh was murdered claims new film at Venice

VENICE(Italy) — A new film about the artist Vincent Van Gogh claims that he was murdered rather than having shot himself.

"At Eternity's Gate" starring Willem Dafoe as the tortured genius, was premiered on Monday at the Venice film festival.

In it the painter is shot after a struggle with local youths near the village of Auvers-sur-Oise outside Paris, where the artist spent his final months in 1890.

He died 36 hours later after staggering back to the local inn in the dark. While most historians agree that Van Gogh killed himself, renowned painter and Oscar-nominated director Julian Schnabel fuels a theory that he was killed in the film.

Legendary French screenwriter Jean-Claude Carrière — who co-wrote the script with Schnabel — told AFP there "is absolutely no proof he killed himself. Do I believe that Van Gogh killed himself? Absolutely not!" "He came back to the auberge with a bullet in his stomach and nobody ever found the gun or his painting materials," Carrière added.

"What we have been fighting against is the dark romantic legend of Van Gogh.

In the last period of his life Van Gogh was working constantly. Every day he made a new work," he said.

His final weeks, when he painted the "Portrait of Dr Gachet" — which set a world record when it sold for \$82.5 million (77 million euros) in 1990 — were "not at all sad", the writer argued.

Not suicidal

Schnabel insisted that a man who had painted 75 canvasses in his 80 days at Auvers-sur-Oise was unlikely to be suicidal. The theory that Van Gogh did not commit suicide was first raised in a 2011 biography of the painter by Steven Naifeh and Gregory White Smith. Schnabel said neither the gun nor "the painting material he had that day were ever found. It is strange to bury your shit if you are committing suicide."

"At Eternity's Gate" is also likely to open a new front in the row over Van Gogh's "lost" sketchbook, which purportedly resurfaced after 126 years in 2016 and was authenticated by two eminent art historians last year. Veteran British expert Ronald Pickvance claimed the book was "the most revolutionary discovery in the history of Van Gogh" studies.

But the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam hotly disputes its provenance and dismissed the drawings as fakes. The book, originally a ledger from the Cafe de la Gare in Arles where Van Gogh stayed at various times between 1888 and 1890, features prominently in the film.

Schnabel and his team examined the drawings for themselves with the director pressing Dafoe's hand down into them, he told AFP, to "force a transmission — a connection between me and Van Gogh." It clearly worked, with Defoe, who looks uncannily like the Van Gogh the film, already tipped for the best actor prize at Venice.—AFP ■

Chinese scientists develop new antibacterial wound dressing material

BEIJING — Chinese scientists have developed a new kind of adhesive antibacterial hydrogel that can be used in wound healing treatment.

A wound dressing is essential for skin wound healing, and designing wound dressing materials with antibacterial properties, therapeutic effects and suitable mechanical properties has practical significance in health care.

Hydrogel wound dressings have gained popularity in recent years, but they have shortcomings such as an inability to fit the skin and a lack of antibacterial properties.

Researchers with Xi'an Jiaotong University in north-west China's Shaanxi Province have designed a self-healing, injectable hydrogel that has multiple functions as a wound

dressing, especially for joint skin damage.

With high adhesion, the hydrogel can quickly seal wounds of any shape and bonds with the wound's edge, providing a physical barrier against contaminants while simulating moist skin conditions.

The hydrogel can help stop bleeding and prevent wound infection, promoting rapid healing of the wound.

Also, the skin-like material exhibits stretchable and compressible properties, which significantly reduce the discomfort associated with traditional wound dressings.

The hydrogel has great potential as an effective bioactive wound dressing.

The research was published in the journal *Biomaterials*. —Xinhua ■

UAE announces first astronauts to go to space

ALEXANDER GERST— The United Arab Emirates has selected its first two astronauts to go on a mission to the International Space Station, Dubai's ruler said on Monday.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashed al-Maktoum named the new astronauts as Hazza al-Mansouri, 34, and 37-year-old Sultan al-Neyadi.

Writing on Twitter, he said the duo "raise the bar of ambitions for future Emirati generations".

Sheikh Mohammed, the UAE's vice president and prime minister, last year vowed to send four Emirati astronauts to the space station within five years.

The UAE has its sights set on space with a programme worth 20 billion dirhams (\$5.4 billion), according to Sheikh Mohammed.

The oil-rich Gulf nation has already announced plans to become the first Arab country to send an unmanned probe to orbit Mars by 2021, naming it "Hope".



A photo released by NASA taken from the International Space Station on October 7, 2014. **PHOTO: AFP**

The astronaut programme would make the UAE one of only a handful of states in the Middle East to have sent a person into space, as it looks to make good on a pledge to become a global leader in space exploration.

The first Arab in outer space was Saudi Arabia's Sultan bin Salman Al-Saud, who flew on a US shuttle mission in 1985. Two years later, Syrian air force pilot Muhammed Faris spent a week

aboard the ex-Soviet Union's Mir space station.

Mansouri and Neyadi, who were among more than 4,000 Emiratis to apply for the programme, were chosen after a rigorous six-stage vetting procedure.

In the long-term, the UAE says it is planning to build a "Science City" to replicate life on Mars and aims to create the first human settlement on the red planet by 2117. —AFP ■

Tech nostalgia on show at Berlin's IFA

BERLIN (Germany) — For many consumers, rewinding cassettes, carefully placing a needle on a record or shaking dry a Polaroid photo may all feel like long-forgotten gestures from a bygone era.

But they're everywhere to be seen again at Berlin's IFA tech show, albeit it with an unmistakable digital touch.

The "new trends" section of the fair, which often showcases upcoming Christmas-season blockbusters, is dominated by a stand belonging to Polaroid, the household-name camera firm that not so long ago appeared near death. Known as the One Step+, the snapper looks exactly like a traditional Polaroid from the outside — but offers Bluetooth connectivity to sync up with Android and iPhone apps.

Competitor Kodak also has an instant camera, the Printomatic, on offer, claiming less than 40 seconds to develop a photo in colour or black-and-white.

"For the new generation, it's totally new. They have no idea how to take a picture like this, without a screen, or to wait a week for it to get developed", said Polaroid spokesman Tobias Henze.

Unlike digital photos trapped under smartphone glass, "you can frame it, put it on the wall, offer it or put it in a scrapbook," he points out.



The Polaroid camera, an almost forgotten vestige from the pre-digital era, is back on display at Berlin's IFA tech show. **PHOTO: AFP**

Audiostalgia

In the music world, audio purists and those looking for a more "instagrammable" way to listen are met with ever more options for playing cassettes and vinyl records.

Manufacturers have hard data to back up their turn to the past, with 33 RPM discs accounting for some 14 percent of US album sales in 2017, compared with 11 percent the previous year.

That's why IFA visitors can just after Yamaha's Vinyl 500 turntable, which nods to modernity with a Wifi connection that also allows users to stream music.

Meanwhile, a slew of startups offer portable turntables that can be lugged around in a satchel or even clipped onto the edge of a speaker or a shelf.

For those with enormous

digital collections, Sony vaunts the ability of its DMP-Z1 player — priced at \$13,000 — to restore the sound quality and audio "grain" of a vinyl pressing. Debate may rage forever in the audiophile world about whether the traditional discs truly offer superior sound.

But the trend towards the black record is firmly established across Europe, with small-scale publishers popping up in disused factory buildings across the continent. Outside the air-conditioned halls of the IFA, hip young Berliners are spoiled for choice among shops offering vinyls and cassettes.

"Old formats, in audio, video, photo negatives or records have a very large user base, almost 50 per cent of the market," says Klaus Boehm, of consultancy Deloitte. —AFP ■

Drug-resistant superbug spreading in hospitals: study

PARIS (France) — A superbug resistant to all known antibiotics that can cause "severe" infections or even death is spreading undetected through hospital wards across the world, scientists in Australia warned on Monday.

Researchers at the University of Melbourne discovered three variants of the multidrug-resistant bug in samples from 10 countries, including strains in Europe that cannot be reliably tamed by any drug currently on the market.

"We started with samples in Australia but did a global snapshot and found that it's in many countries and many institutions around the world," Ben Howden, director of the university's Microbiological Diagnostic Unit Public Health Laboratory told AFP.

"It seems to have spread."

The bacteria, known as *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, is related to the better-known and more deadly MRSA.

It's found naturally on human skin and most commonly infects the elderly or patients who have had prosthetic mate-

rials implanted, such as catheters and joint replacements.

"It can be deadly, but it's usually in patients who already are very sick in hospital... it can be quite hard to eradicate and the infections can be severe," Howden said.

His team looked at hundreds of *S. epidermidis* specimens from 78 hospitals worldwide.

They found that some strains of the bug made a small change in its DNA that led to resistance to two of the most common antibiotics, often administered in tandem to treat hospital infections.

"These two antibiotics are unrelated and you would not expect one mutation to cause both antibiotics to fail," said Jean Lee, a PhD student at Melbourne's Doherty Institute, and co-author of the study.

Many of the most powerful antibiotics are extremely expensive and even toxic, and the team behind the study said that the practice of using multiple drugs at once to prevent resistance may not be working. —AFP ■

Messi surprised by Ronaldo leaving Madrid

BARCELONA (Spain) — Lionel Messi has admitted he was surprised by Cristiano Ronaldo's decision to leave Real Madrid and join Juventus.

Messi also believes the transfer will leave Madrid worse off and says Juve are now among the clear favourites to win this season's Champions League.

Ronaldo swapped Spain for Italy in a deal worth 100 million euros (\$117 million) in July, after securing a third consecutive European crown, and his fourth in five years with Real.

But Messi, who missed out on a three-man shortlist for FIFA's world player of the year award on Monday, feels the balance may have shifted following the 33-year-old's exit.

"I was surprised, I didn't imagine him leaving Madrid or that he would go to Juve because there was talk of many clubs (interested). The truth is I was very surprised but Juve are also a very good team," Messi told Catalunya Radio.

"Real Madrid are one of the best teams in the world and they have a great squad but it's obvious the departure of Ronaldo

makes them less strong while Juve have become a clear favourite for the Champions League.

"They already had a good team and now they also have Cristiano Ronaldo."

Madrid's dominance in Europe has made failure even harder to swallow for Barcelona, whose shock defeat by Roma in April meant crashing out in the quarter-finals for a third consecutive season.

Even winning both La Liga and the Copa del Rey last term for a domestic double was not enough to extinguish the disappointment.

"It's time to win the Champions League," Messi said. "We've been knocked out in the quarter-finals three seasons in a row and maybe the last one was the worst of all because of the result and how the match was played.

"I think we have to aim for that, as a club, as a team and as a collective. We have a spectacular squad and we can do it."

Ronaldo's move was the latest example of increasingly lavish spending by Europe's biggest clubs, with Neymar, Kylian

Mbappe, Philippe Coutinho and Paul Pogba all snapped up for more than 100 million euros over the past two years.

Messi believes the lure of Barcelona and Real Madrid is now being neutralised by the

mouth-watering sums on offer.

"There are clubs now with a lot of money and players move for that reason," he said.

"Wherever the most money is, that's

where they end up going. Things have changed and now the owners of clubs are multi-millionaires.

"Before, everyone wanted to play for Barca or Madrid, who

were the best, but now everything's tighter and there's not

much of a difference between the teams in Manchester, PSG, Madrid, us, Bayern (Munich) and the Italian (teams)."

Barcelona signed four players this summer, with Arthur Melo, Clement Lenglet, Arturo Vidal and Malcom all arriving at the Camp Nou.

Messi singled out Arthur, the 22-year-old Brazilian playmaker, for special praise.

"If I have to say one, I'll go with Arthur, who surprised me because I did not know much about him," Messi said.

"He has a style very similar to Xavi's, he always wants the ball, does not lose it, plays short passes and is very reliable.

"He has the style we always look for here." — AFP ■



Barcelona's Argentinian forward Lionel Messi takes a free kick to score a goal during the Spanish league football match between Barcelona and Alaves at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on August 18, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Mancini wants more Italians playing regular, top-flight football

ROME (Italy) — Italy coach Roberto Mancini has called on the coaches of Serie A squads to give younger players more playing time as he embarks on a program to relaunch the Azzurri after they missed the 2018 World Cup.

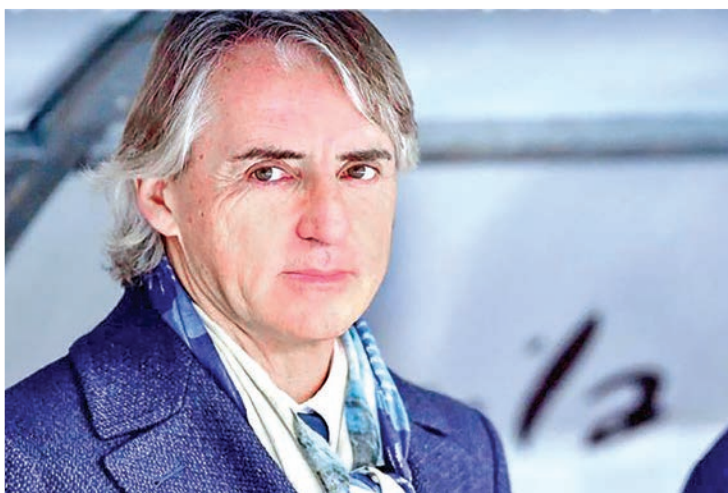
"There have never been fewer Italians playing the game," Mancini told a press conference on Monday. "This is a low point."

Mancini has called up 31 players for his Nations League squad for games with Poland on Friday and Portugal on Monday.

But Mancini bemoaned the fact some of his squad are wasting their talents by sitting on the bench.

"Often, the Italians on the bench can be better than those getting a start at some clubs," he suggested. "They need to be playing, especially the young ones."

In Mancini's squad are five uncapped players including Monaco's Pietro Pellegri, 17, and



Italy coach Roberto Mancini. **PHOTO: AFP**

Roma's Nicolo Zaniolo, who is 19 and has yet to start in a Serie A game.

"At 19 years old if you are a good player you have to be playing. We have a lot of interesting prospects who need playing time to show their worth," said Mancini.

"In other leagues they're not afraid to play 18-19 year-olds. We need to show more courage and trust them more.

"We are sending the message that we believe in good young players who can take things to the next level, we just need to see them on the pitch," he said. "At this historic moment there are not many Italian players playing on a consistent basis. Because of this, we have included many young players to increase the number of players so we can get to know them better." — AFP ■

Man Utd headed in right direction under Mourinho, insists Schmeichel

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Manchester United are heading in the right direction under Jose Mourinho, insists the club's legendary former goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel despite two early-season defeats. United bounced back from losing to Brighton and Tottenham with a comfortable 2-0 victory at Burnley on Sunday to quell some of the mounting tension at Old Trafford. Mourinho has routinely clashed with the media in recent weeks, demanding more respect for his managerial record, and his superiors at the club over a lack of transfer activity. However, Schmeichel cited the two trophies won by the Portuguese during his first season in charge in 2016/17 and a second-place finish behind Manchester City last season — United's highest league finish since Alex Ferguson's retirement in 2013 — as signs of progress.

"We are progressing, we've had a really tough awakening since Sir Alex and (former chief

executive) David Gill left at the same time. It left the club without a certain type of experience that the biggest club in the world needs," said Schmeichel on Monday. "We're getting there, we can talk about mistakes but we've got Jose Mourinho, a proven winner... he's won the Europa League, won the League Cup, been in an FA Cup final, we are doing really well and on the way to do doing better." Mourinho has been criticised for not getting the best out of star signings Paul Pogba and Alexis Sanchez, and a negative style of play not in keeping with the club's traditions under Ferguson. But Schmeichel, who won five Premier League titles during the Scot's time in charge at Old Trafford, believes there is still enough for the fans to be excited by. "We've got players in the squad that are inspirational, that you want to go to Old Trafford to watch. It all just needs to come together and that takes time." — AFP ■