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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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SME loan

The Union Government has borrowed ODA from JICA as a two-step loan for SMEs, in order to fulfill the need for finance, and Kyats 60 billion loans has been extended to SMEs within 3 years. It is also planned to extend a loan of additional Kyats 200 billion to the SMEs beginning from 2018-2019 FY. In addition, the State-owned Myanmar Economic Bank also plans to extend a loan amounting to Kyats 250 billion as SME loans.

(Excerpt from the report on the current work of the Union Government, delivered at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 19 September 2018)

UEC holding elections based on five norms



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein delivers a speech at the meeting with all levels of election sub-commissions chairmen and secretaries in Monywa, Sagaing Region, on 22 September. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Election Commission (UEC) is holding elections under the five norms of free, fair, transparent, credible and reflecting the will of the people, said UEC Chairman U Hla Thein.

UEC Chairman said this during a

meeting with all levels of Sagaing Region election sub-commissions chairmen and secretaries in Monywa town hall, Monywa, Sagaing Region, on the morning of 22 September.

In order to meet these norms, not only the UEC but all levels of election

sub-commissions need to do their duties and responsibilities. Election works could not be done alone by election commission but relevant ministries, political parties, civil society organisations, media and voters need to participate together in it.

Thanks are offered to respectable

and trusted persons who participated in the election works as volunteers, as they are doing the national duty for the country. When election sub-commissions conduct the election works, most are new members, and so they are required to follow the election law, rules, work procedures and guidelines without corruption and bias in order for the election to reflect the will of the people.

It is also important to conduct the advance voting, voting at the poll stations, counting of the votes and announcing the results in a transparent and a timely manner. Sub-commissions that hold by-elections will have to conduct the by-election successfully and sub-commissions that do not hold by-elections are to make preparations for the 2020 General Election, said the UEC Chairman.

Next, Sagaing Region election officer U Aung Myo Lwin explained about election work processes being conducted.

Afterwards, UEC Chairman reiterated for sub-commissions that will hold by-election to conduct the by-election successfully, and sub-commissions that do not hold by-election to assist as necessary. He also spoke of studying law, rules and work guidelines in advance for the 2020 General Election to fully understand it. — MNA ■

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Union Minister meets with migrant worker assistance groups in Thailand

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, who was in Bangkok under the invitation of Thailand Minister of Labour, met with migrant worker assistance groups at Emerald Hotel Panorama meeting hall in Bangkok on 22 September.

At the meeting, the Union Minister spoke of his gratitude and appreciation to the worker assistance groups for taking care of Myanmar workers and families in Thailand, requirement to conduct matters according to the law of the relevant country, five embassy officials in Thailand being ready to assist where necessary and Myanmar workers in the past crossing the border illegally and being exploited, trafficked and forced to work. He then said that, at present, workers were being sent under an MoU system that protects and provides full rights. The situation



Union Minister U Thein Swe addresses a meeting with migrant worker assistance groups in Bangkok on 22 September. **PHOTO: MNA**

of the Myanmar workers has also improved as embassy officials, led by the Ambassador, was also providing necessary legal advice and cooperating with Myanmar Overseas Employment Agencies Federation, said the Union Minister.

On 23 September, the Union Minister went to the opening ceremony of a reception and resettlement center where One Stop Service for documentation, protection accorded by the law and full social protection of undocumented Myanmar workers on

fishing boats will be provided.

At the ceremony, the Union Minister said majority of migrant workers in Thailand were from Myanmar and the two countries are having friendly cooperation on the affairs of these workers. For the workers on fishing boats to work legally and obtain full rights, accorded by the law, Myanmar side will open a migrant workers office in Kawthoung for workers who will be sent under the MoU system. At this office, workers will be provided with pre-work trainings, workers identity and sign the employment agreements. For this MoU system to be successful, effective action must be taken against brokers, agencies from the two countries that are conducting their work inappropriately and employers who violate the rights of the workers. Help and assistance centers, where 24-hour service can be provided for

workers in need must be opened in ports of the 22 provinces in Thailand. Staff who can speak in Myanmar language need to be employed there and Myanmar workers must have equal rights in the same way as other workers. They must have the right to hold proper document, have insurance coverage, obtain medical treatment, leave and travel freely. The Union Minister said more friendly cooperation is needed between the two countries and welcomed the opening of the One Stop Service Center.

Present at the ceremony from Myanmar side with the Union Minister were Department of Labour Director General, officials from National Registration Department and Myanmar Police Force, while from the Thailand side Minister for Labour, Ranong mayor, fishery association chairman and officials were in attendance. — MNA ■

Dismissed Yangon Advocate General, five officers, appear at court for bribery in comedian's murder case

SIX judiciary officials including, former Yangon Region advocate general U Han Htoo and a district judge, appeared at the Yangon High Court yesterday to face charges of allegedly accepting bribery in return for dropping the case against three men, accused of murdering a comedian popular on Facebook.

On 13 September, the Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case against Yangon Region Advocate General U Han Htoo, Judge U Aung Kyi from the Yangon Eastern Dis-

trict Court, Yangon Region law officer U Thein Zaw, Yangon Eastern District law officer U Ko Ko Lay, Yangon Eastern District deputy law officer Daw Thit Thit Khin, and Police Lieutenant Chit Ko Ko of Thuwunna Police Station.

The Anti-Corruption Commission said they took bribes from U Khin Maung Lay, father of suspect Than Htut Aung, in return for having the case dismissed against the three suspects of killing Aung Ye Htwe, a comedian popular on Facebook, on New Year's Eve

last year.

Prosecutors have sought bribery charges against U Han Htoo under section 55 of the Anti-Corruption Law, which carries a prison sentence of up to 15 years, according to Daw Nwe Nwe Oo, Deputy Director of Yangon Regional Court.

Meanwhile, Judge U Aung Kyi, law officer U Ko Ko Lay, law officer Daw Thit Thit Khin, Police Lieutenant Chit Ko Ko and law officer U Thein Zaw all face charges under section 56 of the same law, which carries a 10-year sentence.—MNA ■

Fake ten thousand kyat notes, related equipment confiscated in Thaton Township

FAKE ten thousand kyats notes and related accessories were confiscated at night on 24 September in Thaton Township and a case has been opened against three perpetrators.

When a leading team by Police Lieutenant Aung Thu, Thaton District Police Force, discovered in the house of Daw Htay Htay, 50, Leik Inn ward, Thaton Township, 12,545 fake ten thousand kyat notes, 220 A4 papers one-sided photocopy of ten thousand kyat bill, 9 A4

papers two-sided photocopy, 1 color-printer, 1 pressing machine with MYANMAR caption, 1 paper cutter, 4 bottles of printer ink, 2 plastic tapes, 1 safeguard, 1 wire cord, 1 ruler, 3 bottles of glue, 2 stamps, 1 lead mould, 1 NRC card, 1 waist bag and 3 mobile phones were confiscated from the room of Zaw Min Naing @ Ko Zaw, 46, (Resident of Htein Taw Village, Moe Nyo Township).

According to testimony of Daw Htay Htay and Zaw Min

Naing @ Ko Zaw, Zaw Min Naing @ Ko Zaw sojourned in that house since about one month ago and Bo Lay from Alan Tayar Village, Thaton Township came and made fake notes in the room of Zaw Min Naing. The case has been opened against Daw Htay Htay, Zaw Min Naing @ Ko Zaw and Bo Lay at Thaton Myoma Police Station and it was reported that Police Force is still investigating about the fake notes and proceeding to arrest Bo Lay. —GNLM ■

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment as Permanent Secretary

The Union Government has appointed Director-General (Mines) U Min Min Oo from the Union Minister's Office, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, to assume the duties of Permanent Secretary.

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of service organizations transferred, confirmed and appointed

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred U Kyaw Min Oo, Director-General, Department of Planning under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation as Director-General (Agricultural Land/Irrigation) of the Union Minister's Office, from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names, on the expiry of one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Hla Htay	Director-General Constitutional Tribunal of the Union
(2) U Khin Thet	Director-General Department of Rural Road Development Ministry of Construction
3.	The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Dr. Moh Moh Yi, Pro-Rector, Co-Operatives University (Sagaing), under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, as rector of the university on probation, from the date she assumes charge of her duties.

Union Minister receives delegation from UNESCO, IMS/Fojo

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint received a delegation from the UNESCO and IMS/Fojo at 2 pm at the ministry yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to choosing topics which are relevant to current situation and to be discussed in advance at the forthcoming 7th Myanmar Media Development Conference, which would be organized by

the Ministry of Information and local and foreign media partners.

They also discussed matters related to media literacy being conducted by UNESCO and the results of the survey on public usage of the media, conducted by IMS/Fojo.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun and officials of the ministry. —MNA ■



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint meeting with the UNESCO and IMS/Fojo delegation yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

World Seed Partnership Meeting held

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu said, “Strong projects to increase agricultural exports include producing safe and nutritious agricultural products, implementing for the development of seeds production and research development. We have to promote and encourage using new varieties of plants and high quality seeds for supporting the sustainable agricultural development.” His remarks came during World Seed Partnership meeting held at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone at 9am yesterday morning.

He said, “In this year, we were able to perform 35% GDP of the country from agricultur-

al sector, 13.7% from export and 61.2% from workforce. We are perpetually working for stability of agricultural experts, businessmen and farmers, in accordance with increased investment for seeds from our development partnership organizations. We want all experts to discuss on using new varieties of plants and high quality seeds in this meeting.”

Then, Netherlands Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Wouter Jurgens, greeted the attendees, after which Mr. Ben Rivoire from the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), Mr. Csaba Gaspar from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation

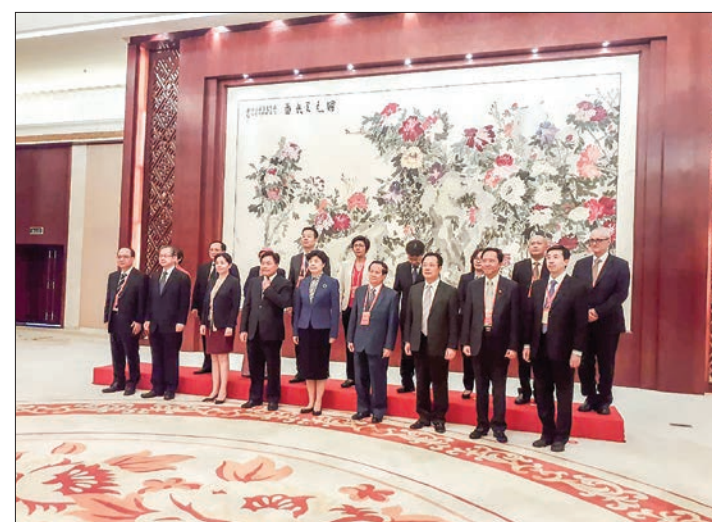
and Development (OECD), Dr. Florina Plada from the International Seeds Testing Association (ISTA), Mr. Michael Keller from the International Seed Federation (ISF) and Mrs. Karen Williams from the World Farmers Organisation (WFO) discussed on being able to use new varieties of plants and high quality seeds and the development of seeds production.

In that meeting, they mainly discussed developing rights of plant breeders and growers, increasing the investment from international seeds and plants breeders companies and to be able to distribute seeds internationally by Myanmar, in accordance with international standards.—MNA ■



Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu addresses the “World Seed Partnership meeting” in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

2nd China-ASEAN congress on cooperation in health sector held in Nanning, PRC



Permanent Secretary Dr. Thet Khaing Win poses for a documentary photo together with other attendees at the 2nd China-ASEAN congress in Nanning. **PHOTO: MNA**

Second China-ASEAN congress on cooperation in health sector was held in Nanning, People's Republic of China (PRC), from 19 to 21 September. On behalf of the Union Minister for Health and Sports, Ministry of Health and Sports Permanent Secretary Dr. Thet Khaing Win and officials from the ministry attended the congress.

During the opening cere-

mony of the congress, Permanent Secretary Dr. Thet Khaing Win delivered a speech, on behalf of the Union Minister.

After attending the congress, the Myanmar delegation visited Nanning Medical University, School of Dentistry, University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Guangxi Botanical Garden, and discussed bilateral cooperation.

— MNA ■

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe

dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS

Zaw 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.mm@gmail.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAM

Tun 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

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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gnlmdaily@gmail.com

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Less supply flow affecting freight transport

By May Thet Hnin

STARTING from last week, freight transport has been slow as 30 per cent of highway trucks have halted their transportation service, according to Myanmar Highway Freight Transportation Service Association (MHFTSA). Freight charges for high way trucks from Yangon to Mandalay, Muse, Magway, Ayeyawady, Pyay and other areas have significantly dropped as volume of shipment is down. Following suspension of truck service, we are discussing with freight forwarders to scale up 5 to 10 per cent of freight cost, said U Ko Ko Naing, chair of MHFTSA.

"Yearly, goods flow usually moves slow in July, August and September. However, dollar appreciation and high fuel oil price has drastically affected freight transportation", he said.

At present, China has

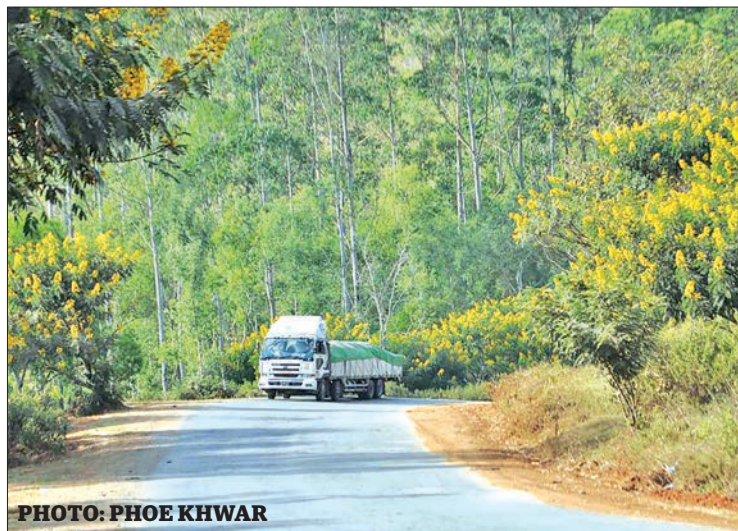


PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

suspended purchase of goods through border trade channels. Therefore, freight shipment volume has declined. Freight cost has decreased from Ks81,000 to Ks68,000 per ton for Yangon-Muse route and from Ks38,000 to Ks31,000 per ton for Yangon-Mandalay route. Similarly, 30 per cent of transportation service in Magway, Pyay, Ayeyawady and other places are being suspended. Freight cost of highway trucks depends on

volume of shipment.

"We will not completely halt our freight service although we are struggling with current situation. Those suspended trucks will resume their businesses after new freight cost is set. Currently, merchants are also adjusting placing their goods on market, with the US dollar fluctuating. We are running transportation service as suspension will affect earnings of the truck drivers and assistants, said U

Kyin Thein, Yangon-Taunggyi freight forwarder.

At present, frequency of six-wheeled trucks decreased from 10 to 5-6 times a month. Similarly, frequency of ten-wheeled truck has declined from 5-6 to 2 times. Income of freight service has dropped remarkably, due to lower frequency of trucks and decrease in freight cost, said the freight forwarders.

"Only 15 per cent of overall freight charges are left for owners, after deducting fuel oil price, driver and assistant wages, toll charges on road and bridges", said U Hla Aung, Yangon-Kyauktan highway truck owner.

There are two freight services in highway transportation sector, service for general goods and charter truck service for particular single item. The trucks running for various goods are currently suspended.

There are 14 main routes for highway freight service, with 70,000 heavy trucks and nearly 200,000 light trucks.

Billboards on pedestrian platforms to be relocated

By Nyein Nyein

IN responding to a question raised by Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Yan Aung at the eighth-day meeting of the seventh regular session of Second Yangon Region Hluttaw on 24 September, Yangon mayor U Maung Maung Soe said billboards on pedestrian platforms will be repositioned appropriately.

U Yan Aung's question was whether there are any plans to

relocate billboards on pedestrian platforms (that were obstructing the passage of the pedestrians) and how the position of the billboards was regulated in the agreements.

In his reply, Yangon mayor U Maung Maung Soe said 13 billboards were moved further back outside of the pedestrian platforms, and arrangements were made to move more. In addition to this, the Yangon mayor said, an international tender was called to construct modern bus

stops in Yangon. FMI Decaux Co., Ltd. is the tender winning company and the agreement signed includes specification for placing of billboards. Modern bus stops are to be constructed with hundred percent investment of FMI Decaux Co., Ltd. at locations approved by Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA). As per the agreement, billboards were also permitted and income from the billboards will be shared with YCDC (Yangon City Development Commit-

tee) yearly. Billboards are to be at least 1 meter from the edge of the pedestrian platform and must be at least 2.2 meter high. This will allow pedestrians with umbrellas and on wheelchairs to pass beneath it with ease, said the Yangon mayor. If billboards are not constructed as stipulated in the agreement, the company will be asked to change its way, and necessary follow up actions will be taken if it fails to do so, answered Yangon mayor U Maung Maung Soe.

New company taking over Yangon traffic control center project suggested

By Nyein Nyein

THE Yangon Region Hluttaw Public Accounts Committee has suggested that work permit of traffic control center project should be transferred to another company, as the two companies — Myanmar Shwe Ying International Co., Ltd. and China Railway 21st Bureau Group Co., Ltd, which succeeded in tender to install advanced traffic light system and construction of the center, remain in limbo.

That was revealed at the eighth-day meeting of the seventh regular session of Second Yangon Region Hluttaw, held on 24 September, when the Public

Accounts Committee submitted its report of findings and opinions, according to the Yangon Region Auditor General's audit report for 2016-2017 fiscal year.

"Myanmar Shwe Ying International Co., Ltd. and China Railway 21st Bureau Group Co., Ltd., that successfully bid for traffic control center project, signed with the regional government, pulling in Ks18.938 billion. However, they were given a warning to pay Ks100,000 fine per day as the project failed to meet the deadline on 2 August 2016.

"The government has collected Ks21 million for 210 days and the project is facing

delay. Therefore, the government should select new capable company after adjusting the balance", said U Tint Lwin, chair of the Public Accounts Committee.

Regarding delay of traffic control center project, Yangon Region government mentioned at the press conference of the government's second-year performance on 24 August that the dispute between Yangon Region government and the companies caused delay.

It is a huge loss for both parties if it is in the state of uncertain situation for a long term. This being so, Yangon Region government had better make a

brave decision for that, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Nay Phone Latt urged.

"If the project keeps facing delay, it is not profitable to both sides. The regional government should take a brave move to tackle this, depending on report of the Yangon Region Auditor General office. It should make a decision at the earliest time", said U Nay Phone Latt.

The traffic control center project was implemented during the previous government, aiming to ease traffic congestion and monitor undisciplined driving, and unlicensed vehicles in the commercial hub of Yangon.

Offshore block A-6 to become major natural gas production project

A PRESS conference on the outcome of drilling appraisal well Shweyitun 2 in offshore block A-6 was conducted at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday afternoon.

Present at the press briefing were Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, Deputy Minister Dr. Tun Naing, Permanent Secretary U Tin Maung Oo, chairmen, managing directors, directors general of departments and corporations, heads of departments, officials from MPRL E&P Pte., Ltd., Woodside Energy (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd. and Total E&P Myanmar Co., Ltd. that are shareholders of the PSC (Production Sharing Contract) Operator.

First, a video on appraisal well Shweyitun 2 was shown, followed by Myanma Oil & Gas Enterprise (MOGE) Managing Director U Myo Myint Oo reading a press release on discovery of natural gas.



Ministry of Electricity and Energy holding a press conference on the outcome of drilling appraisal well Shweyitun 2 in offshore block A-6, at the ministry's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Next, status of work at offshore block A-6 was explained by MOGE director (offshore), officials from MPRL E&P Pte., Ltd., Woodside Energy (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd. and Total

E&P Myanmar Co., Ltd., that are shareholders of the PSC Operator and Union Minister provided further explanations. Questions raised by local and foreign media were then answered by the Union Minister and the officials.

Offshore oil and gas exploration works were conducted in offshore block A-6 after a PSC was signed between MOGE

and MPRL E&P Pte., Ltd. on 18 January 2007. Australia-based Woodside Energy (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd. and France-based Total E&P Myanmar Co Ltd farmed-in. Drilling of appraisal well Shweyitun 2 in offshore block A-6 was started on 20 July and reached the target depth of 4,850 meter (15,912 ft.). It tested commercially viable natural gas in a sand bar 40 meter thick. A Drill Stem Test (DST) was successfully carried out.

Offshore block A-6 was jointly explored by Myanmar nationals, led by MPRL E&P Pte., Ltd., Australian Woodside Energy (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd., and French Total E&P Myanmar Co., Ltd. with an investments ratio of 20 per cent, 40 per cent and 40 per cent, respectively.

Work will be continued by the shareholders in offshore block A-6 to make it into a major natural gas production project, it is learnt. —MNA ■

Fresh green tea leaf soon to be exported to US market

LOCAL tea leaf suppliers are exploring new export markets and 17 tons of Myanmar's fresh green tea leaf will be shipped to the US on 28 September, said Daw Yupa, director from Ratha-wathi Company in Mandalay.

Myanmar's fresh green tea leaf has been exported to the US market since 2015. About 17-20 tons of organic fresh green tea leaf are yearly exported. Only 17 tons of tea leaf meet the US's market standard this year, and it is going to be sent this Friday.

"Previously, tea leaf export occurs in June and July. However, seeking FDA certificate prior to export, delayed the export this year. Fresh tea leaf can bring about many opportunities to this industry, penetrating more international markets. It is exported to foreign markets as raw material without being soaked in cooking oil", she said.

Myanmar's fresh tea leaf is placed on markets in San Francisco, California, US. It is getting more export market shares on account of its health benefit.

"We practice corporate



Farmers harvesting tea leaves in a hilly region. The number of tea leaf consumers has increased in the US. **PHOTO: KHINE SET WAI**

social responsibility in supply chain from farm to consumers. We try to offer better services and support to the market", she continued.

Myanmar's tea leaves bring a good reputation in the export market. Tea leaves are being showcased in international expos, as only some foreigners have knowledge of fresh tea leaf consumption. It also aims to show off tea custom in Myanmar to guests at international exhibitions.

Daw Nyo Nyo Sein, chair

of Myanmar Tea Association said that tea leaves are displayed at some super markets in foreign countries. Foreigners have come to appreciate it, after trying it. The number of tea leaf consumers has increased in US.

Myanmar Tea Association is endeavoring to introduce tea leaf to foreign markets. Myanmar's tea leaf has penetrated to markets in China and some regional countries, such as Laos, Singapore, etc. —Khine Set Wai ■

Export to US outperforms import from April to July

MYANMAR'S exports to the United States surpassed imports from April to July of current mini-budget period (April to September), according to the data of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's trade with the United States was worth US\$320.5 million, with exports worth \$205.6 million and imports worth \$114.8 million.

Rice, various types of pulses and some agro products, forest products, fish, prawns, apparel, garments produced on cut-make-pack system, and other finished industrial goods were shipped to the United States. Meanwhile, Myanmar mainly imported personal goods, capital goods and industrial raw materials from the United States.

Under (former US president) Barack Obama's gov-

ernment, the US reinstated Myanmar's eligibility for a generalised system of preferences benefits, after the imposition of economic sanctions against Myanmar for more than two decades.

Myanmar's bilateral trade with the United States was worth \$718.3 million for the 2017-2018 FY, \$690.6 million for the 2016-2017 FY, \$196.9 million for the 2015-2016 FY, \$544.6 million for the 2014-2015 FY, \$104 million for the 2013-2014 FY, \$122.7 million for the 2012-2013 FY and \$293 million for the 2011-2012 FY.

During mini-budget period, one US listed enterprise brought in a capital of \$55.9 million, according to figures provided by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. —GNLM ■

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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 22 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 Daw Pyone Yi from Kokkolkone village, Thabeikkyin Tsp, Mandalay Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 16-9-2018, police arrested Daw Pyone Yi, 57, together with WY psychotropic tablets in her house in Kokkolkone village, Thabeikkyin Tsp. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Tagaung) MaYa(Pa) 9/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of illegal drugs being sold from ‘Shwe Sin’ hair and make-up salon in Chaungnakwa village, Kyaikmaraw Tsp, Mon State.	On 19-9-2018, police arrested Ma Shwe Sin (a) Zinyaw Ma, 31, in ‘Shwe Sin’ salon in Attarankwathit Ward, Chaungnakwa village, Kyaikmaraw Tsp, and Daw Khin Htar, 53, from the same ward together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Chaungnakwa) MaYa(Pa) 11/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug, and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of groups of people selling illegal drugs daily on the hilltop in Group 10, Ward 4, Kutkai Tsp, Shan State (North).	Police have opened 21 cases and arrested 20 men and 2 women together with heroin and psychotropic tablets in the past seven weeks. On 18-9-2018, investigations into related cases led to the arrest of Yaw Kyar Phu, 32, from Zay village, together with ‘88/1’ psychotropic tablets during a stakeout near the 38-mile road near Zay village, Kutkai Tsp. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kutkai) MaYa(Pa) 107/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Ko Aung from No. 12/55, Ward Nga/Ka, Thingangyun Tsp, Yangon Region, selling and using illegal drugs.	On 19-9-2018, police entered Ko Aung’s house in No. 12/55. Sanchainthit Street, Thuwanna Ward Nga/Ka, Thingangyun Tsp. Ko Aung had fled, but police arrested Tun San Oo, 35, and Phyo Wai Aung, 23, from the same ward, together with WY psychotropic tablets, marijuana, and 9 swords. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Thuwanna) MaYa(Pa) 43/2018 under Section 19-A/22-B/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Ko Kyaw Kyaw Htet from Kanbet village, Labutta Tsp, Ayeyawady Region.	On 21-9-2018, police arrested Kyaw Kyaw Htet, 26, together with WY psychotropic tablets in Ohnpinsu Ward 1, Kanbet village, Labutta Tsp. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Kanbet) MaYa(Pa) 2/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Continuing investigations into related cases, police arrested Poe Ni Toe (a) Myint Hlaing, 37, together with WY psychotropic tablets in Yuzana Street, Kanbet village. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Kanbet) MaYa(Pa) 1/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Continuing investigations into related cases, police searched Nyein Chan Ko Ko, 36,’s house in Mes-sayanaung Street, Kanbet village, but could not find him and instead arrested is wife Ma San San Maw, 32, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Kanbet) MaYa(Pa) 3/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Daw Pauk Sa’s son Kyaw Kyaw from the squatter area in Ward 2, Hlinethaya Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 16-9-2018, police investigating around Ward 15 in Hlinethaya Tsp arrested Kyaw Kyaw Tun (a) Kyaw Kyaw, 29, from the squatter area in Ward 2, and Maung Maung (a) Khant Nyar Thu, 26, from the same ward, together with WY psychotropic tablets and a sword. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hlinethaya) MaYa(Pa) 67/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/22-B/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Police also took Kyaw Kyaw Tun to his house in Ward 2 and confiscated additional WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hlinethaya) MaYa(Pa) 68/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of some houses on Okka Street, North Okkalapa Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 18-8-2018, police arrestd Myo Thiha Hlaing, 24, from Okka Street 1, Ward Ga, North Okkalapa Tsp, his younger brother Kyaw Zawe Hlaing, 19, and Khin Maung Aye, 30, from Ye Kyaw Ward, Pazundaung Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (North Okkalapa) MaYa(Pa) 54/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of illegal drugs being sold on the 2 nd floor of No.7, 53 rd street, Ward2, Pazundaung Twp, Yangon Region.	On 17-9-2018, police arrested Aung Kyaw, 33, from No.7, 53 rd street, Ward 2, Pazundaung Tsp, Hein Zaw Win, 35, and Shine Tayzar Kyaw, 22, from Bo Tunzan Ward, Dawbon Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Pazundaung) MaYa(Pa) 6/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of Hmwae Hmwae from ThaDaLa Ward 2, Namtu Tsp, Shan State (North), selling illegal drugs.	On 16-9-2018, police arrested Daw Mar Kyi (a) Hmwae Hmwae, 52, from ThaDaLa Ward 2, Namtu Tsp, together with ‘88/1’ psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 11/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10	Information received of Kalasin (a) Kalamagyi Yaukyar from No. 785/A, Malikha Street, Ward 14, Hlinethaya Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 22-9-2018, police arrested Han Kyi Tun (a) Han Gyi, 32, in No. 785/A, Malikha Street, Ward 14, Hline-thaya Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets and 3 swords. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hlinethaya) MaYa(Pa) 76/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/22-B of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
11	Information received of Ko Aung Soe form Shwepyi village, Dekkhinathiri Tsp, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.	On 19-9-2018, police arrested Ko Aung Soe, 42, from Shwwepyi village, Dekkhinathiri Tsp, together with heroin. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Guest House) MaYa(Pa) 2/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
12	Information received of Yangon Zaw Win from Shwetone village, Chaung-wa village-tract, Mabein Tsp, Shan State (North) selling illegal drugs.	On 18-9-2018, police arrested Yangon Zaw Win, 55, from Shwetone village, Mabein Tsp, together with opium. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Mabein) MaYa(Pa) 89/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

13	Information received of Ko Thein Kyaw from Hedaung village, Kalewa Tsp, Sagaing Region, using and selling illegal drugs.	<p>On 20-9-2018, police arrived at Thein Kyaw, 52,'s house in Hedaung village, Kalewa Tsp, but Thein Kyaw resisted arrest and attacked police officers with a sword and dagger. Police fired a warning shot but Thein Kyaw threw the dagger at police officers and proceeded to attack with his sword Police fired a fatal shot to Thein Kyaw. Police arrested his wife Ma Aye Po, 51, from within the house together with opium and 2 swords. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Masein) MaYa(Pa) 4/2018 under Section 19-A/22-B/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Thein Kyaw's death has been recorded as NaMaSa (Masein) Death Case No. 2/2018.</p> <p>Investigations into related cases led to the arrest of Ma Amar Sein, 42, from the same village, Ko Hla Ngwe, 40, from Thayettaw village, together with opium. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Masein) MaYa(Pa) 3/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p> <p>Police also confiscated illegal lottery ticket documents and a cash pool of Ks 13,500 form Ko Hla Ngwe's travel bag. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Masein) (Pa) 29/2018 under Section 15-A/16-A of the Gambling Law.</p>
14	Information received of Nyo Nyo Oo from Natsett village, Phaungpyin Tsp, Sagaing Region, and Ma Khin San Oo from Tuthida village selling illegal drugs.	<p>On 16-9-2018, police arrested Nyo Oo (a) Nyo Nyo Oo, 33, from Natsett village, Phaungpyin Tsp, Kyaw Min Tun, 27, Maung Naing, 38, and Pyu Maung, 63, together with opium and '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 73/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p> <p>On 20-9-2018, police arrested Ma Khin San Oo, 46, from Thothida village, Phaungpyin Tsp, and Sein Lwin, 33, from Nyaunggone village, together with heroin, opium, '88/1' psychotropic tablets, and 13 pieces of gold jewelry and 5 gold ingots (approx. 29.0246 oz). A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Phaungpyin) MaYa(Pa) 77/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p>
15	Information received of Tin Oo, 45, living near Shweponepwint monastery, Shweminphone regional gold work site, Kalaw Tsp, Shan State (South), selling illegal drugs.	<p>On 21-9-2018, police arrested Tin Oo, 45, living near Shweponepwint monastery, Shweminphone regional gold work site, Kalaw Tsp, and Shine Min Naing, 19, from Taungnyo village, Ottwin Tsp, Bago Region, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kalaw) MaYa(Pa) 52/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.</p>

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far 291 cases have been opened as of 22-9-2018, and 378 men and 77 women have been arrested with seizures of 2,650.48 g of heroin, 16.71g of ICE, 37,259.21 g of opium, 329 g of low-quality opium, 5,802 g of powder opium, 3,973.99 g of speciosa, 147,256 stimulant tablets, 3,358.74 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 217.4 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 1.65 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 10 firearms, 179 different bullets, and 1 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 previous week, multiple arrests were made in the border regions and joint-surveillance gates. In Kachin State, Mansi Tsp, Han Htet-Mantar highway, a man was arrested with 12,900 stimulant tablets, 38 g of heroin, and 400 g of opium. In Waingmaw Tsp, Myitkyina-Bhamo highway 306 g of heroin was confiscated.
- In Shan State, during an area investigation in Kutkai Twp, near the forest border of Naunghin village, 2,520 liters of ethyl/ether, 1,040 liters of acetone, 4,000 liters of hydrochloric acid, and 80 liters of llyodzaw were found buried in the ground. In Mantaw village, 324 liters of ethyl/ether; 60 liters of acetone, and 12 liters of sulfuric acid was found hidden on a hillslope. At the entry gate to Namhkam city, a man was arrested with 3,740 g of heroin and a Crown vehicle, and further investigation led to the arrest of one man with 1,155 g of heroin. In Mongshu Tsp, Parneim vil-

lage, a man was arrested with 49,530 stimulant tablets. In Muse City, a man was arrested with 473 g of heroin. In Lashio Tsp, a driverless FUSO truck was parked near Namabawda village, carrying 2,800 liters of anthranilic acid, 4,600 liters of toluene, 400 liters of 1-phenyl-2-propanone, 1,000 liters of nacetylan-thranilic acid, 20 gas kegs, and 30 bags of topsoil. In Kunhing Tsp, Karli Town, a man was arrested with 54,200 stimulant tablets and 65.57 g of heroin. In Mabein Tsp, two men were arrested with 30,350 stimulant tablets and 790 g of heroin. In Kengtung Tsp, on the Kengtung-Mongla highway between Ketpha village and Naunghin village, a driverless Fortuner car was parked carrying 100,000 g of ICE.

In Taninthayi Region, Kawthoung Tsp, Nyaungpi village, a man was arrested with 599,489.4 g of powder opium.

In Rakhine State, Sittway Town, two men were arrested with 20,399 stimulant tablets and 700 g of marijuana. In Kyaukpyu Town, a man and a woman were arrested with 16 simulant tablets. Two arrests were made in Maungtaw Tsp. In Gonenar village, a man was arrested with 229 stimulant tablets. On the Myanmar side of the Naf River, security forces chased a boat but the suspects jumped into the river and escaped, leaving behind 97,500 stimulant tablets on the boat.

There has been 1 case of retaliation from the suspects. During an investigation in Kachin State, Mogaung Tsp, Sarmhaw village, police fatally shot a man attacking the officers with a sword and confiscated 0.02 g of heroin and the sword.

There has been 1 case of arrest involving foreigners. In Shan State, Namhkam Two, Manthaung village, two Chinese citizens illegally entered Myanmar with 5 g of heroin. In Yangon City's Central Post Office, in each of the foreign envelopes received were 100 ecstasy crystals and 25 g of marijuana.

There have been 296 cases being opened between 16-9-2018 and 22-9-2018, and 337 men and 48 women have been arrested. Seizures of 7,347.85 g of heroin, 100,022.97 g of ICE, 569.43 g of raw opium, 599,572.39 g of powder opium, 351,769 stimulant tablets, 395 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 4,025.71 g of marijuana, 0.36 liters of opium tincture, 50 g of opium blocks, 0.3 g of ketamine, 100 ecstasy crystals, 2,800 liters of anthranilic acid, 12 liters of sulfuric acid, 400 liters of hydrochloric acid, 1,100 liters of acetone, 400 liters of 1-phenyl-2-propanone, 2,844 liters of ethyl/ether, 4,600 liters of toluene, 1,000 liters of n-acetylan-thranilic acid, 80 liters of llyodzaw, 10 g of chemical powder, 20 gas kegs, and 30 bags of topsoil. There has been one case of drug smuggling at the central post office last week where the recipient address pointed to the same location. Police have arrested one woman relating to this with 2 suspects still on the run. A case has been opened concerning this and the Myanmar Police Force is cooperating with Interpol and police forces from the country of the sender(s)' address.

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 via following contact numbers:

75 buprenorphine tablets,

Contacts

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

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated naval patrols

TROOPS led by Police Major Myint Htay of No. 4 border police force, area 6, on two shark fast attack boats 003 and 005, conducted a coordinated patrol along the Naf River with troops led by Subedar Md. Ibrahim Hossain on two speed boats, on the morning of 24 September. The four boats met up on the border of the two countries in the middle of Naf River, near the mouth of Aungbala creek at the 5 mile post, and patrolled along the river up to 8 mile post where the troops from the two sides met on boat 005. — Myanmar Police Force



Time is ripe to invest in agro industries

MYANMAR has yet to exploit its full potential in agriculture as it is still far behind its peers in terms of export market volume and farm productivity. The Agricultural sector plays an important role in boosting our economy and it is also vital for the country's economic growth. Therefore, the Ministry of Commerce has relaxed restrictions on trade and has been making efforts for promoting smooth training and consumer rights, solving trade disputes and creating job opportunities.

To promote the export sector, it is required to know about agricultural products, prospects for export, market penetration, import/export policies of trade partners, and also, demand and situation of the export market.



As part of efforts to boost the exports, priority consideration would also be given to industries related with agricultural products, jewelries, fruits and vegetables.

The country's economy would be boosted through trading in agricultural products. We believe that export growth of agro products and crops can develop our national economy.

Therefore, the government and private business sector are to work together for boosting producing of quality crops and products which have prospects for getting accepted in foreign market.

Myanmar's trade volume from April to August reached US\$ 16 billion, with an increase of US\$2.3 billion in comparison with the same period last year. It means our export saw an increase of 1.5 billion in the period.

Agriculture, no doubt, remains the main economic sector for Myanmar with the highest capacity for jobs and income growth while stemming what looks like unsustainable rural- to-urban migration of jobless youths. Agro-based industries will be the catalyst for growth in the agricultural sector.

To boost agro-based industries, we should embrace technology and innovations. Only when we have technical assistance, better farming technologies and funding, will the agro productivity be increased to be able to tap into the huge export market.

The time is ripe to invest and at the same time promote the use of modern farming technologies for the growth of agro industries in Myanmar.

In accordance with the National Export Strategy Project in 2013, the Union Government has been working to promote the agro export sector giving priority to rice, peas and pulses, fishery products, textile, wood and forest products, rubber and tourism sector.

As part of efforts to boost the exports, priority consideration would also be given to industries related with agricultural products, jewelries, fruits and vegetables.

The country's economy would be

MINGALAR PAR!

FIRST of all, allow me to extend our heartiest greetings to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, Hluttaw officials, Hluttaw members, Union level dignitaries, representatives of international organizations, responsible persons from political parties, representatives of non-governmental organizations, representatives from civil societies, students and youths, family members of democratic forces attending this International Day of Democracy held by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

I am Nan Moe Moe Htwe, Amyotha Hluttaw representative from Kayin State constituency 4. I am highly honored to have the opportunity to read the paper on behalf of the National League for Democracy on the International Day of Democracy that falls on 15 September 2018.

The United Nations designated International Day of Democracy on 15 September 2007 with the intention to encourage and support the democratic system. Beginning 2011, Myanmar started celebrating International

Day of Democracy and it has now observed its 8th anniversary.

In shaping the democracy process in Myanmar, the National League for Democracy has continuously endeavoured in its cooperation activities.

Our party has laid down the campaign slogan, "Time for Change", with a view to enhancing the democratic system, and competed in the 2015 general elections, where the majority of the people elected our party. The achievement was in fact a milestone for our comrades and the people as a whole who struggled in the cause which will never be forgotten in the chronicle of history.

Moreover, the National League for Democracy continued with the slogan, "Together with the People", and then with the slogan, "Collective Strength", with the party continuing with its democratic endeavours.

In a struggle, collective participation and management is much more effective than indi-

FIRST of all, allow me to extend our heartiest greetings and best wishes for mental and physical health to the representatives of various political parties, invited guests and respected entire people who are attending to this International Day of Democracy.

I am Central Executive Committee member Daw Kyawt Yin Win, being assigned to read the paper of Union Solidarity and Development Party at this 2018 International Day of Democracy.

In today's world, the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) has designated 15 September as International Day of Democracy and celebrated since 2007 for the flourishing and strengthening of democratic system, for the continued awareness of democratic spirit, and for

the continued implementation of democratic tasks in future, and now it has entered its 11th anniversary.

During this time, countries practicing democratic system usually celebrate the International Day of Democracy in their countries. On the part of the IPU, it has yearly designated the theme for the International Day of Democracy, and the theme for this year is, "Let us work together for the flourishing of democracy".

The meaning of "Democracy" has been interpreted in many ways by political pundits, and mainly it is found in three different aspects. The first stands out for "Source", while the second covers "Purpose", and the final deals on "Procedure".

Allow me to present that



Nan Moe Moe Htwe

vidual efforts. This year's dictum, "Let us work together for the flourishing of democracy", is very much appropriate with the current situation of Myanmar as we celebrate the International Day of Democracy.

Each and every one knows the ground reality that we need to overcome many hurdles and challenges to reach our expected goal as we are actually on the threshold of the democracy pathway.

The adopted theme across the globe, such as "Let us work together for the flourishing of democracy", is very much encouraging for the tasks of check and balance among the three state pillars of the legislative, the administrative and the judiciary, which is very much appropriate and suitable on the way towards democratic practice in the law making, representation, and control mechanism of the Hluttaws.

Currently, we have reached agreements as part 1 for 37 points at the second Union Peace Conference – 21st Century

Panglong meeting, and as part 2 for 14 points at the third Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong meeting in the form of Union Agreement. Therefore, we could lay down the agreements for the important task in building the future Union based on democracy and federal system.

The National League for Democracy has obviously considered the forum of collective solution of all relevant groups with multifaceted strength, stability and peace for better advantage and development of the nation.

We believe everybody knows that during the second Hluttaw term, the National League for Democracy has been positively working for the implementation of check and balance for the advantage of the nation with the representatives of the Hluttaw.

We would like to present that we could carry out in better and effective way with strength in connectivity between the people and the Hluttaw, under the theme of "Let us work together for the flourishing of democracy".

As the Myanmar Radio and

Television is broadcasting direct on Hluttaw meetings, the question and answer sessions of lawmakers, and the lively proceedings inside the Hluttaws, we are able to have closer and more understanding between the people and the Hluttaw.

Moreover, the Public Relations departments have been established at Hluttaw Offices, where pamphlets and handouts are being distributed and explained about the parliament, and as a result more visitors from all walks of life among the people, students and youths, local and foreign organizations could be seen there.

At this juncture, we would like to acknowledge the cooperative and fruitful consultation with the people and the relevant institutions on the scrutiny over the draft bills by the lawmakers before approval and also the work of appraisal after the enactment. The National League for Democracy would like to reaffirm people's participation for the advantage of the people in the people's administrative system,

which could be interpreted as the flourishing democracy towards the strategic process, in the context of check and balance, providing and leaving as legacy to the upcoming new generations.

The democratic reform and transition have been acquired with valuable sacrifices that could never be forgotten in the road ahead, expecting lesser level of sacrifice and lighter degree of vulnerability for the flourishing of democracy. With a righteous mindset and benevolence towards the nation, we must step ahead on the right path, with the steady pace to the right direction, along with relevant organizations and institutions on the road ahead. We must continue with the theme, "Let us work together for the flourishing of democracy".

In conclusion, allow me to say that with the essence of this valuable theme, the National League for Democracy pledges and vows to set in motion for the good of the nation.

Thank you.

Translated by UMT (HK)

Union Solidarity and Development Party paper read at 2018 International Day of Democracy



Daw Kyawt Yin Win

2010 and the Union Solidarity and Development Party has carried out the tasks in line with the democratic norms, and the USDP handed over the state power to the winning party being elected by the people in 2015.

This is the ethics of democratic system being implemented in a pragmatic way. However, one state of affairs is noticed that the essence and ethics of democracy, such as the power derived from the people, and its fruits and advantages flowed back to and enjoyed by the people, is gradually declining.

Therefore, it is necessary that the essence of democracy for freedom of speech and freedom of expression is to be guaranteed.

When reviewing the 2008 Constitution of the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar, Article 354 (a) (b) (c) and (d) has explicitly granted to express and publish freely the rights for the freedom of belief and conviction. Since our Union Solidarity and Development Party has initiated the Myanmar democracy transformation and changes, we are desirous to build a nation with disciplined democratic system that is appropriate and harmonized with pragmatic approach in economic policy and development plans. In conclusion, our USDP would carry out along with the strength of people in realizing the theme, "Let us work together for the flourishing of democracy" (oversight), laid down for this year's International Day of Democracy.

Thank you.

Translated by UMT (HK)

In abandoned villa, Syrian children study on the ground

ALEPPO (Syria) — In rebel-held northern Syria, displaced children sit or lie on the ground of an unfinished villa, bending over their notebooks to apply themselves as they write the day's lesson. Four teachers instruct around 100 children — girls and boys aged six to 12 — at the makeshift school in an opposition-held area in the west of the northern province of Aleppo.

Between the bare walls of the villa abandoned mid-construction, children sit or lie on sheets or plain carpets, their

"There aren't any classrooms, no seats, nothing. We're sitting on the ground," he says.

In one classroom, a gaggle of veiled young girls sit on a bench, as the teacher explains the lesson to one of their male counterparts near a rare white board.

In another, the school's only female teacher perches on a plastic chair, as her students gather around on the floor, their backs against the wall.

'Scared of bombardment'

Some sit with their knees



Displaced Syrian children attend class at a makeshift school in an opposition-held area in the west of the northern province of Aleppo. **PHOTO: AFP**

small backpacks cast by their side.

Dubbed "Buds of Hope", the teaching facility has no desks, library or even working toilets.

Instead, the air wafts in from beyond the pine trees outside through the gaping windows in the cement wall. Dressed in a bright blue T-shirt and jeans, her hair neatly tied back in a pony tail, a barefoot girl kneels over her book, carefully writing.

"This isn't a school," says 11-year-old Ali Abdel Jawad.

drawn on a plastic woven carpet, their shoes neatly by its side. The children — as well as their teachers — have been displaced from their homes in other parts of Syria due to the seven-year war, a teacher told an AFP photographer. Some hail from Eastern Ghouta outside Damascus, a former rebel stronghold that fell back under regime control in April after a blistering offensive and surrender deals. Others come from the central provinces of Hama or Homs. —AFP ■

War-weary Mozambicans yearn to leave Malawi haven

NENO (Malawi) — Hundreds of people who fled to Malawi from fighting in Mozambique are finally poised to go home, desperate to reach their untended farms now that the guns have fallen silent.

Patricia Ekeson, 32, was among thousands who fled to the safety of Malawi four years ago after Renamo rebels and government troops renewed a bloody cycle of violence.

She escaped with her husband and three of her daughters after her village in the coal-rich Moatize region was engulfed by the conflict, killing several close relatives.

But with the rains expected within months, the family is desperate to return to their farm.

"We have to go back home and start living independent lives again," said Ekeson, whose youngest daughter was born at the Luwani refugee camp in southern Malawi.

They are not alone.

Hundreds of people at Luwani have already registered to go back to their ancestral villages across the border in Tete province and the camp is bustling with preparations.

Trucks are piled high with reed mats, wooden stools, clothing and whatever scant possessions the refugees have to return home with.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) officials have faced "mounting pressure" since last year from the refugees wanting to go home, according to the organisation's representative in Malawi, Monique Ekoko. But

the process of signing a formal repatriation agreement between the neighbouring nations had delayed the move.

Cycle of conflict

Mozambique has been scarred by repeated convulsions of violence, sending people fleeing across the country's border.

Renamo fought a brutal 16-year civil war against the Marxist-inspired Frelimo government that devastated the economy and left one million people dead.

The group, which operates both as a political force and as an armed militant group, has participated in elections since the first multi-party democratic vote in October 1994.

The 2013 unrest raised fears of a return to the bloody civil war, but Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama declared a truce in 2016. Despite his unexpected death in May, peace talks with the government have continued.

And in a key tests of the détente, the country is due to hold municipal elections on 10 October. The hopeful mood has galvanised those who were forced to flee the fighting.

While UNHCR says more than 12,000 Mozambicans crossed the border into Malawi from 2015 to 2016, many have already returned home.

'Picking up the pieces'

The Luwani camp was initially set up during the civil war and was reopened to house refugees of the more recent fighting in its single-room brick shelters.

Some 3,000 people remain

at the camp, according to the UN humanitarian agency OCHA, but Luwani officials say more than 500 individuals have been processed to leave.

Ekoko said those in the camps are pushing to go back because they want to plant their crops before the rainy season begins in November. If they do not make it in time, they will have to endure another year in the camp.

"The timing is quite crucial for them," she said, adding that "spontaneous returns have been very common".

One of those readying to leave is 26-six-year-old Luis Pasengese, who was born at the camp after his parents fled from Mozambique's civil war.

He is eager to see the end of his second stint in Luwani.

"The war has stopped and people are living peacefully so we have no excuse to be living here as refugees," he told AFP, making final preparations for his departure on Tuesday.

Pasengese was forced to leave Mozambique in 2015, with his wife, two children and ailing mother, when his house was torched during the latest violence.

His third child, a girl, was born at the camp six months ago.

With signs of stability returning to his homeland he can only hope that the country can consign its conflicts to history — and that his family can bid a final farewell to Luwani.

"We just have to go back and pick up the pieces and see where this road leads us," he said. — AFP ■



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued on Tuesday 25 September 2018)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT 09:30 hrs MST: During the past (24) hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, Eastern Shan and Kayah

states, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Kayin states, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Southern Shan and Mon states, scattered in Bago,

Yangon and Taninthayi regions, Chin and Rakhine states and isolated in the remaining regions and states with isolated heavy falls in Bago Region and Kayin State.

The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Nyaunglebin (5.47) inches, Kyaikdon (3.20) inches, Mohnyin (2.72) inches, Madauk (2.40) inches, Bilin (2.01) inches, Katha (1.41) inches, Shwegyin (1.33) inches and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.06) inches.

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy over the North Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is weak over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 26 September 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions, Kachin, Kayin and Mon states, scattered in Bago and Yangon regions, Northern Shan and Chin states and isolated in the remaining regions and states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (1 - 4) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of thundery conditions

in Deltaic areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26th September, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26th September, 2018: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



EU announces legal entity to maintain business with Iran

UNITED NATIONS (United States) — The European Union said on Monday its members would set up a payment system to allow oil companies and businesses to continue trading with Iran in a bid to evade sanctions after the US withdrew from a nuclear agreement.

Iran and the European Union announced their defiance towards US President Donald Trump's administration after high-level talks at the United Nations among the remaining members of the accord.

The countries said in a statement that they were determined "to protect the freedom of their economic operators to pursue legitimate business with Iran."

With the United States and the dollar dominating so much of global trade, the statement said the new mechanism would "facilitate payments related to Iran's exports (including oil) and imports, which will assist and reassure economic operators pursuing legitimate business with Iran."

EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini, speaking at the United Nations alongside Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad



EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini (r), speaking alongside Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (l), said the countries were still working out the technical details. **PHOTO: AFP**

Javad Zarif, said the countries were still working out the technical details.

"In practical terms, this will mean that EU member states will set up a legal entity to facilitate legitimate financial transactions with Iran and this will allow European companies to continue to trade with Iran in accordance with European Union law and could be open to other partners in the world," she told reporters.

She said that the remaining members of the so-called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action — Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia — would also maintain their commitments to support Iran on civilian nuclear energy.

"The participants recalled that these initiatives are aimed at preserving the JCPOA, which is in the international interest," she said.

Pressure on Iranian economy

In line with findings of UN inspectors, Mogherini reiterated that Iran has been in compliance with the nuclear agreement — under which Tehran drastically scaled back its nuclear programme in exchange for relief from sanctions.

The agreement was sealed in 2015 in a signature achievement for then US president Barack Obama.

Trump pulled out of the agreement in May, describing it as a "disaster" and quickly moving to reimpose sanctions on Iran.

Despite the protests of the European Union, a number of business including French energy giant Total and carmakers Peugeot and Renault as well as Germany's Siemens and Daimler have already suspended operations in Iran for fear of triggering US sanctions.

With Iran's economy already feeling the pinch, US national security adviser John Bolton earlier Monday vowed to impose "maximum pressure" on Tehran, while insisting that Washington was not pushing for regime change.

US Arab allies Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as well as Israel have long sought for Washington to work to curtail non-Arab and predominantly Shiite Muslim Iran's influence in the Middle East, including in war-torn Syria.

The EU move comes a day before Trump and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani separately address the UN General Assembly, with the US leader expected to take a hard line on Iran. — AFP ■

Venezuela investigates alleged collusion of diplomats in failed assassination attempt

CARACAS — The Venezuelan government announced on Monday it was investigating the collusion of Chilean, Colombian and Mexican diplomats in the failed assassination attempt on President Nicolas Maduro on 4 August.

Communication and Information Minister Jorge Rodriguez said on Sunday that Venezuelan authorities obtained testimonies from persons implicated in the attack who stated that personnel from the Colombian, Chilean and Mexican embassies allegedly helped or were willing to help with the attack. On Monday, Venezuela's foreign ministry issued a press release that confirmed the testimonies "were the result of an intense investigation and they were made by several of the detainees who are implicated in the attempted assassination plot."

Via an official letter, Chile denied the allegation of involvement. Mexico's foreign ministry called the accusations "baseless," and Colombia also said the alle-

gations were "unsubstantiated."

"The tone and arguments used by the governments of Colombia, Chile and Mexico are questionable. Instead of clarifying the circumstances made by the confessed terrorists, they employ diplomatic restraint," the news release said. It also said the reactions of the three countries allow Venezuela's extreme right to feel supported and protected.

The news release said the Venezuelan government expected "coherent and transparent international cooperation of these countries in order to conduct the necessary investigation."

"Venezuela's Bolivarian government will continue to objectively investigate the grave event that occurred on 4 August, 2018 and will continue to present to both the national and international audiences the definitive results that are discovered," said the release. The government has arrested 28 individuals in connection with the failed assassination attempt. — Xinhua ■

No respite for relatives of Ethiopia's disappeared

ADDIS ABABA (Ethiopia) — When Ethiopia released thousands of prisoners earlier this year, Hannah Tesemma hoped her three siblings and cousin, seized from the streets 24 years ago, would be among them.

They were not, so Hannah and her sister took a banner calling for their release to a rally for new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, sticking around even after a deadly grenade attack disrupted the gathering in the capital Addis Ababa.

"We aren't living, so why should we hide?" Hannah said of her decision to openly challenge the popular prime minister in public. Still, she has received no word on their whereabouts.

Since taking office in April, Abiy has pursued an aggressive reform agenda that includes trying to right some of the wrongs committed by his party, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF).

He has released scores of jailed dissidents and publicly admitted that the security forces tortured detainees.

But he has yet to bring closure for Hannah and many oth-

er Ethiopians whose friends and family opposed the EPRDF and were never seen again.

"Our family has been torn apart," Hannah told AFP, tears in her eyes. "Why do we have to suffer like this?"

Enforced disappearances

The EPRDF took power in 1991 after defeating the Derg military junta, establishing itself as the sole ruler in Africa's second most-populous country.

Hannah's brother Menelik Tesemma, 19 at the time, was active in an opposition party, the All-Amhara People's Organization. Not long after giving a forceful speech at a party meeting in 1994, plainclothes security agents in an unmarked car intercepted Menelik and his cousin.

That evening Hannah's other brothers, twins aged 21, went out looking for the pair after neighbours told them about the arrests. Security agents seized them too. None has been seen since: there were no court appearances, no police records.

Once, Hannah secured a meeting with a government official who listened to her story

before dismissing it, saying, "Our government would not do such things." But in the early 1990s, as the EPRDF consolidated power, the enforced disappearance of opponents was an explicit strategy, said Fisseha Tekle, a researcher with Amnesty International.

Having survived the Derg's bloody purges against his Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP), 47-year-old Berhanu Ejigu was arrested by plainclothes police in 1994.

It was months before his brother Gebeyehu Ejigu was told he could visit Berhanu in a jail cell. But when he got there, the man they showed him was not his brother.

"There are fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, wives and husbands, loved ones mysteriously disappeared. Every one of those needs closure," Gebeyehu said. He believes his brother is one of tens of thousands of disappeared, but Fisseha says the exact number is hard to know. "You can count the allegations, but you can't find out the number of people who have 'been disappeared' (under) this kind of government," he said. — AFP ■

China says can't hold US trade talks with 'knife to the throat'

BEIJING (China) — China said on Tuesday it was impossible to hold trade talks with the United States while Washington is imposing tariffs that are like “holding a knife to someone’s throat”.

Speaking a day after Washington activated tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese goods, vice commerce minister Wang Shouwen said China is open to negotiations but that the two sides must treat each other “equally and with respect”.

“Now that the US has adopted this type of large-scale trade restrictions, they’re holding a knife to someone’s throat. Under these circumstances, how can negotiations proceed?” Wang told a news conference.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin had invited Chinese officials to hold new talks, but President Donald Trump’s latest salvo — and warnings that another \$267 billion of goods being lined up — appear to have scuttled that effort.

Wang met US officials in Washington in August but there have been no high-level meetings between the world’s top two economies for months.

He said Tuesday the US measures “have made it im-

possible for the negotiations to proceed” and blamed the US for abandoning a consensus on trade that was struck in May, but was quickly followed by new US tariffs.

Support for exporters

The trade fight between the top two economic giants has steadily escalated through the summer, as the US levied two waves of new tariffs that have now hit about \$250 billion worth of goods, roughly half of China’s exports to the United States.

Beijing has hit back with each step, hitting \$110 billion worth of US goods, or nearly everything China buys from the United States.

Experts have warned the snowballing trade spat will harm both economies and even global growth, with Fitch Ratings cutting its growth estimates for China and the world for 2019.

China’s exports to the US accounted for 19 per cent of all its overseas shipments last year, according to a white paper published by China’s cabinet, the State Council, on Monday.

Officials in Beijing said they planned to step up support for harmed industries and compa-



China’s Vice Minister of Commerce Wang Shouwen speaks at a press conference in Beijing on 25 September, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

nies as they seek to offset the trade war’s effects.

Beijing’s plans to cut costs for exporters and recently announced a plan to reduce taxes exporters have to pay.

“We will actively take all types of measures to help companies resolve their difficulties,” Luo Wen, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology, said when asked about

how companies would fare in the trade war. China will “earnestly reduce taxes and burdens for companies and strive to optimise the business environment”, he added.

Monday’s US tariffs hit a wide swathe of products including Chinese-made voice data receivers, computer memory modules, automatic data processors, and accessories for

office equipment such as copiers and banknote dispensers — instantly making widely used goods more expensive. China’s retaliatory levies target 5,200 US goods worth \$60 billion with new five to 10 per cent tariffs, including big ticket items such as liquefied natural gas, lumber and electronics, as well as peppermint oil, pig hides and condoms.—AFP ■

Committee follows up on progress in Thai-Chinese high speed rail project

BANGKOK — The committee for the Thai-Chinese high speed rail cooperation project held this year’s first meeting on Monday to follow up on progress of the project.

Transport Minister Arkhom Termpittayapaisith chaired the meeting of the Administrative Committee for the Thai-Chinese Rail Cooperation Project at the Ministry of Transport’s headquarters.

The committee took into account the progress in the rail project which has been designed to link Bangkok with Nong Khai in northeastern Thailand which borders Laos via Nakhon Ratchasima and several other provinces along the way.

The committee discussed setting up a special organization to supervise the implementation

of the high speed rail project, an institute for research and development of rail technology and technology transfers as well as improving public transport systems in support of the rail project.

The panel also considered setting up a subcommittee to coordinate and conduct surveys and a feasibility study on the planned economic development of urban and other areas on either side of the high speed train route between Bangkok and Nong Khai.

The subcommittee, chaired by Deputy Transport Minister Pailin Chuchottaworn, will draft a masterplan for town planning and commercial development of the real estate in the neighborhood of railway stations.—Xinhua ■

Indonesian teen rescued after seven weeks adrift at sea

JAKARTA — An Indonesian teenager survived seven weeks adrift at sea after his tiny fishing trap lost its moorings and ended up some 2,500 kilometres (1,500 miles) away in waters near the Pacific island of Guam, his family said on Monday.

Aldi Novel Adilang’s harrowing tale began in mid-July when the 18-year-old was working solo on a fishing hut anchored about 125 kilometres (77 miles) off Indonesia’s Sulawesi island.

His job was to keep the vessel’s lamps lit to attract fish. Its owner would reportedly come by weekly to drop off food, clean water, fuel and other supplies.

The floating fishing trap, known as a rompong, had no engine or paddles and was anchored to the seabed with a long rope, but heavy winds knocked it off its moorings and sent Adilang out to sea, local media said.

Rompongs are traditionally used to trap fish in Indonesia, but

are often unmanned, secured by buoys and ropes.

Local media reported that the owner of Adilang’s rompong had as many as 50 moored in the surrounding waters.

“His boss told my husband that he went missing,” Adilang’s mother Net Kahiking told AFP from her home in Sulawesi.

“So we just surrendered to God and kept praying hard.”

The teen, who only had enough food to last several days, survived by catching fish, Mirza Nurhidayat, the Indonesian consul general in Osaka, who oversaw his eventual return, told the Jakarta Post.

After Adilang ran out of the cooking gas, “he burned the rompong’s wooden fences to make a fire for cooking,” he said.

“He drank by sipping water from his clothes that had been wetted by sea water.”

Another diplomat at the consulate, Fajar Firdaus, told

the paper that “Aldi said he had been scared and often cried while adrift”.

“Every time he saw a large ship...he was hopeful, but more than 10 ships had sailed past him. None of them stopped or saw (him),” Firdaus was quoted as saying.

The malnourished teen eventually changed the frequency on a portable radio and his distress call was picked up near Guam by a Japan-bound Panamanian-flagged vessel on August 31, according to the Post.

“I was shocked when his boss told us,” he had been rescued, Adilang’s mother said.

“I was so happy.”

Adilang is the youngest of four siblings and arrived back home on 8 September, in good health despite his ordeal.

“He is now back at home and he will be 19 on 30 September — we’re going to celebrate,” his mother said.—AFP ■

New York seeks to claw back ‘Big Oyster’ past

NEW YORK — One sunny morning in New York, a dozen biologists and volunteers stand in knee-deep water, chucking net sacks of oyster shells down a human chain, before planting them in containers on the riverbed.

The goal? To restore a billion oysters by 2035 to America’s largest city — not as a delicacy for the dinner table but in an environmental bid to clean up its notoriously filthy harbor water and generate greater biodiversity.

Dressed in waders, the group battles under the hot morning sun on the Brooklyn shoreline, the Statue of Liberty and iconic skyscrapers of New York’s Financial District rising up on the horizon.

The net sacks contain empty oyster shells, or ones that have been assiduously cleaned or “cured”

— then inserted with oyster larvae — and placed into containers planted on the seabed that will form a reef.

“This was the Big Oyster before it was the Big Apple,” jokes Mike McCann, an urban marine ecologist with the non-profit group The Nature Conservancy.

“That’s a history that has been forgotten by a lot of New Yorkers and this project brings it back,” explains the 32-year-old.

When English explorer Henry Hudson sailed into New York harbour in 1609, he had to navigate 89,000 hectares of oyster reefs that fed Lenape Indians for generations, writes Mark Kurlansky in his 2006 book “The Big Oyster.”

The Dutch colonialists who followed knew today’s Ellis Island and Liberty Island as the Island of the Little Oyster and the Island of the Great Oyster.

“Oysters are ecosystem engineers and they build (a) three-dimensional reef habitat,” explains Katie Mosher, restoration manager of the Billion Oyster Project (BOP), which was set up in 2014.

‘Immediate improvement’

“It’s full of different shapes and sizes of oysters that other species love to hunt in and live in and to search for prey,” she adds.

Oysters also filter and clean the water when they breathe, making it clearer. This enables light to penetrate more easily to the bottom and allows more plants to grow on the seabed.

The molluscs also recycle nutrients and nitrogen, and can even mitigate the energy of large waves, reducing flooding and preventing erosion during storms or hurricanes.

But New York’s original oyster population was almost extinct by the dawn of the 20th century, a victim of overfishing, industrial age pollution and sewage.

The waters of New York became too toxic to cultivate much marine life until the Clean Water Act of 1972 prohibited the dumping of untreated wastewater and garbage. Since then, life has slowly returned.



Workers with the Billion Oyster Project chuck net sacks of oyster shells down a human chain, before planting them in containers on the riverbed to build an oyster reef.
PHOTO: AFP

“I had no idea there were oysters in New York City!” exclaims Emma Latham, 22, one of the volunteers and recent ecology graduate from Princeton University. “I think it’s just great that we are able to take any small piece of land and make it do more, because there’s such a dire environmental impact by having so many people in such a small space with so much concrete.”

The BOP works with dozens of partners, schools and hundreds of volunteers to build oyster reefs throughout the five boroughs of New York, and is already reaping the first rewards.

In just four years, they

have already created 28 million oysters, estimating that the harbor waters have never been better in 150 years. “We definitely noticed an improvement when we put oysters down on the bottom,” said Mosher. “There’s more fish, more crabs. And it happens right away.”

The reefs have also fueled a growth in wild oysters. Every so often a whopper is found, such as one measuring 20 cm (8 in) in August — the largest known oyster in the city in a century — on Pier 40, in the Hudson River at Greenwich Village.

Not for eating

In some areas, oyster

larvae are so plentiful that all that’s needed is to offer them something to which they can cling and survive, explains Mosher.

Over the next three years, the organization will return again and again to the same Brooklyn reef to study the oysters and their impact on biodiversity.

“We are interested in just the basics. Are these oysters growing? Are they surviving? Are they reproducing and creating a sustainable population?” says McCann.

They will also study the quality of the water, how many nutrients it offers, if there are predators or diseases, and if biodiversity has widened.—AFP ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V BOX EXPRESS VOY. NO. (1855-1856)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BOX EXPRESS VOY. NO. (1855-1856) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.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 TRANSPORT (S’PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V EF ELENA VOY. NO. (007 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V EF ELENA VOY. NO. (007 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-9-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

CHANGING DISTRIBUTOR

SSK (Shwe Sike Khin Co.,Ltd and Huynh Zaw Co.,Ltd both located at Building E, Room 001, Thazinmin Avenue, Thumngalar Housing, Thinganyun Township, Yangon Myanmar is the distributor of Advanced Agriculture Solution Joint Stock Company, 93, Ho Ba Kien, Ward 15, Dist. 10, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam According to our agreement of changing the current distributor to new one on 23rd August, 2018 we have no objection of this changing with the product listed in detail.

Any person who will make objection, please the confirmation letters within 14 days started on this announcement.

No	Commance Name	Trade Name	Reg Type	Reg No
Herbicide				
1.	2,4-D 720 g/l	Deco 720SL	P	2014-1905
2.	2,4-D 600 g/l	Deco 600 SL	P	2014-1906
3.	Glyphosate lpa 480 g/l	Lypho Deco 48 SL	P	2014-1907
4.	2,4-D 80% w/w	Deco 80 WP	P	2014-1908
5.	Diuron 80% w/w	Deco Duron 80 WP	P	2014-1909
6.	Atrazine 80% w/w	Deco Arazin 80 WP	P	2014-1896
7.	Fomesafen 25% w/w SL	AA Fomefen 250 SL	P	2016-3184
8.	Quizalofop-P-ethyl 5%w/v EC	AA Quizafop 5 EC	P	2016-3185
9.	Butachlor 600g/l + Fenclorim 100g/l EC	Lambast 600 EC	P	2015-2543
10.	Fluazifop-p-butyl 15% w/w EC	Myfuzi 15 EC	P	2015-2544
Insecticide				
1.	Cypermethrin 10%EC	Deco Cyper 10 EC	P	2014-1897
2.	Cypermethrin 25% EC	Deco Cyper 25 EC	P	2014-1899
3.	Cypermethrin 50% EC	Deco Cyper 50 EC	P	2014-1898
4.	Alpha Cypermethrin 50g/l	Deco Alpha 5EC	P	2014-1900
5.	Chlorpyrifos - ethyl 53% + Cypermethrin 5.5%EC	Deco King 585 EC	P	P2017-1888
6.	Cartap 95% w/w SP	Bazan 95 SP	P	2015-2545
7.	Emamectin benzoate 5% w/w WG	Emay 5 WG	P	2015-2546
8.	Cartap 4% w/w GR	Bazan 4 GR	P	2015-2547
Fungicide				
1.	Validamycin A 5% SL w/w	Deco Vali 5 SL	P	2014-1901
2.	Carbendazim 500 g/l	Deco Carben 500 SC	P	2014-1902
3.	Hexaconazole 50 g/l	Deco Hexa 5 SC	P	2014-1903
4.	Metalaxyl 8% + Mancozeb 64% WP	Deco Laxyl 72WP	P	2014-1904
5.	Zineb 80% w/w WP	Zineb EU 80 WP	P	P2017-3867
6.	Tricyclazole 75% w/w WP	Mytrizole 75 WP	P	2015-2542

Address:
Daw May Zaw
Building E, Room 001, Thazinmin Avenue, Thumngalar Housing, Thinganyun Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: (95) 1 566640

K-Pop stars at UN urge world's youth to 'just speak yourself'

UNITED NATIONS — K-Pop sensation BTS brought their star power to the United Nations on Monday, telling the world's youth to listen to their inner voice and resist pressure to conform.

"No matter who you are, where you're from, your skin colour, your gender identity, just speak yourself," group leader Kim Nam-jun told a packed hall at the launch of a UNICEF youth campaign.

Dubbed "Generation Unlimited", the campaign to promote education, training and employment kicked off during the annual gathering of world leaders at the United Nations. Wearing business suits and ties, the septet joined UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, World Bank president Jim Yong Kim and Rwandan President Paul Kagame for the

event — that was oddly devoid of screaming fans. Kim Nam-jun, who also calls himself RM, spoke of growing up in Ilsan, South Korea, imagining he was a superhero and being "just a nor-

mal little boy" until self-doubt settled in at the age of nine or ten. "I think that's when I began to worry about what other people thought of me and started seeing myself though their

eyes," he said. "I tried to jam myself into the molds that other people made." The lead singer of the world's most popular boy band said there were times when he wanted to quit music

but he overcame his insecurities by listening to the "small voice that said, wake up man, and listen to yourself."

"I have many faults and I have many more fears but I am going to embrace myself as hard as I can and I am starting to love myself," he said. Among South Korea's best known and most lucrative musical exports, BTS made music history this year by becoming the first K-Pop group to top the Billboard 200 music charts. "BTS has become artists performing in huge stadiums and selling millions of records right now, but I am still an ordinary 24-year-old guy," said Kim Nam-jun. "We have learned to love ourselves, so now I urge you to 'speak yourself'." BTS is bringing its "Love Yourself" tour to New York for a series of concerts including its first-ever US stadium performance.—AFP ■



South Korean Boy Band BTS, seen here in Las Vegas in May 2018, told world youth to "just speak yourself" at the UN General Assembly. **PHOTO: AFP**

Richard Madden eyes Bond role

LONDON — "Game of Thrones" star Richard Madden wants to be the next James Bond, the actor's father said.

Richard Madden Sr said his son may not be making a big deal about being interested in essaying Agent 007 when Daniel Craig steps down as the suave spy, but he is eager about playing the part.

"I'm quite sure he does

want that to be on his CV one day but he's not making a song and dance about it. Whether it's Bond or any big role, Richard has ideas about things he'd like to do.

"It's probably best whatever his desires or thoughts are to keep it to himself," Madden Sr told *The Mirror* newspaper.

The actor's father said in spite of "GOT" success, Richard's journey has not been easy.

"It's not all been plain sailing. He's had disappointments. You have to be in the right place at the right time," Madden Sr said.

Post "GOT", the actor appeared in drama series "Medici: Masters of Florence" and Netflix romcom "Ibiza". He currently stars as sergeant David Budd in the BBC thriller "Bodyguard". —PTI ■



Mumbai: Bollywood actor Radhika Apte during a promotional event for their film 'Pad Man' in Mumbai. **PHOTO: PTI**

I like to live on the edge: Radhika Apte

MUMBAI — With three consecutive Netflix projects and one Bollywood blockbuster to her credit Radhika Apte is on a roll, but the actor says she does not let the success get to her and likes to live on the "edge".

The actor started the year with R Balki's comedy-drama "Padman" and featured in "Lust Stories", "Sacred Games" and "Ghoul", positioning her as streaming giant's India favourite. "The content that's coming my way is great, but something really needs to challenge and throw me off, completely shatter me. I like to live that. It has its downside too, but I like to live on the edge. "The year has been great but there's much more I want to do, which will give me the kind of satisfaction that I've been looking for. I don't think this is that year," Radhika told PTI.

She said she is currently experiencing gratefulness and

insecurity in equal parts.

"I am grateful for all the work but it's also confusing because you are doing so much work that you don't have time to breathe. It produces a lot of insecurities about whether you continue to work like that or not. Or what is the next thing that I'm going to do. It worries me."

The actor was speaking at the launch of True Roots Botanical Hair Tonic. Radhika's upcoming projects are Saif Ali Khan's "Baazaar" and Hollywood filmmaker Michael Winterbottom's "The Wedding Guest" along with Dev Patel. The actor said it is important for her to surprise her viewers hence she always tries to pick diverse characters. "You get a one-off opportunity and if you manage to sustain that or not is very crucial. It's very important to come up with new things, to reinvent yourself," she added.—PTI ■



in
Picture

Birds sit in their cages during a bird-singing competition in Thailand's southern province of Narathiwat on 25 September, 2018. Over 1,600 birds from Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore took part in the annual contest. **PHOTO: AFP**

Google tunes search for prescience and pictures



Google co-founder Larry Page's original stool and desk are displayed at Google Search's 20th Anniversary Event on 23 September, 2018 in San Francisco, California. **PHOTO: AFP**

SAN FRANCISCO — Google unveiled changes on Monday aimed at making the leading search engine more visual and intuitive to the point that it can answer questions before being asked.

Artificial intelligence and machine learning are core driv-

ers of how Google will pursue its mission to organize the world's information and make it accessible to anyone, search vice president Ben Gomes said at an event in San Francisco.

The search engine focused strongly on mobile use and appeared to be growing more like

Facebook, encouraging users to linger and explore topics, interests or stories with growing emphasis on photos and videos. Results will be increasingly personalized.

"Search is not perfect, and we are under no illusions it is," Gomes said.

"But, you have our commitment that we will make it better every day."

He described the latest changes as shifting from answers to journeys, providing ways to target queries without knowing what words to use and enhancing image-based searches.

Searching with pictures

Google Images was redesigned to weave in "Lens" technology that enables queries based on what is pointed out in pictures.

The Images overhaul in-

cludes carousels of online video clip highlights displayed with mobile search query results.

New Activity Cards will let users pick up searches where they left off, eliminating the need to retrace online steps.

The search engine will also let users create Collections of online content, and suggest related material that might be of interest.

A Google feed used by more than 800 million people monthly is getting a new name, Discover, and increased ability to offer people relevant information they are likely to want but haven't thought to ask for yet.

The feature was described as "Google search helping you discover new things without a query."

Google said it is also testing out an improvement to its job-related search results that will figure out what skills are needed



Ben Gomes, Head of Search, speaks at Google Search's 20th Anniversary Event on 23 September, 2018 in San Francisco, California. **PHOTO: AFP**

for such posts and information about how to acquire them.

"Information and language are core to what we are as human beings," Gomes said.

"Our work here is never done." —AFP ■

Microsoft offers password-less, enhanced security tools for cloud service

SAN FRANCISCO — US leading tech company Microsoft Corporation on Monday unveiled a series of new enhanced security tools that help its users remember fewer passwords but better secure their accounts of Microsoft's cloud service.

The US software giant is introducing the new Microsoft Authenticator app that will replace user passwords with a more secure multi-factor sign-in that combines users' phone and their fingerprint, face, or PIN.

Microsoft announced the new measures at its Ignite 2018 conference, an annual gathering of technologists and business leaders, which opened on Monday through 28 September in Orlando, Florida.

"Nearly all data loss starts with compromised passwords, and so today we are declaring an end to the era of passwords," Rob Lefferts, Microsoft Corporate Vice President of Security wrote in a blog post.

The Microsoft Authenticator app will support password-less logins for hundreds of thousands of Azure Active Directory-connected apps on its cloud platform.

"No company lets enter-

prises eliminate more passwords than Microsoft," Lefferts said, adding that the adoption of a multi-factor sign-in method will reduce compromise by 99.9 percent.

Lefferts said Microsoft is declaring an end to the era of passwords as the Microsoft Authenticator app guarantees its users a simpler but more secure experience by eliminating passwords.

For enterprise users, the company launched Microsoft Secure Score, an evolution from its Office 365 Secure Score, which provides a continuously updated security rating that reflects its more powerful threat intelligence.

The service helps businesses assess their security situation and possible changes to be taken in response. Lefferts described Microsoft Secure Score as the only enterprise-class dynamic report card for cybersecurity, which cuts the possibility of a breach by 30 times.

He said the Redmond, Washington-based company will expand the Secure Score service to cover all of Microsoft 365 starting on Monday. —Xinhua ■

Establishing Moon base key opportunity for Australian space agency: CSIRO

CANBERRA — Australia's space agency has the capability to help establish a human base on the Moon, according to the nation's peak scientific body.

In its industry roadmap for the space exploration sector released on Monday, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) said that Australia's domestic space industry could be worth 12 billion Australian dollars (8.7 billion US dollars) by 2030.

"Our space roadmap charts a course for economic growth using

space, and champions a new era of space exploration to inspire our children with the power of science to make the 'impossible' possible," CSIRO chief executive Larry Marshall said in a media release. "Our existing space industry is built on a foundation of trust earned 50 years ago when we enabled the world to see mankind touch the Moon.

"That kind of inspiration is a key ingredient in supercharging growth in new industries, new jobs, new science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM)

talent and developing a dynamic nation where the sky is no longer the limit." The report, "Space: A Roadmap for unlocking future growth opportunities for Australia," found that Australia's "unique strengths and geographic advantages" would "increase Australia's share of the international space sector." It said that "Australian space sector support for the lunar challenge would be an opportunity to grow our existing relationships with global partners, including international space agencies." —Xinhua ■

Overlooked signal in MRI scans reflects amount, kind of brain cells: study

CHICAGO — Analyzing overlooked data from an MRI scan by a new technique developed by US researchers surprisingly reveals how many and which brain cells are present, and shows where cells have been lost through injury or disease.

The researchers at Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis analyzed the background data on an MRI scan and found a signal, which they called R2t*, that remained largely unchanged when people performed tasks but varied across parts of the brain.

They compared the R2t* signal with data from the Allen Human Brain Atlas, which maps genes active in various areas of the brain, and found three sets of gene networks that tracked with the R2t* signal.

These groups of genes, as it turned out, reflected the different kinds and numbers of brain cells, and the extent of connections between them.

In other words, this quick new MRI scan gave the researchers all they needed to know to determine how densely packed and interconnected the neurons

are in any part of the brain.

The information could also help the researcher understand how a person's brain develops and changes from infancy to old age, and how human build memories and learn. It could also give clues to brain illness or injury.

"We did some studies on traumatic brain injury where we found some areas of the brain are already losing neurons even though the standard scans show nothing," said Dmitry Yablonskiy, professor of radiology at the university's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology. —Xinhua ■

Modric ends Ronaldo-Messi era to be crowned world's best



France's coach Didier Deschamps (c), winner of the Best FIFA Men's Coach of 2018 Award, is flanked by Orlando Pride and Brazil forward Marta (r) and Real Madrid and Croatia midfielder Luka Modric (l) winners of the Best FIFA Women's and Men's Player of 2018 Award, as they pose for a photograph with their trophies during The Best FIFA Football Awards ceremony, on 24 September, 2018 in London. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Luka Modric ended Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi's decade-long domination of football's individual awards by being crowned FIFA's best player of the year on Monday. The Real Madrid and Croatia midfielder

starred for both club and country as Madrid won a third straight Champions League, and he inspired Croatia to reach the World Cup final for the first time.

"The emotion is huge because it is thanks to the work of everyone. So many people have

come together and so many have supported me," said Modric.

Modric beat out Liverpool's Egyptian forward Mohamed Salah and Ronaldo, who along with Messi did not attend the glitzy awards ceremony in London. — AFP ■



Inter Milan coach Luciano Spalletti has been banned from the touchline for one match for his over exuberant goal celebration. **PHOTO: AFP**

Inter's Spalletti gets ban for wild goal celebration

MILAN — Luciano Spalletti will sit out Inter Milan's Serie A game against Fiorentina at the San Siro on Tuesday after being given a one-match touchline ban by the Lega Serie A for his over-exuberant goal celebration at the weekend.

Spalletti was sent to the stands for screaming towards the television camera after Croatia's World Cup runner-up Marcelo Brozovic scored a 94th minute winner against Sampdoria on Saturday.

An official match note said that the coach showed "a controversial attitude towards the fourth official".

Spalletti had already been warned after the game for "offensive expressions" to the referee.

The sending-off against Sampdoria, however, did not lead to an automatic disqualification, it was a decision of the sports judge.

Inter have appealed and hope to have Spalletti back on the bench Tuesday at the San Siro against Fiorentina, as the appeal should be discussed before midday. "I'm sorry for what happened but I don't want to add anything else," Spalletti told a pre-match press conference on Monday and argued that the ban had set a "difficult precedent". — AFP ■

Ronaldo turns to Juventus challenge after FIFA best player snub

MILAN — Cristiano Ronaldo turns his focus back to Juventus's quest for a treble this season on Wednesday after losing out in the FIFA's best player of the year award. Five-time Ballon d'Or winner Ronaldo skipped the awards ceremony in London on Monday as his former Real Madrid teammate Luka Modric beat him for the award.

The 33-year-old Portuguese star also lost out to Liverpool's Mohamed Salah for the Puskas Award for the best goal.

He had been nominated for his superb overhead bicycle kick for Real Madrid against Juventus in last season's Champions League quarter-final, which even drew a standing ovation from Juventus supporters in Turin.

Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri had backed Ronaldo — who has scored three goals in his last two league games — for the award, as he led the way in the Champions League with 15 goals to help Real to a third straight title. "With no offence to Luka Modric, I'd give the Ballon d'Or to Ronaldo for what he did last season. I think he deserves it," said Allegri.

The Italian champions face

a heavy week in Turin with three games in their Allianz Stadium in the space of seven days.

After Wednesday's game against 18th-placed Bologna, who shocked Roma 2-0 at the weekend, Juventus play Carlo Ancelotti's Napoli in a top-of-the-table clash on Saturday.

Juventus have had a perfect start to the season with five wins and 15 points — three points ahead of Napoli.

Allegri's side also play Swiss club Young Boys in the Champions League a week on Tuesday, a game which Ronaldo will miss after his controversial sending off against Valencia in Spain.

Roma crisis

Napoli host promoted Parma, before their trip to Turin, with an eye on their Champions League game against Liverpool in Naples.

"We won there (Juventus) last season and still finished second," said Napoli striker Lorenzo Insigne.

"If we don't win the midweek game with Parma, then the result with Juve is irrelevant, so we have to take it one at a time."

Under-pressure Roma host

promoted Frosinone looking for a boost after slipping to 14th with their weekend defeat in Bologna.

Coach Eusebio Di Francesco has reportedly been given a week to save his job, starting against the newcomers from outside Rome, before the city derby against Lazio at the weekend.

Frosinone are second from the bottom of the table with 12 goals conceded, including two to Juventus last weekend.

"At the end of the year when the points are counted the matches like the one in Frosinone you don't remember immediately, but you know how important they were," said Allegri. — AFP ■



Juventus' Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo (r) vies for the ball with Frosinone's Ghanaian midfielder Raman Chibсах during the Italian Serie A football match between Frosinone and Juventus Turin on 23 September, 2018 at the Benito-Stirpe Stadium in Frosinone. **PHOTO: AFP**