

NATIONAL

Vice President: For food sufficiency, food security government will closely cooperate with international organisations

PAGE-2

NATIONAL

UEC Chairman receives Regional Director for Asia-Pacific of IFES

PAGE-5

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Special meeting between Union Gov't, NCA Signatory EAOs continues for second day



The Second day of the special meeting between the Union Government and leaders from Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement Signatory Ethnic Armed Organizations being held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE special meeting between the Union Government and the Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) signatories of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) continued at the Shwe San Ein Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Chairperson of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the second day meeting.

Also present at the meet-

ing were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Chairman of the Peace Commission Dr. Tin Myo Win, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Secretary of the Peace Commission Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Retd), Representative of Pyithu Hluttaw U Aung Soe, Representative of

... peace negotiators discussed issues including self-determination and non-secession from the Union, establishing a unified Tatmadaw ...

Amyotha Hluttaw U Aung Kyi Nyunt, responsible officials of the Government and the Tatmadaw, Chairman of the Karen National Union (KNU) Saw Mutu Sae Poe and Vice Chairman Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win, Chairman of the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) U Yawd Serk and Secretary U Sai Ngin, Patron of the PaO National Liberation Organization (PNLO) Khun Okka and Vice Chairman Khun

Myint Tun, Chairman of the Chin National Front (CNF) Pu Zing Cung and Vice Chairman Dr. Salai Lian Hmung Sakhong, Vice Chairman of Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) Khaing Soe Naing Aung and member of the Central Committee Saw Mya Yar Zar Lin, Chairman of All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) U Than Ge and Vice Chairman U Myo Win,

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Senior General conveys Inle Phaungdaw-U Buddha Images for public obeisance in Nyaugshwe

PAGE-4



NATIONAL

Press conference held on special meeting between Gov't, NCA Signatory EAOs

PAGE-4

NATIONAL

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

PAGE-11

SCIENCE & TECH

Hawking's final book offers brief answers to big questions

PAGE-15



Vice President: For food sufficiency, food security government will closely cooperate with international organisations

WORLD Food Day 2018 ceremony was held at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation meeting hall yesterday morning where Vice President U Henry Van Thio attended and addressed the event.

The Vice President said World Food Day was held to show the importance of everyone's participation in food sufficiency and eradicating hunger. The Vice President added that we will have a healthy, strong and developed human society in the future only when our children, who are our future, can have safe, nutritious and sufficient amount of food.

According to 2017 FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) report, during 2016 there were more than 815 million amongst global population who were suffering from acute hunger for a long period and that number is an increase of more than 38 million from 2015. About 155 million children under 5 years old were malnourished and have stunted growth, it is learnt.

According to studies conducted on people living in extreme poverty, more than 80 percent were living in rural areas and were earning a living through agriculture. In our country too, more than 70 percent of the population is living in agriculture-based rural areas and thus rural development is very important. Only through eradication of hunger can the socio-economic situation of the rural area develop and our mindset and way of living needs to be changed. For the sustainable development of the environment and socio-economic situation, a good administrative and management system is also required. In addition to this, the government needs to create good opportunities for local and foreign investment to develop the country.

In the world today, global warming and climate change that come together with the changing technologies are adversely affecting people living in the rural area. Due to these adverse effects, rural areas where majority of the people are residing is facing destruction and losses of agriculture products, while products were also not of sufficient quality resulting in declining socio-economic situation, insufficient food supply, shortage of safe foods and hunger.



Vice President U Henry Van Thio observes some of the foods shown at the ceremony to mark World Food Day 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The result is shocking as annual death from hunger is higher than the combined death caused by malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS. Furthermore, 45 percent of infant mortalities are also learnt to be due to lack of nutrition.

This is the reason FAO had

successful implementation of the departments in cooperation with the people.

It is said that 60 percent of the population experiencing hunger in the world are women. In our country, more than half of the population is women. The role of the women also needs to

two, 2018 World Food Day is held with special emphasis placed on eradicating hunger among the people. While international organisations work together toward sustainable development, we also need to work together toward that. Without food sufficiency, effective and successful rural development, a zero hunger world by 2030 wouldn't be successful. Similarly, without eradicating hunger, the aims of nutrition, health, education and socio-economic developments are not achievable.

Hunger and deficiency in nutrition was reduced to a certain extent but is now rising again to threaten our world and society. Due to conflicts, climate change, economic downturn and inequality, achieving the aim of eradicating hunger is appearing to be more difficult.

However, if the world's countries and relevant organisations work together with the people, great progress can be reached in food sufficiency and nutrition adequacy. To own a sustainable future, it is the duty of the people of the world to implement the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

In eradicating hunger and nutrition deficiency, it is important for the government to set correct policy and guidelines, have an effective and quick information system, relax rules and regulations, create opportunities for investors and cooperate with the people in the related sec-

tors of socio-economic, sustainable agriculture and livestock breeding, nutrition, health and education.

For food sufficiency, food security and nutrition sectors the government will be cooperating closely with international organisations, like the FAO. In addition to this, in the related sectors such as rural area development, increasing agriculture productivity and socio-economic development, it will cooperate and create opportunity for relevant organisations and enact and amend required law, rules and procedures through relevant ministries.

On behalf of the Myanmar people and the government, FAO is honoured, thanked and recognized for providing technical and financial support in agriculture, livestock and rural development sectors to achieve food sufficiency and sustainable development in Myanmar.

Only when all strive towards preventing food waste, increase food production for the increasing nine billion population of the world and systematically consume food can the aim of zero hunger world in 2030 can be achieved. As such, all are urged to do their part, according to this year's theme of "Our Actions are our Future. A #ZeroHunger world by 2030 is possible," said the Vice President.

Next Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu delivered remarks about 2018 World Food Day and FAO Resident Representative Ms. Xiaojie Fan read the message of FAO Director General.

Afterwards, a video commemorating 2018 World Food Day and a video record of Myanmar's efforts on food sufficiency and agriculture sector development were shown.

After this, the Vice President, together with ceremony attendees, posed for a commemorative group photo and observed the World Food Day exhibits.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu, Deputy Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council member, representatives of UN organisations, diplomats, FAO representatives, representatives of international and local NGOs, departmental officials and invited guests.—MNA ■



16 October 2018
World Food Day



designated to commemorate the World Food Day under the theme, "Our Actions are our Future. A #ZeroHunger world by 2030 is possible." Therefore, in addition to adequately feeding the gradually growing population and to create a healthy and prospective future generation the important works of rural area development and socio-economic development of rural lives need to be conducted to the utmost using both our physical and mental efforts. This has to be conducted with the support of FAO, correct and effective policy of the government, effective and

be emphasized. The productivity of women has a huge effect on the family, nation and world levels.

As such, home manufacturing work need to be upgraded through cooperative process. And as per the saying "the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world," the development of a healthy, educated and capable future generation is directly related to women. The best way to transform the way a family live and eat is to educate the women folks.

To achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal number



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives to attend the second day of the special meeting between the Union Government and EAO signatories of NCA in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi greets U Yawd Serk, Chairman of the Restoration Council of Shan State/ Shan State Army.



Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win greets Chairman of the Chin National Front Pu Zing Cung.

Special meeting between Union Gov't, NCA Signatory EAOs continues for second day

FROM PAGE-1

Chairman of the Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA) Saw Moe Shay, Secretary of the Karen National Union/Karen National Liberation Army-Peace Council (KNU/KNLA-PC) Dr. Naw Kapaw Htoo, Vice Chair-

man of the New Mon State Party (NMSMP) Nai Han Thar and Member of the central committee Nai Aung Ma Ngay and Chairman of the Lahu Democratic Union (LDU) Kyar Khun Sar, Secretary Kyar Saw Lamon, representatives of the signatories of the NCA and officials. At the meeting, Vice

Chairman of KNU Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win and Director-General of the Office of the State Counsellor U Zaw Htay acted as advocates.

During the meeting, the peace negotiators discussed issues including self-determination and non-secession from the Union, establishing a unified

Tatmadaw, issuing a statement of the special meeting between the Union Government and NCA Signatory Ethnic Armed Organizations and general issues. — MNA ■

Union Government, NCA Signatory EAOs release Joint Statement

1. Union Government and NCA (Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement) Signatory EAOs (Ethnic Armed Organisations) leaders held a special meeting at Shwe San Ein Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw from 15 to 16 October 2018 under the following aims.

(a) 15 October 2018 is the third anniversary of signing the NCA, and instead of a regular ceremony, a leaders' meeting is to be held to achieve meaningful results for peace;

(b) Unresolved matters through negotiation and discussion on implementing the announcements of Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong third session to be resolved through the leaders' political agreements;

(c) Setting up basic principles to establish a union based on democracy and federal system as implementing the NCA.

2. At the special meeting

between the Union Government and the leaders of NCA Signatory EAOs, following were agreed.

(a) Setting up a timetable and priority work processes required for important basic principles related to democracy and federal in the three sessions of the conference planned to be held before 2020 as included in the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong third session announcement;

(b) Resolving and overcoming matters required to reach agreement in political discussion meetings;

(c) To make the present political discussion format more clear and easy;

(d) In implementing peace processes, obtaining agreements between leaders and then implement those agreements;

(e) To start coordination and discussion of security related reintegration matters and

work processes depicted in NCA Chapter 5, establishing political road map section 20(c);

(f) Strive toward participation of all NCA non-signatory EAOs;

(g) To continue discussion under the agreements included in the NCA when working toward strengthening the ceasefire.

3. Work with determination toward achieving sustainable peace based on duty, responsibility and transparency with the aims of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty based on freedom, equality and fairness, a union based on democracy and federal system with assurance of Panglong spirit, democracy, national equality and self-determination through political dialogues. ■

(Unofficial Translation)

Announcement for voters

1. Union Election Commission compiled the voters lists at the sub-election commission offices in the vacant constituencies for the by-elections to be held on 3 November 2018, based on the list of the 2015 General Election. The lists were made public for the first time from 9-7-2018 to 22-7-2018 and for the last time from 1-10-2018 to 14-10-2018 at sub-election commission offices and villages in respective constituencies. The eligible voters made necessary demands, amendments and objections after checking the lists.
2. Eligible voters of the 2018-by elections do not lose their voting rights though they have lost necessary documents for voting, such as national citizenship scrutiny card due to several reasons including disasters, and they can show the recommendation for authentication from their ward/village administrator to the polling station official and cast their votes.
3. Until he or she is not able to show the recommendation, he/she can cast their votes if someone guarantees that he/she is an eligible voter to the polling station official.
4. Hence, eligible voters are urged to go to the polling stations on the by-elections day to cast their votes so that they might not lose their rights of a citizen.

Union Election Commission
(Unofficial Translation)

Senior General conveys Inle Phaungdaw-U Buddha Images for public obeisance in Nyaungshwe

INLE Phaungdaw-U Buddha Images were conveyed for public obeisance in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State, yesterday and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing conveyed the sacred Buddha Images from the royal barge to Dhamma Vihara building in Nyaungshwe.

The ceremony was also attended by Union Ministers Dr. Myint Htwe and wife, U Ohn Maung and wife, Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Lin Htut and wife, Speaker of Shan State Hluttaw U Sai Lone Hsai, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Maung Maung Kyaw and wife, and senior military officers, members of the Shan State Cabinet, MPs and local people.

The congregation led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomed the



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing carrying Inle Phaungdaw-U Buddha Images for public obeisance in Nyaungshwe. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

Karaweik Royal Barge carrying Inlay Phaungdaw-U Buddha Images and conveyed them to decorated cars for public obeisance.

Following the ceremony, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and dignitaries enjoyed the traditional boat racing of Intha tribe

in the Inle Lake and presented prizes to the winner teams of the competitions.

During the trip, Senior General also met with officials of the Shan State Forest Department and discussed conservation of the lake. At the meeting, Senior General Min Aung

Hlaing handed over K36 million donated by members of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) to the officials for construction of boats for the 46-oared men events in the lake, according to a news release of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief. — MNA ■

Applications called for State Pariyatti Sasana University

MONKS and novices under 30-year and 10-vassa can now apply for enrolment in the first year of Sasanadhaja Dhammacariya at the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon/Mandalay) for 1380-1381 academic year.

Applicants are required to have passed one of the state Pathamagyi, Cetiyinga or Sakyathiha courses.

Those under 35-year and 15 vassa who have passed Sasana Takasila Dhammacariya, Sasanadhaja Dhammacariya, Cetiyinga Dhammacariya and Sakyathiha Dhammacariya can apply for first year of Sasana Thakkacila Maha

Dhammacariya.

Monks and novices applying for first year are to take the entrance exams.

Application forms will be issued beginning from 2 November 2018 (9 waning of Thadingyut 1380 ME), except on government holidays.

The applicant should submit the form to the registrar office, State Pariyatti Sasana University and should reach no later than 19 November 2019.

For more information, contact 09 5400828, 09 425008728 for the registrar office in Yangon and 02 66901, 09 2035572 for the registrar office in Mandalay. — MNA ■

Press conference held on special meeting between Gov't, NCA Signatory EAOs



Vice Chairman of KNU Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win and Director-General of the Office of the State Counsellor U Zaw Htay answer questions from journalists at the press conference on the special meeting between the Union Government and the EAO signatories of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

A PRESS conference on the special meeting between the Union Government and the Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAO) signatories of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, following the second day meeting.

Asked any progress was made in non-secession from the Union issue, Vice Chairman of KNU Pado

Saw Kwe Htoo Win said leaders of both sides could adopt a policy which can lead to finding ways for the issue. "Both sides adopted a policy to amend the wording for political dialogue and to overcome the bottleneck of that issue. Both sides agreed to practice a type of choosing a meaningful wording which can cover non-secession and self-determination," said

Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win. Concerning with the issue of establishing a unified Tatmadaw, he said both sides agreed to negotiate and to prepare for the wording "security re-integration" including the seven-point road map of the NCA.

"We agreed to discuss "security re-integration". Secondly, we also accept the point that a democratic

federal union must have only one Tatmadaw. But, we also agreed to discuss how to form a unified army with different ethnic races," said Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win.

In the second day meeting, representatives of the Union Government and signatories of NCA also discussed inclusiveness in peace efforts with ethnic armed organizations which

have not signed the NCA.

"Regarding the inclusiveness, we discussed what the Union Government is making efforts for it and what the signatories of NCA are also working for it.

The representatives of the Tatmadaw and the Peace Commission openly discussed that issue," said U Zaw Htay, Director-General of the Office of the State Counsellor, who also

acted as an advocate at the special meeting together with Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win.

The signatories of NCA submitted a proposal to the Government to hold a summit between signatories and non-signatories of the NCA in the second week of November as part of efforts for inclusiveness in peace making process. — Ye Khaung Nyunt ■

UEC Chairman receives Regional Director for Asia-Pacific of IFES



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein meets with Asia-Pacific IFES Regional Director Mr. Vasu Mohan in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Election Commission (UEC) Chairman U Hla Thein and Mr. Vasu Mohan, Regional Director for Asia-Pacific International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), held talks yesterday over the foundation's assistance to the 2020 General Election in Myanmar.

They met at the UEC office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. At the

meeting, the UEC Chairman explained IFES's aid to the election trainings, compilation of voters' lists, observing international elections and drawing strategies under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UEC in 2013.

U Hla Thein also explained current cooperation between the UEC and the IFES in preparation

for holding the 2020 General Election in Myanmar.

Mr. Vasu Mohan discussed aid to be provided by IFES to UEC in areas such as conducting research for hate speech and disputes during election periods, IFES's experiences in fighting hate speech and writing election management papers. —MNA ■

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Legal Affairs, Special Cases Assessment Comm. Chair receives ROK Ambassador to Myanmar

CHAIRMAN of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Thura U Shwe Mann received Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar Mr. Lee Sang-hwa at

Hluttaw Affairs Building I-11 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they exchanged views about legal affairs, bilateral relations and cooperation between Myanmar and ROK.—MNA ■



Thura U Shwe Mann meets with South Korean Ambassador Mr. Lee Sang-hwa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Union Minister attends Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference: London 2018



Union Minister U Ohn Win meets with Special Representative for Climate Change Mr. Nick Bridge at the Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference in London. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win attended the Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference held in London, UK, from 11 to 12 October.

During the opening ceremony, UK Prime Minister Mrs. Theresa May delivered a speech through video and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Mr. Jeremy Hunt and Duke of Cambridge Prince William were present. The President of Botswana, Mokgweetsi Masisi, delivered the opening speech.

The conference was held under a theme to stop illegal wildlife trade and discussed matters related to increasing collaboration, rule of law, ending related markets, closing wildlife trade routes in transportation and travel sectors, preventing wildlife trades through the Internet, acting against illegal logging and processes for improving knowledge.

Union Minister U Ohn Win discussed about new law enforcements for wildlife in Myanmar.

The Union Minister, Ambassador of Myanmar to UK U Kyaw Swa Min and officials

next went to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and met with Special Representative for Climate Change Mr. Nick Bridge. They discussed on collaboration of two countries concerned with environmental issues, forestry development section and the Paris agreement on reduction of climate change.

On 14 October, the Union Minister and officials went on an excursion trip to the Zoological Society of London. The Union Minister and delegates then arrived back in Myanmar on 16 October.—MNA ■

Two fighter jets crash in Sagu, killing three

TWO TATMADAW F-7 fighter jets crashed in Sagu in Minbu Township, Magway Region on 16 October, killing two pilots and a sixth-grade girl on the ground.

According to a statement from the military, four F-7 fighters from Magwe Airbase were taking part in the training exercise when the weather suddenly turned bad at about 6:20 a.m. It said two of the planes landed safely and two crashed, killing Captain Hein Thu Aung and Captain Phyo Maung Maung. On 16 October at 7:40 am, poor visibility caused one F-7 jet to fly into a telecommunications tower near about 500 yards north-east of Sarpwet Chaung Bridge, and the pilot is assumed to have jumped down with the parachute. The body of the pilot was torn asunder, said the Deputy Minbu Township Administrator.

In another incident, a Tat-



Local people look through the wreckage of a fighter jet that crashed near Sagu in Minbu, Magway Region. **PHOTO: TOWNSHIP IPRD.**

madaw fighter jet also crashed near Thanatpin village, Saku Township around 7:25 am. Both pilots were killed in the accidents.

Magway Region chief minister and the security minister rushed to the scene of accident while Lt-Col Pyae Phyo from

the Air Force inspected around the scene.

Near the accident area, a 10-year-old girl, who was studying at home, was hit by a piece of the plane which struck the tower. She died after arriving at hospital, he added. — IPRD ■

Myanmar, Japan agree on mutual exemption of visa for diplomatic passport holders

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Japan, with a view to further strengthen friendly relations between the two governments and peoples, have exchanged notes through diplomatic channel, on the mutual Exemption of Visa for Diplomatic Passport Holders with duration of stay not exceeding ninety days. The mutual visa exemption will come into effect on 1st December 2018.— MNA ■

UNSG Special Envoy visits Thakelpyin IDP Camp in Sittway

MS. CHRISTINE Schraner Burgener visited Thakelpyin Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camp in Sittway, Rakhine State, yesterday.

The special envoy met with displaced people at the camp which was established in 2012 and about 6,000 people from over 1,000 families are sheltering there.

Afterwards, she also met with local community in Aung-

mingalar Ward in Sittway.

During the trip, the UNSG Special Envoy was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung and Rakhine State Minister U Aung Kyaw Zan.

After the visit, the UN delegation led by Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener returned to Yangon in the evening.— Kyaw Ye Aung ■

22,000 foreign jobs, 21,000 domestic jobs secured in September

THE Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population works continuously for national development, increasing the per capita income of capable workers, and creating more job opportunities, and in doing so, sends workers to foreign countries and creates domestic job opportunities as well.

Getting proper job and enough workers for employers, the Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population created Labor Exchange Management

System in 2017 and created jobs for 505 civil servants and 20,548 private workers.

Concerning creating job opportunities abroad, the Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population has respectively sent 3,340 workers to Malaysia, 16 workers to Singapore, 465 workers to South Korea, 18,543 workers to Thailand, 369 workers to Japan, 9 workers to the UAE, 4 workers to Qatar and 17 workers to Jordan in September this year.—MNA ■

Police arrest three men, seize 117,000 Yaba pills in Maungtaung

SECURITY police arrested three men from U Shae Kya Village in Maungtaung Township and seized 117,000 stimulant tablets worth K234 million yesterday, according to the local police source.

The police searched a suspected boat at 3.45 am yesterday in the Naf River during their patrol and found the drugs and

three men, including Shaw Shi Tar Mauk from U Shae Kya Village in Maungtaung Township.

During the interrogation, the suspects confessed that they were arrested on their way to the neighbouring country, said the police. The police charged the three suspects under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—GNLM ■

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)

Research work aims to solve sucker fish issue

By May Thet Hnin

IN a bid to tackle monster sucker fish posing threat to fish farmers, the Department of Zoology at the Yangon University and Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) are jointly conducting research.

Fish breeders are affected by sucker fish's spawning enormous numbers of eggs in fish lakes in Yangon and Ayeyawady regions. To control this, a research is being conducted, said U Win Kyaing, general secretary of MFF.

Sucker fish were initially imported for home aquarium, leading later to reproduction and rapid growth of them in fish ponds, lakes and rivers.

At present, reproduction of tilapia, barbus fish imported from China (Taipei) and sucker fish is rapidly growing. Nev-

ertheless, tilapia and barbus fish are popular as other fish species in domestic market, whereas sucker fish are not eaten. Therefore, it is hard to control the growing reproduction of that fish species.

The fish sample will be taken to Yangon University and teachers from the Department of Zoology will conduct experimentation. Additionally, they will go on a study tour to learn breeding behaviors of sucker fish in spawning grounds. Through research activities, they will try to prevent the spread of sucker fish species in fish ponds.

Yangon Region Fisheries Department has sent a notification to pagoda trustees to monitor whoever sets sucker fish free in lakes near pagodas in Yangon Region, as an effort to control the spread of sucker

fish species.

Fish farmers are solving sucker fish problems in their own way.

"They deal with it in their own way when sucker fish are caught in fishing nods. Some kill them and some recklessly dump them into creeks. When drained and replaced with fresh water, those sucker fish are prevented from flowing into the ponds. However, we are still not in touch with how to control them", said U San Htike, fish breeder.

If we cannot prevent the spread of sucker fish species, it might threaten natural fish resources, fresh water fish farming, rivers, ponds, lakes and aquaculture. Thus, we need to come up with effective management to tackle with this, said breeders and environmental conservationists. ■

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated patrol

A COORDINATED patrol between Myanmar and Bangladesh was conducted at the border posts 39 to 40 from 10:30 am to 12:50 pm on 15 October.

The Myanmar patrol was led by Inspector of Police Myat Zaw Oo from No.1 Border Police sub-division (Taung Pyo-Yar), Area 3, Maungtau Township, and the Bangladesh patrol was led by Naib Subedar Md. Abdul Jalil of No. 34 Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB).

Similarly, on the same day at 10:35 am, a troop of border police led by Police Major Kyaw Win of No.2 Border Po-

lice sub-division (Ngakhuya) station conducted a coordinated patrol with two water crafts along the Naf River. The troop in the two water crafts met with Bangladesh troops led by Subedar Aloy Sious of BGB 2 in two water crafts in the middle of the Naf River, near the mouth of Sabaypinyin creek at the 11 nautical mile post, and patrolled together along the river at 11:00 am between nautical mile 14 and 15 where the troops from the two sides met on boat 004, according to the Police Information Department.—Myanmar Police Force



PHOTO: MYANMAR POLICE FORCE

\$1.1 million investment in transformational micro-insurance announced

STONESTEP Myanmar and the DaNa Facility, a UK Government for International Development (DFID) funded programme, yesterday announced an investment of over US\$ 1.1 million in an innovative new project that plans to develop a pioneering micro-insurance market in Myanmar.

The introduction and expansion of a micro-insurance market in Myanmar will help to build the resilience of households and small business protecting them from financial and other shocks through products such as health, life and asset insurance.

Over the next two years, the project will contribute significantly to developing the micro-insurance market in Myanmar. The project aims to provide over 600,000 people with micro-insurance products to assist them in managing risk, generating personal income, and contributing to Myanmar's national targets for financial inclusion.

The first phase of the project will use one of Myanmar's existing microfinance institutions (MFIs), Vision Fund Myanmar, and their Social Welfare Fund (SWF) as a platform to reach

disadvantaged groups and those traditionally excluded from the economy.

From the start, Stonestep will improve and augment the micro-insurance services provided to Vision Fund's clients.

During the second phase, Stonestep will expand its product offerings to other MFI partners and alternative distribution channels such as mobile network operators, mobile money platforms and other gateways and enabling the project to increase its scale and reach.

The Head of DFID, Dr Gali

Marzetti, speaking at the launch event in Yangon yesterday said: "DFID is excited to be launching this project today with Stonestep because we see how it can offer transformation benefits to so many poor and marginalized people across all areas of the country."

"As Stonestep works over the next two years to provide over 600,000 people with micro-insurance products, the services provided will be invaluable in helping ordinary people in managing the everyday risks of life, giving families across Myanmar peace

of mind, security and protection from debt in times of need."

Rechel Yu, Director of Programme Quality & Development, at Vision Fund Myanmar also commented: "Vision Fund is excited to partner with Stonestep to improve and expand the social warfare services we provide to our clients.

Micro-insurance is a powerful tool that can empower families to build their resilience against unexpected shocks and plan for a more secure and better future for themselves and their children".—GNLM ■

Constantly alert to the challenges, aim to resolve them through dialogue and negotiation

THE Union Government conducted three Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panlong meetings as it considers the peace process the most important undertaking. In spite of difficulties, there has been progress in each and every meeting.

Consolidating the cessation of armed conflicts and achieving success in the political dialogue by going forward is very important for the entire peace process.

Many were worried that it would be too difficult to forge ahead, but in spite of the difficulties, we have moved forward.

There have been difficulties and disappointments as anticipated but incessant negotiations, endless patience, the goodwill of participants and the encouragement and help of our people and our friends have enabled us to keep moving forward.

“

Especially in a country like ours where there were historically no political dialogues ever, we will have to take time to resolve the political problems through political means.

ravaged Myanmar since its birth as an independent nation. It also aims to establish a strong democratic federal union founded on lasting unity created out of diversity.

Experiences of other countries have shown that the path of peace processes seldom run smooth and unimpeded.

“As ours was of unparalleled intricacy, involving more than the common number of players, we were prepared for difficulties and disappointments, setbacks and even breakdowns”, said State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in her Singapore lecture in August.

But we are determined to persevere because without peace, our transition could not blossom and bear fruit.

It is normal for people to have different viewpoints in dialogues. Especially in a country like ours where there were historically no political dialogues ever, we will have to take time to resolve the political problems through political means.

Now the people and the peace negotiators must all work together, hand in hand, on the long journey ahead. Through unity, empathy, solidarity and the Panglong spirit, we will strive to overcome the challenges that we will encounter along the way ahead.

Let us strive for the country's development by raising exports

By Dr. Maung Aung

MYANMAR is facing reverberations from global economic changes as our country has been practicing market-oriented economy and forward-looking policies. At the moment, the United States is waging a trade war, causing a world trade decline and limiting the flow of the US dollars; many countries are facing higher exchange rates and wild fluctuations in their interest rates. As the high-value US dollars make prices of imports higher, transportation charges have been raised and prices of merchandise have gone higher. If the economic status is referred, trade deficit is lower than previous years. But the amount of imports is higher than that of exports, putting our country's trade balance in deficit. The situation of our country needs to be solved immediately.

Generally, essential and non-essential imports must be differentiated, limiting the latter ones for the time being. As we are practicing a market-oriented economy, it is suitable to encourage more production rather than banning imports. As our currency continues to depreciate, ways and means of raising exports should be found to evade from current economic crises and to be in good standing for long-term economic progress.

During Donald Trump Administration, the US is practicing protectionism against global productions and free trade systems by taxing 10-25% on foreign goods;

trading countries with US retaliated by imposing higher tariffs on imports from the US. However, the United States won't be stopping the trade war immediately, and its currency will keep on rising against other currencies.

An opportune moment to develop exports

After the Second World War, four Asian tigers of Singapore, South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan emerged after Japan; the People's Republic of China too developed its economy by means of its major exports.

These countries have practiced export-led growth model by focusing on exports. The development of exports means quantities as well as qualities.

Upgrading basic commodities is essential for exports as higher prices could be demanded. In addition, international investments are invited to get engaged with export-oriented industries for considerable higher prices on export-quality products and creating a lot of job opportunities and getting new technology and management. Development of exports or implementation of export-led development is required to play an important role in reducing the inflation of local currency. In this way, lower prices of exports will increase purchasing power of local goods. In order to carry out export-led growth model, the stability of country's economy, budget deficits within reasonable ranges, financial aids to export-re-



lated production and improvement of industrial businesses must be encouraged legally. Foreign investments and export-related industries are basically essential and to be encouraged from all sides.

Export-oriented Foreign Direct Investment

To carry out export-oriented growth, export-oriented foreign direct investments are required to come and get engaged with local industrial businesses. Now Myanmar Investment Commission has taken action by relaxing some business rules and regulations. To solve difficulties concerning with or implementation of export-led development is required to play an important role in reducing the inflation of local currency. In this way, lower prices of exports will increase purchasing power of local goods. In order to carry out export-led growth model, the stability of country's economy, budget deficits within reasonable ranges, financial aids to export-re-

lated production and improvement of industrial businesses must be encouraged legally. Foreign investments and export-related industries are basically essential and to be encouraged from all sides.

should be next to seaports. At the same time, production and labor costs are reasonably lower and water and electricity supplies and transportation have to be convenient to the seaports. In addition, location of these industrial businesses must be convenient for investors to contact with their counterparts globally and at an exact time. Foreign direct investments will come to the locations equipped with above-mentioned conditions, forming industrial agglomerates in the designated areas. For instance, in China industrial businesses are mostly located in Shanghai, Chang Jiang and Beijing which are easily accessible to the sea; in the same way, in Thailand, industrial businesses are situated near the capital of Bangkok. For Myanmar, the commercial city of Yangon is a suitable location; if requirements are met for foreign direct investments, Yangon will become a main growth pole.

Laws for higher export quality products

Laws as main legal force must be enacted in order to improve the basic export products. Even with prior discussions on higher price exports, these talks failed to bring success for investors who were not encouraged by laws and there was no considerable success in the end. In accordance with international experience, employers should be lured with financial assistance, lower interest rates and exemption of taxes.

Bank for exports and imports

As trading is the driving force for economic progress, the Bank is required to serve the financial problems of a businessperson's relationship with exports and imports. Nowadays, every sector has

its bank, but no bank is designated for trading. Export enterprises should borrow money from the Bank; money insurance should be borrowed for short-term period as well as insurance cover for the products of high quality.

Upgrading of Myanmar Trade

Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization was formed to potentially promote trading which is higher than in the past, but the development of export sector still needs upgrading. Myanmar Trade is required to make Yangon a commercial city where trading and investments go together and the city should be regarded to fulfill all in one. It means that domestic and international products should be displayed in these exhibition halls where quality and prices of domestic goods, foreign products are in accordance with category and standard of marketing situations, information centres, international investors whose needs to be fulfilled with our market information, and business matching between our businessmen and international investors should be arranged by the authorities concerned.

If an organization like Malaysian Matrade could be established, upgrading of domestic products as well as foreign investments would be increased. In addition, implementation of six kinds of merchandise and service of tourism which are included in the National Export Strategy could be carried out to produce good end results.

The quality development of exports is required to meet the standard norms, guarantee for quality of farming products, formation of selling and buying markets and emergence of transparent e-trading. Emergence of

International Commodity Center should be simultaneously implemented. For development of exports, important factors in trading and international investments are greatly in need. They have to understand our market deeply in order to contact new international firms. At the same time, new entrepreneurs should be trained to meet the demands from foreign countries.

A good situation and an opportune moment

As the global trade war is going on, appreciation in the US dollar hurts every country in the world, hitting weak Myanmar economy the hardest. Quick withdrawal from economic crisis means that development of exports must be implemented hurriedly and consistently. As the US dollar is on an upward trend during the world economic crises, quick development of exports must be made during depreciation of Myanmar currency. In this time Chinese Foreign Direct Investments find it difficult to enter US market. Because of higher labor wages and environmental hazards, they will have to find suitable countries. At the same time, newly prescribed Myanmar Company Law will pave the way for foreign investors and local investments to find a suitable place to make profits in our country.

In conclusion, the real situations and an opportune moment will turn Yangon and its environments to a vital role for export-oriented industries and implementation of high-price products in order to withdraw from present economic crisis and the improvement of long-term economic development.

Translated by Arakan Sein

Situation of Foreign Direct Investment in Myanmar

(US \$ Millions)

4644.46
1419.46
4107.06
8010.53
9486.12
6649.81
5718.09

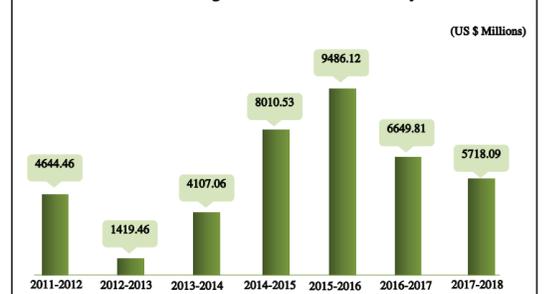
2011-2012 2012-2013 2013-2014 2014-2015 2015-2016 2016-2017 2017-2018

Source: Directorate of Investment & Company Administration (DICA)
Information Unit: Central Statistical Organization

Deepavali National Holiday to fall on 7 November

The Union Government announced yesterday that the Hindu festival of Deepavali, which is also known as Dewali, falls on 7 November 2018 (14 Waning of Thadingyut 1380 ME), Wednesday, and is a public holiday under Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.—MNA

Situation of Foreign Direct Investment in Myanmar



Source: Directorate of Investment & Company Administration (DICA)
Information Unit: Central Statistical Organization



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued on Tuesday 16th October, 2018)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT 09:30 hrs MST: During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago regions, Northern Shan and Rakhine states, scattered in Kachin, Eastern Shan and Kayah states, fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region and Southern Shan State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Dawei (1.18) inches, Bhamo (0.20) inch, Kunlong, Kengtung and TadaU (0.16) inch each and Heho (0.12) inch.

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 17 October 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Taninthayi Region, (Southern and Eastern) Shan and Kayah states and isolated in the remaining regions and states. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 October 2018: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 October 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 October 2018: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

International White Cane Day event uplifts spirit of the disabled

MORE than 1,800 local people, including the blind and the visually impaired, participated in the 27th Mayor's Cup, observing the International White Cane Day in Yangon on 15 October.

The event started at 6 am when Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe shot up the starter's gun. A total of 1,821 people including 1,345 blind and visually impaired people and 476 helpers from 28 groups, including Myanmar Christian Fellowship of the Blind and the School for the Blind (Sagaing), participated in the International White Cane Day event.

"People know about us by participating in this kind of activity. So, I am very happy. In the past, people regarded us as pathetic and they would not want to see us. But now, people are encouraging us, regardless of whatever we are. That's why I want to say thank you to all of you. According to 2014 census, there are about 1,240,000 blind and visually impaired people living in Myanmar. Therefore, I want to urge that if you see blind people, please help them," said U Saw Thaug Kyi from Khawai



The disabled participate in the International White Cane Day event in Yangon. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Chan School for the Blind.

Beginning from City Hall, over 1,800 participants walked along the Sule Pagoda Road and then turned to Merchant Street, then turned to Mahabandoola Road along which they walked all the way back to the City Hall near Sule Pagoda.

Yangon Region Hluttaw Vice Chairman U Lin Naing Myint, Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe, Yangon Region gov-

ernment ministers and Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) members participated together with the blind and the visually impaired people. YCDC members, religious association members and social association members, company staff and the general public cheered them along the way and presented snow towels and handkerchiefs.

Then, Yangon Mayor delivered a speech in honor of the

participants and presented the trophy and gifts to the schools for the blind. After that, the schools for the blind performed entertainment programs.

The event aims at supporting the disabled and promoting the awareness of the needs of the disabled, particularly those affected with blindness and visibility impairments. The event has been held in Yangon annually since 1992.—Zarni Maung ■

Japan expo to showcase Nippon brands, tech products, services, job agencies

By Nyein Nyein

THE 7th Japan Expo 2018 Yangon will be held in the Tatmadaw Convoy Hall in Yangon from 27 to 29 October, according to Myanmar Promotional Services (MPS) Co., Ltd.

More than 70 companies will participate for three days in the Japan expo. The Japan expo has been celebrated since 2012, and it will be organized by Myanmar Promotional Services Co., Ltd., with the assistance of the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). The Japan expo will also showcase similar expos in Mandalay and Taunggyi annually, besides Yangon.

"The Japan expo will be held with an aim to developing stronger ties between the peoples of Japan and Myanmar through cultural and technological exchanges as well as to developing the economic sector by inviting



MPS Managing Director Dr. Zarni Maung Maung delivers a speech at a press conference of the 7th Japan Expo 2018 in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Japanese investors," said Dr. Zarni Maung Maung, Managing Director of Myanmar Promotional Services Co.,Ltd.

"Also, Myanmar government should provide assistance to hold similar expos. By supporting the holding of the expos in Myanmar, more foreign direct investments

will enter Myanmar and job opportunities can be created for local talents," he added.

The trade promotion in Myanmar is still very weak. The trade promotion sector also needs support from other sectors. In other countries, related departments provide financial

assistance in order to make the event a success. They also provide easier processing of necessary documents. JETRO in Japan and the Department of International Trade Promotion in Thailand are good examples. Our country has just started an organization, like Myan Trade Promotion, under the Ministry of Commerce, he added. The Japan expo will exhibit Japanese brands, Japanese technological products, Japanese language center, Japanese technological service provider companies, Japanese job agencies, travel & tours, food, and Japanese cultural and business companies.

There will be over 160 showrooms at the Japan Expo 2018. Moreover, the event will include special agenda such as cosplay and Japanese songs competitions. Those who have bought for above Kyats 50,000 will have the chance to participate in the lucky draw program. ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release No. 19/2018
6th Waxing of Thadingyut, 1380 ME
(15 October 2018)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 13 October 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 San Htwe Aung from Bo Tun Zan Ward, Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Dawbon Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 11-10-2018, police arrested San Htwe Aung, 34, living at No55-B, Bo Tun Zan Ward, Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Dawbon Tsp, together with marijuana. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Dawbon) MaYa(Pa) 45/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Ma Noe Noe living at (62/B) and Ko Kayin living at (61/B) from Bo Tun Zan Ward, Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Dawbon Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 9-10-2018, police arrested Ko Tun Tun Naing, 27, and his wife, Ma Nu Yin Htay (a) Noe Noe, 25 at No 62/B, Bo Tun Zan Ward, Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Dawbon Tsp, and Zin Kyaw Myo, 20, and two other people who arrived at their house, together with WY psychotropic tablets. It was found that the drugs were bought from Aung Myaing (a) Kayin, living at No (61/B). Police investigated his house although no drugs were found at his place, a case has been opened against the six suspects with MaMaSa (Dawbon) MaYa(Pa) 42/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Tun Naing Myint from Lae Yin Tel Village, Kawlin Tsp, Sagaing Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 7-10-2018, police arrested Tun Naing Myint, 35, and his wife, Ma Nilar Tun, 31, both from Lae Yin Tel Village, Kawlin Tsp, together with opium and a sharp knife. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kawlin) MaYa(Pa) 83/2018 under Section 16-C/21/22-B of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Ko Arkar from Ward 4, Kyunsu Tsp, Myeik District, Taninthayi Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 11-10-2018, police arrested Ko Arkar (a) Arkar Moe, 32, in his home in Pinyin Myaing 1 st Street, Ward 4, Kyunsu Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kyunsu) MaYa(Pa) 18/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received from Kyaukkone Village, Kyunsu Tsp, Myeik District, Taninthayi Region, selling illegal drugs..	On 8-10-2018, police arrested 7 people including Myo Lwin, 31, in his home in Kyaukkone Village, Kyunsu Tsp, and Moe Win, 26, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (KanMaw) MaYa(Pa) 35/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Ma Aye Aye Phyu from Ward 3, Namtu Tsp, Northern Shan State, selling illegal drugs.	On 10-10-2018, police arrested Ma Aye Aye Kyu (a) Ma Aye Aye Phyu, 30, in her home in ThaTaLa Ward 3, Namtu Tsp, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 12/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. After further investigations, police arrested Daw Yoe Mar(a) Kalar Ma, 53, in her home in Pan Hike Ward 7, Namtu Tsp, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets, heroin and ICE. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Namtu) MaYa(Pa) 13/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of Ko Kyaw Thin from Laemhee Village, Htigyaing Tsp, Sagaing Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 11-10-2018, police arrested Kyaw Thin, 45, in his home in Laemhee Village, Htigyaing Tsp, together with heroin. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Htigyaing) MaYa(Pa) 39/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of Min Aung (a) Zeekwat from Pauk Kone Village, Nyaung Chay Dauk Tsp and Mg Jacky Chan from Kankalay Village, selling illegal drugs on a large scale.	On 7-10-2018, police arrested Min Aung (a) Zeekwat, 34, and together with Mg Jacky Chan, 27, from Kankalay Village, in house of Min Aung in Pauk Kone Village, Nyaung Chay Dauk Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Nyaungchaydauk) MaYa(Pa) 3/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of Ko Nay Naing, living in Myoma 1 Ward, Mudon Tsp, Mon State, selling illegal drugs.	On 8-10-2018, police arrested Ko Nay Naing, 34, living in No. 208, Mya Malar Street, Myoma 1 Ward together with WY psychotropic tablets. Then it was found that the drugs were bought from Aung Thu Htet (a) Thargyi, 26, and Htet Yan Oo (a) Ou, 19 and although the suspected things were not found, police arrested them and investigated in their house. A case has been opened against the 3 people with MaMaSa (Mudon) MaYa(Pa) 15/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10	Information received of U Aung Aung and U Lwin Nyo, living in Shin Nine Village, Homalin Tsp, Khamti District, Sagaing Region, using/selling illegal drugs.	On 13-10-2018, police arrested U Aung Aung, 31 in his home in Shin Nine Village, Homalin Tsp, and Tun Wai, 22 who live in the same village, together with opium. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (HtaManThi) MaYa (Pa) 26/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police arrested Lwin Nyo, 33 in his home, together with opium and a case has been opened with NaMaSa (HtaManThi) MaYa (Pa) 27/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
11	Information received from Ouyinpu Village, Ngwe Oh Village-tract, Mabein Tsp, Northern Shan State, selling illegal drugs.	On 6-10-2018, police searched in a tent where no one lives and it was found that Aung Thu (a) Hlaing Phyo Aung, 34, and Myint Soe Oo, 35, from Ouyinpu Village, Mabein Tsp, together with heroin. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Mabane) MaYa (Pa) 107/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
12	Information received of Maung Pyi Kyaw, living in Room 12, Building No. 5, Bayintnaung Street, Ward 3, Hline Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 7-10-2018, police arrested Pyi Kyaw, 30, in his home in in Room 12, Building No. 5, Bayintnaung Street, Ward 3, Hline Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets and marijuana. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Padaukchaung) MaYa (Pa) 9/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

FROM PAGE-11

13	Information received of Ko Maung Myint from Ward 5, Myataung Village, Htigyaing Tsp, Katha District, Sagaing Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 10-10-2018, police arrested Maung Myint, 47, from Ward 5, Myataung Village, Htigyaing Tsp, together with heroin and WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Htigyaing) MaYa(Pa) 38/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
14	Information received of Maung Myo from Thirimyaing Village, Bokpyin Tsp, Taninthayi Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 12-10-2018, police arrested Maung Myo (a) Myo Lwin, 47, from Thirimyaing Village, Bokpyin Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Bokpyin) MaYa(Pa) 32/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
15	Information received of Ko Aung Naing from Sezin Village, Haungpar Village-tract, Phakant Tsp, Kachin State, selling illegal drugs.	On 6-10-2018, police arrested U Aung Naing (a) Aung Hlaing, 60, from Ward 5, Sezin Village, Phakant Tsp, together with '88/1' psychotropic tablets. A case has been opened with NaMaSa (Sezin) MaYa(Pa) 18/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
16	Information received of Ko Poe Thet from Ward 5, Zayatkwinn Village, Hlegu Tsp, Yangon Region, selling illegal drugs.	On 11-10-2018, police arrested Thet Wai Kyaw (a) Poe Thet, 34, from No. (5/28), Than Street, Ward 5, Zayatkwinn Village, Hlegu Tsp, together with WY psychotropic tablets, marijuana and two knives. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Hlegu) MaYa(Pa) 25/2018 under Section 16-C/22-B of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
17	Information received of Daw Nan Cho and Daw Nan Moe from Thadarkyo Village, Kawkareik Tsp, Kayin State, selling illegal drugs.	On 12-10-2018, police searched Daw Nan Cho, 45,'s house in Thadarkyo Village, Kawkareik Tsp. The house was empty but police confiscated WY psychotropic tablets from inside the house. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kawkareik) MaYa(Pa) 29/2018 under Section 19-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched another house in the same village belonging to Daw Nan Moe, 43. Although Daw Nan Moe was not present, her son-in-law, Bo Bo Nyein, 23, together with WY psychotropic tablets, one MA-3 gun, 15 5.56 bullets, and one bullet cartridge. A case has been opened with MaMaSa (Kawkareik) MaYa(Pa) 30/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, and with MaMaSa (Kawkareik) (Pa) 392/2018 under Section 19-F of the Arms Act.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far 336 cases have been opened as of 13-10-2018, and 449 men and 88 women have been arrested with seizures of 4,874.75 g of heroin, 22.01 g of ICE, 37,603.01 g of opium, 329 g of low-quality opium, 5,802 g of powder opium, 3,973.99 g of speciosa, 157,406 stimulant tablets, 3,393.78 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, 11 firearms, 164 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, in Ward 4, Narkaungmu Village, Mongton Tsp, Shan

State, one man was arrested with 25,800 stimulant tablets, 340 g of heroin and one motorcycle. In Kutkai Tsp, Kolone Village, near the eucalyptus forest, a man was arrested with 3,900 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle. In Muse Tsp, Wanenan Village, a man was arrested with 4,750 stimulant tablets and 55 g of heroin. In Nawngkhio Tsp, Pahat Ward, two men were arrested with 11,800 stimulant tablets and one Caldina car. In Loilem Tsp, near Hotint Village on the Loilem-Taunggyi highway, a man and a woman riding a Super Custom car were arrested with 100,000 stimulant tablets and 1,500 g of raw opium. In Tachilek Tsp, Wankaung Ward, Golf Course junction, a Toyota Vigo drove away from an official inspection. Officials pursued the vehicle but the car was later found abandoned and contained 242,000 stimulant tablets. Near Yingaung Village, on the Yingaung-Sanlu Village path, two men were arrested with 18,000 g of heroin and two motorcycles. On the Hweyi outer ring leading from Monghsat to Tachilek, officials waved down a motorcycle but the suspect abandoned the motorcycle and escaped, leaving behind 28,000 stimulant tablets. In Rakhine State, Sittway Tsp, three arrests were made in which five men were arrested with 262 stimulant tablets and 1 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder. In Maungtaw Tsp, during an area surveillance task in Latar Village in MyoU Village-tract, officials seized 1,170,000 stimulant tablets from an abandoned house. In a field near Kyuntaung New Village, three men were passing through were arrested with 58,185 stimulant tablets. Further investigation led to the arrest of two men with 668 stimulant tablets in Maung Ni Village. In Taninthayi Region, Myeik Tsp, Myeik South Area, Myoma 2 Ward, two men were arrested with 66,400 stimulant tablets. In Sagaing Region, Htigyaing Tsp, Wegyi Village, three men were arrested with 11,758 stimulant tablets and 50.02 g of heroin. In Mandalay Region, Patheingyi Tso, Kyaukchaw Village, at the Oriam Toll Gate, a man driving a Nissan AD Van was arrested with 5,890 stimulant tablets and 156 g of heroin. In Singu Tsp, Kyitaukpauk Village, two women were arrested with 2,426 stimulant tablets and 4.23 g of heroin. In Myittha Tsp, Toten Village, a woman was arrested with 4,000 stimulant tablets. A Shwemaw Shan express bus from Muse Tsp was carrying a sound box container delivery that contained 9,400 stimulant tablets and 880 g of ICE. A man was arrested when he came to pick up the delivery in Mandalay Region.

There has been one arrest involving firearms. In Sagaing Region, Monywa Tsp, Ohpoetaung Ward, three men were arrested with 347 stimulant tablets, 4.101 g of heroin, 2 g of opium, 1 air gun and 100 pellets, and 1 pair of binoculars.

There has been one arrest where officials fired shots. In Mandalay Region, Mogok Tsp, in front of Legyi police outpost, five motorcycles were waved down but they drove away, prompting officials to give chase and fire shots. Five men were arrested, with one suffering nonfatal wounds, together with 50,000 g of raw opium.

There have been four cases of arrests involving foreigners. In Shan State, Muse Tsp, near the cemetery in Namhsan Gotaung Village, two illegal Chinese migrants were arrested with 0.6 g of heroin. In Muse Tsp, Kaungmuton Ward, two illegal Chinese migrants were arrested with 580 g of heroin. In Namhkam Tsp, on the Manhaung Village path, an illegal Chinese migrant was arrested with 150 g of opium and one motorcycle. In Sagaing Region, near the border gate in Tamu Tsp, two illegal Indian migrants and two men and one woman from Myanmar were arrested with 100,000 stimulant tablets and one motorcycle.

There have been 288 cases being opened between 7-10-2018 and 13-10-2018, and 377 men and 49 women have been arrested. Seizures of 1,710.43 g of heroin, 921.88 g of ICE, 78,514.74 g of opium, 19 g of low-quality opium, 16540 g of powder opium, 6,532 g of speciosa, 1,883,717 stimulant tablets, 611.93 g of marijuana, 13.32 g of opium blocks, 1 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 10 buprenorphine tablets, 1 air gun, 100 pellets, and 1 pair of binoculars.

5. To seize further drugs and to arrest drug dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President through following contact numbers:

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

IKBZ honors police for recovering stolen car

A CEREMONY congratulating the People's Police Force and other relevant people who helped recover the stolen Toyota Caldina (No AA-7757), which was robbed in Dagon (South) Township on 10 September, was held at Strand Square Conference Room A in Yangon on 12 October.

The car was robbed near Yarma noodle factory, Kyansitthar Street, Ward 17, Dagon (South) Township, Yangon on 10 September 2018 at 12:15am.

Deputy Chairman of IKBZ, U Nyo Myint, and senior department officials, East Yangon District People's

Police Force, Dagon (South) People's Police Force, Yangon Traffic Police, the owner of the car, invited guests and members of the media were present at the ceremony. IKBZ General Manager U Than Zaw (Claims) gave words of gratitude and honored the police force. Deputy Chairman of IKBZ U Nyo Myint granted honors to Dagon Myo Thit (South) Township Police Major Aung Thein Aye. The car owner also thanked the police and everyone involved in recovering their car. — GNLM ■



Protecting nature the best way to keep planet cool: report

PARIS (France) — The best — and fairest — way to cap global warming is to empower indigenous forest peoples, reduce food waste and slash meat consumption, an alliance of 38 NGOs said on Monday.

Restoring natural forest ecosystems, securing the land rights of local communities and revamping the global food system could cut greenhouse emissions 40 per cent by mid-century and help humanity avoid climate catastrophe, they argued in a 50-page report based on recent science.

Approximately half of the reduced emissions would come from boosting the capacity of forests and wetlands to absorb CO₂, and the other half from curtailing carbon-intensive forms of agriculture.

On current trends, Earth is on track to warm up an unlivable three or four degrees Celsius (5.4 to 7.2 degrees Fahrenheit) above preindustrial levels, far about the 1.5°C climate-safe threshold endorsed last week by the UN in a major climate change assessment.

In the wake of the UN report, two starkly different visions are emerging on how to beat back the existential threat of global warming.

One calls for geoengineering and the aggressive use of technology to draw excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, especially by burning biofuels and capturing the emitted CO₂, a process known by its acronym, BECCS.

The other, favoured in the new “Missing Pathways to 1.5°C” report, is based primarily on Earth’s natural capacity to absorb CO₂.

Protecting the forests

“This is a pragmatic blueprint for tackling the climate crisis while respecting human rights and protecting biodiversity,” said Kelsey Perlman, forest and climate campaigner at UK-based NGO Fern.

“Decision makers

must abandon their faith in unproven technological solutions and put restoring and protecting forests at the centre of climate strategy.”

But how to do that remains a challenge: More than two decades of UN-led efforts to curb deforestation have largely failed, with the planet still losing a wooded area the size of Greece every year.

Deforestation — responsible for about a fifth of greenhouse gas emissions — intensifies global warming in two ways, reducing Earth’s capacity to absorb carbon dioxide, and releasing huge amounts of the planet-warming gas into the air.

The report highlights research showing that native forest communities should play a key role.

“People who live in, and with, forests protect those lands,” lead author Kate Dooley, a political scientist at the University of Melbourne, told AFP.

“Recognizing this is the greatest forest conservation success story in the last decade.”

“We have to give these peoples not just land rights, but the resources to protect those lands,” she added.

The report also tackles head-on the political hot potato of how to change human behaviour in ways that will reduce our carbon footprint — cutting back on travel, using public transportation, switching to electric vehicles.

Too much beef

But it is revamping our diets that would have the biggest impact of all.

“Even bigger emissions can come from producing and consuming less meat,” especially beef, said Teresa Anderson, climate change policy officer for ActionAid International.

A study published in *Nature* last week calculated that rich nations would have to eat 90 per cent less meat by 2050 to sustainably accommodate a projected global population of 10 billion people.

The report notes that only six countries — The United States, Brazil, China, Canada, Argentina, Australia — and the European Union produce and export the lion’s share of beef, chicken and pork worldwide.

Livestock farming poses a double climate threat, driving the loss of forests to make way for grazing and generating huge amounts of methane, which is 25 times more potent than CO₂. Reducing food waste — estimated at more than 30 per cent worldwide — by half could cut CO₂ pollution by half-a-billion tonnes, more than one per cent of total emissions. It could also help feed some of the billion people who go to bed hungry every night, the report notes. But hitting that target remains a deceptively difficult, especially in the developing world, experts say.—AFP ■



Deforestation — responsible for about a fifth of greenhouse gas emissions -- intensifies global warming. PHOTO: AFP

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

We, AGRO GREEN LAND CHEMICAL CO., LTD, would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by HEBEI VEYONG BIO-CHEMICAL CO., LTD (China) to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), from former distributor GOLDEN PLAIN CO., LTD If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

AGRO GREEN LAND CHEMICAL CO., LTD Ph-09978999155/09448045122

Sr	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Number	Registration Type
1	Golden Plain Pymetrozine 50% WG	Pymetrozine 50% WG	E2018-4160	Experiment
2	Golden Plain Fosthiazate 10% GR	Fosthiazate 10% GR	E2018-4159	Experiment



The eruption of Guatemala’s deadly Fuego volcano saw 62 people evacuated. PHOTO: AFP

Guatemala’s Fuego eruption is over: officials

GUATEMALA CITY — The eruption of Guatemala’s Fuego volcano ended on Saturday, an official source said, with locals escaping a repeat of June’s eruption that killed 190.

However, mild to moderate explosions sent smoke swirling up to 940 meters above the crater, while a lava flow measuring 1,200 metres continued.

“All of this activity is expected to disappear in the coming hours,” said a bulletin from Guatemala’s government agency for seismology (Insivumeh), without ruling out that it could pick up again in coming days.

The latest eruption began in the early hours of Friday, with 62 people

evacuated and a highway near the 3,763 metre volcano, 35 kilometres (22 miles) from Guatemala City, closed.

Guatemala’s disaster management agency CONRED said two other volcanoes are also being monitored.

The Pacaya volcano, located 20 kilometres south of the capital, and the Santiaguito volcano, 117 kilometres west of Guatemala City, have both showed increased activity.

A powerful 3 June eruption of the Fuego volcano — located 35 kilometres southwest of the capital — rained rocks, ash and toxic gases on several villages and left 190 people dead and 235 missing.—AFP ■

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER No.2/2018

- (1) Ministry of Natural Resources And Environmental Conservation, No.(1) Mining Enterprise Invites to submit the tender quotation sale open tender in the United State Dollars.
 - (a) Cathode Copper (5000)M/T (15) Lot

Group (1) (1)Lot	100 Tonnes each, 5 Lot	Monywa, Mine Site
Group (2) (1)Lot	200 Tonnes each, 5 Lot	„
Group (3) (1)Lot	500 Tonnes each, 3 Lot	„
Group (4) (1)Lot	1000 Tonnes each, 2 Lot	„
 - (b) Base price of Cathode Copper shall be based on the London Metal Exchange Copper price on the date of tender opening. The highest proposal amount (Premium amount added to the L.M.E price and deduction of transportation and handling expenses) shall be winning tender.
 - (c) Petrified Wood Fossil 7.662 M/T Mandalay, Lashio
 - (d) Lead Ore and other mixed 7.44 M/T Lashio
 - (e) Lead Ore and other mixed 10 M/T Heho
 - (f) Silicon Ore and other mixed 120 M/T Muse
 - (g) Antimony Ore and other mixed 10 M/T Taungoo
 - (h) Coal (Myanmar Kyats) 30 M/T Thazi
- (2) Tender Closing Date and Time is 16th November , 2018 (14:00)hrs and Opening Tender (15:00)PM.
- (3) Tender document are available from the Procurement Department, No.(1) Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources And Environmental Conservation,, Office Building No.(19), Nay Pyi Taw and Details Can be asked to +95-(0)67-409012 and 409162 within the office hours.

Tender Committee
No.(1) Mining Enterprise



A handout photo released by Uganda's presidential press office on 15 October, 2018 shows Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni (r) meeting with US rapper Kanye West at the State House in Entebbe, Uganda. **PHOTO: AFP**

Kanye West gifts white sneakers to Uganda's president

KAMPALA (Uganda) — Kanye West and his wife Kim Kardashian on Monday paid a visit to Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, gifting the 74-year-old leader a pair of white sneakers.

Rap megastar West is in the east African nation to finish recording his ninth studio album "Yandhi", which was meant to drop two weeks ago, until his surprise decision to go and record in Africa to "feel the energy".

The serial Grammy-winning artist — who recently announced he was changing his name to Ye — arrived in Uganda on Saturday.

The country seizing the opportunity to market itself as a

tourist destination, with the couple pictured visiting its natural sites.

Museveni welcomed them to the country on his Twitter account.

"I held fruitful discussions with the duo on how to promote Uganda's tourism and the arts. I thank Kanye for the gift of white sneakers. Enjoy your time in Uganda. It is the true Pearl of Africa," he wrote.

It is West's second audience with a president in under a week after his eyebrow-raising meeting with Donald Trump last Thursday, in which he performed a relentless monologue that left even

the US President speechless.

His lecture included everything from Trump's protectionist trade policies to replacing Air Force One with a hydrogen plane, black gun crime and "infinite amounts of universe," was met with bemusement and concern.

"We have to go to what is known as Africa, I have to go and find out what it is really called and just grab the soil and cook five meals a day so the metabolism stays up and... have the mic in the open so you can hear nature while we are recording," West told entertainment site TMZ. —AFP ■

Around half of hip hop videos feature smoking, researchers say

WASHINGTON (United States) — Almost half of the music clips made for hip hop's biggest hits in the past five years have featured scenes of smoking or vaping, researchers said on Monday.

"Music videos offer largely unregulated opportunities for exposure to, and brand advertising of, combustible and electronic tobacco and marijuana products," said a report published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. The report warned that product placement for particular brands of smoking gear was on the rise in videos for hip hop music, which is the most popular genre in the United States.

Kristin Knutzen, a researcher in public health at Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy, and two of her colleagues logged smoking in music clips that made *Billboard* magazine's hip hop charts between 2013 and 2017.

They tallied the number of portrayals of smoking, be it joints,

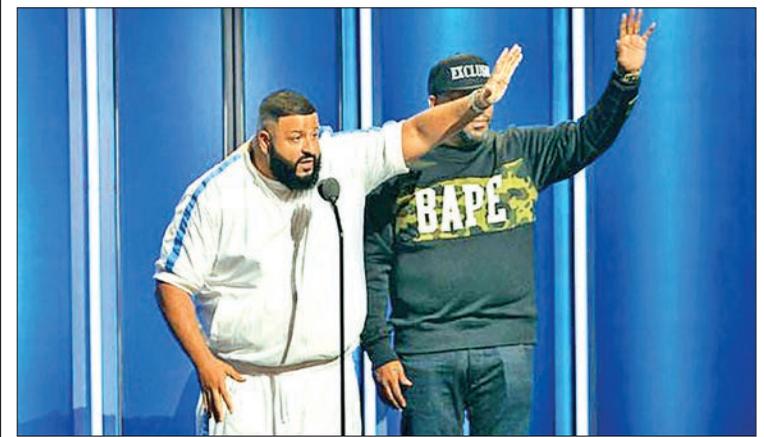
cigarettes or e-cigarettes.

Of the 1,250 songs that made the *Billboard* "Top 50" hip hop and R&B chart, between 40 to 50 per cent had clips that featured some form of smoking, depending on the year.

The music videos were collectively viewed some 49 billion times.

The smoking included joints (pure cannabis rolled in cigarette paper), spliffs (weed and tobacco), blunts (marijuana rolled in cigar leaves, which are popular with rappers) as well as pipes, cigarettes and vaping devices, which are often used to inhale cannabis products.

The researcher also logged every instance of smoke or vapor appearing on screen. Brand mark placement also increased over the same period, the study showed, from zero per cent for "combustible" (non-electronic) products in 2013 to almost 10 per cent of clips in 2017. —AFP ■



DJ Khaled, whose 2017 hit "I'm The One" featured smoking and brand mark placement for e-cigarettes. **PHOTO: AFP**

Top US opera company reaches deal with striking musicians

CHICAGO (United States) — The show will go on again this week at the Lyric Opera of Chicago after striking orchestra musicians reached a deal with one of America's premiere arts institutions.

A one-week strike had threatened the company's performance season just as it had been getting under way, after musicians complained of cost-cutting efforts that they said would reduce quality on stage.

Performances of Puccini's *La Bohème* and Mozart's *Idomeneo* were canceled last week, but will resume this week after the company reached a deal with musicians preserv-



The show will go on again this week at the Lyric Opera of Chicago after striking orchestra musicians reached a deal with one of America's premiere arts institutions. **PHOTO: AFP**

ing the key components of the company's demands.

The agreement, which was ratified on Sunday, calls for

the full-time orchestra to be paired down by four players, instead of the initially-proposed five, according to the *Chicago*

Tribune.

The company also preserved a reduction of the operatic performance calendar

from 24 weeks to 22.

Orchestra musicians said they managed to limit the cuts in their salaries and believed a longer strike would have been destructive to the company and its workers, according to the *Tribune*.

"These agreements will protect the artistic brilliance on our stage while also helping to ensure Lyric's long-term financial security," the 65-year-old institution said in an emailed announcement.

The company has reduced its number of opera performances over the last decade and added musical theater to its repertoire to generate audience interest. —AFP ■

Hawking's final book offers brief answers to big questions

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Stephen Hawking's final work, which tackles issues from the existence of God to the potential for time travel, was launched on Monday by his children, who helped complete the book after the British astrophysics giant's death.

Hawking was forever being asked the same things and started work on "Brief Answers to the Big Questions" last year — but did not finish it before he died in March, aged 76. It has been completed by the theoretical physicist's family and academic colleagues, with material drawn from his vast personal archive.

"He was regularly asked a set of questions," his daughter Lucy Hawking said at the Science Museum in London.

The book was an attempt to "bring together the most definitive, clearest, most authentic answers that he gave.

"We all just wish he has here to see it." Hawking, who was wheelchair bound due to motor neurone disease, dedicated his life's work to unravelling the mysteries of the universe.

The cosmologist was propelled to stardom by his 1988 book "A Brief History of Time", an unlikely worldwide bestseller.

It won over fans from far

beyond the rarefied world of astrophysics and prompted people into asking the mastermind his thoughts on broader topics, answered in his final work.

The big questions

The 10 questions Hawking tackles are:

- Is there a God?
- How did it all begin?
- What is inside a black hole?
- Can we predict the future?
- Is time travel possible?
- Will we survive on Earth?
- Is there other intelligent life in the universe?
- Should we colonise space?
- Will artificial intelligence outsmart us?
- How do we shape the future?

Multiple challenges

In his book, Hawking says humans have no option but to leave Earth, risking being "annihilated" if they do not. He says computers will overtake humans in intelligence during the next 100 years, but "we will need to ensure that the computers have goals aligned with ours".

Hawking says the human race had to improve its mental and physical qualities, but a genetically-modified race of superhumans, say with greater memo-



Hawking's daughter Lucy said the scientist was regularly asked a set of questions and the book was an attempt to answer them in the clearest way. PHOTO: AFP

ry and disease resistance, would imperil the others.

He says that by the time people realise what is happening with climate change, it may be too late.

Hawking says the simplest explanation is that God does not exist and there is no reliable evidence for an afterlife, though people could live on through their influence and genes.

He says that in the next 50 years, we will come to understand how life began and possibly dis-

cover whether life exists elsewhere in the universe.

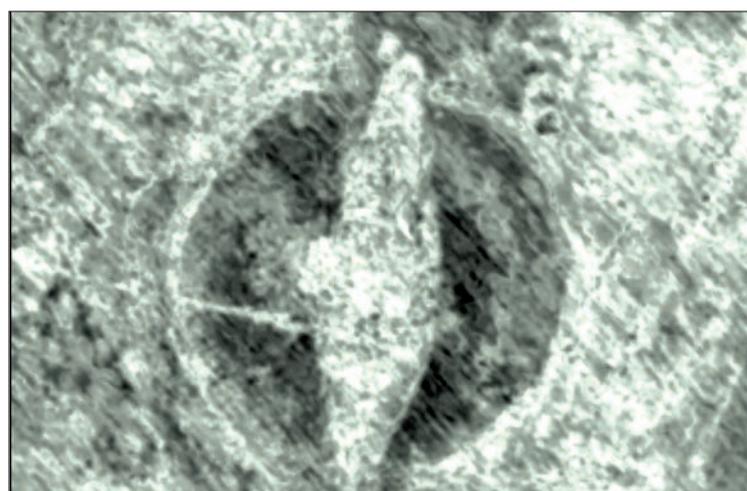
"He was deeply worried that at a time when the challenges are global, we were becoming increasingly local in our thinking," Lucy Hawking said.

"It's a call to unity, to humanity, to bring ourselves back together and really face up to the challenges in front of us."

In his final academic paper, Hawking shed new light on black holes and the information para-

dox, with new work calculating the entropy of black holes.

Turned into an animation narrated by Hawking's artificial voice, it was shown at the book launch. "It was very emotional. I turned away because I had tears forming," Lucy Hawking told AFP on hearing her father's voice again. "It feels sometimes like he's still here because we talk about him and hear his voice — and then we have the reminder that he's left us." —AFP ■



The boatlike shape was discovered in Norway inside a Viking burial mound using rada. PHOTO: AFP

Norway makes rare discovery of Viking ship traces

OSLO (Norway) — Archaeologists said on Monday they have found what they believe are traces of a Viking ship buried in southeast Norway, a rare discovery that could shed light on the skilled navigators' expeditions in the Middle Ages. The boatlike shape was detected about 50 centimetres underground in a tumulus, a burial mound, with the use of a ground-penetrating radar in Halden, a municipality located southeast of Oslo.

"In the middle of the mound, we discovered what is called an anomaly, something that is different from the rest and clearly has the shapes and dimensions of a Viking ship," Knut Paasche, an archaeologist at the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU), told AFP.

"What we cannot say for sure is the condition of the conservation. Yes there was a boat there, but it's hard to say how much wood is left," Paasche said. —AFP ■

MIT unveils new \$1 bn college for artificial intelligence

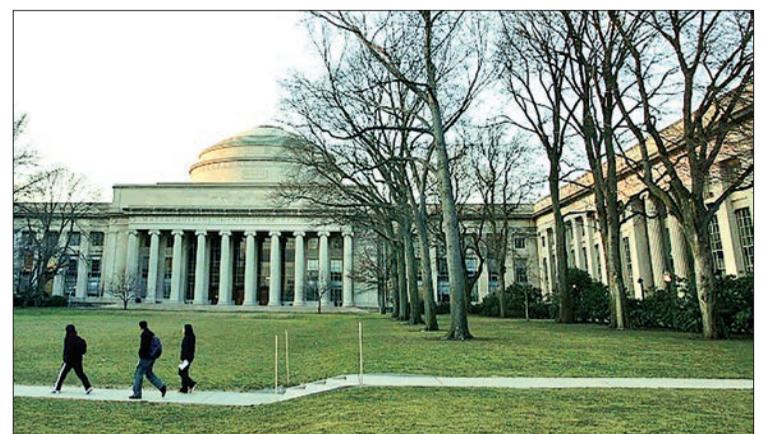
WASHINGTON (United States) — The Massachusetts Institute of Technology announced plans Monday to create a new college of artificial intelligence with an initial \$1 billion commitment for the program focusing on "responsible and ethical" uses of the technology.

The prestigious university said it would add 50 new faculty members and create an interdisciplinary hub for work in computer science, AI, data science, and related fields.

A large part of the new funds will come from a gift from Stephen Schwarzman, chairman and co-founder of the financial giant Blackstone, after whom the new college will be named.

"As computing reshapes our world, MIT intends to help make sure it does so for the good of all," said MIT President Rafael Reif.

An MIT statement said the initiative represents the single largest investment in computing and AI by an American academic



The Massachusetts Institute of Technology said it would create a new college to study the responsible and ethical uses of artificial intelligence. PHOTO: AFP

institution. The initiative comes amid growing concerns about the impacts of artificial intelligence on global institutions, and fears that China is overtaking the United States in this field.

"There is no more important opportunity or challenge facing our nation than to responsibly harness the power of artificial intelligence so that we remain competitive globally and achieve breakthroughs that

will improve our entire society," Schwarzman said. "We face fundamental questions about how to ensure that technological advancements benefit all — especially those most vulnerable to the radical changes AI will inevitably bring to the nature of the workforce."

The new college is slated to open in September 2019, with a new building scheduled to be completed in 2022. —AFP ■

Hosts and groups appear for 2019 ASEAN football tournaments

THE Tournament Committee Meeting of the AFF Suzuki Cup and AFF Competition Meeting & Fixture Drawing Ceremony of the AFF Competition 2019 were held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on October 15, attended by U Ko Ko Thein, General Secretary of

Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

The ceremony released the list of host countries and groups for ASEAN football tournaments to be held during 2019.

The ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) will hold AFF U-15

Girls Championship 2019, AFF Women Championship 2019, AFF U-22 Championship 2019, AFF U-15 Boys Championship 2019, AFF U-18 Championship 2019, and AFF Futsal Championship 2019 during the upcoming football season. —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■



U Ko Ko Thein, MFF General Secretary, attends fixture drawing ceremony of the AFF Competition 2019 in Cambodia. **PHOTO: MFF**



Soe Lin Oo. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Ah-Ga Golden Belt Champions Challenge Fight in Yangon

AH-GA Golden Belt Champions Challenge Fight, featuring renowned boxers from Myanmar, Thailand and Uzbekistan and organized by the Ministry of Health and Sports and Myanmar Lethwae Association was staged in Theinbyu Stadium on 14 October.

During the main event, Ironman Soe Lin Oo (Doeyoeyar/Myanmar) secured the gold belt, knocking out visiting Muay Thai fighter Phwar So Lar of Thailand in the third round.

At the early minutes of the fight, the first-class Lethwae

fighter put pressure on the Muay Thai, delivering a flurry of punches. Myanmar Lethwae fighter managed to fight the Thai opponent by taking an advantage of his talented ability.

In the second round, Muay Thai fighter Phwar So Lar asked for a minute pause.

In the third round, Myanmar Lethwae fighter's right blow knocked down the opponent Muay Thai fighter. The latter was beaten because he couldn't stand up during the number count of the bout referee. —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■

QFA invites MFF to play friendly against Myanmar U-23

QATAR Football Association (QFA) invited Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) to play a friendly match against Myanmar national U-23 men's football squad as part of preparation for taking part in the 2020 Asian U-23 football tournament.

At the invitation of the QAF, Myanmar U-23 and Qatar U-23 will play a test match in Doha, Qatar on 10 January 2019.

Both national U-23 teams will participate in the 2020 Asian U-23 qualification. Myanmar U-23 is in the Pot-2 East Asian Zone together with China, Australia, Hong Kong and Thailand. Qatar U-23 is in the Pot-1 West Asian Zone together with Uzbekistan, Iran, Palestine, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Myanmar's friendly match will also be part of preparation for taking part in the 2019 SEA Games. Qatar is one of the countries in Middle East region that will host the 2022 World Cup. —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■

Under-pressure Loew insists he can handle the criticism

BERLIN — Two days after the latest humiliating defeat, Germany coach Joachim Loew seemed to have regained his poise as he faced the media Monday ahead of a match against France.

"I can handle criticism very well," Loew said at a press conference ahead of Tuesday's Nations League game against the world champions at the Stade de France.

After his team lost 3-0 to the Netherlands on Saturday, Loew had seemed irritated and flustered as he refused to answer questions from German media about his future.

That loss left Germany bottom of their Nations League group, fuelling questions about whether he should have retained his job after the humiliating early exit from the World Cup.

"Of course, the defeat in the Netherlands has done a lot of damage, to the staff, the players and most of all the fans," Loew said on Monday.

"It's not really surprising to me. After the World Cup, it is a process we have to manage.

There will be setbacks or defeats. I am not too surprised about that.

"It's normal for me to be criticised, but I can handle criticism very well. I've spoken with the president (of the federation), it's clear that we have to stick together.

"Criticism from the outside does not bother me. It is important that I motivate my players against France. I can easily forget the criticism and remain 100 percent focused."

Loew has stayed loyal to players who won the 2014 World Cup even though the likes of Thomas Mueller, Jerome Boateng and Mats Hummels are in nowhere near the form they showed in Brazil.

At 32, and after twice fracturing his foot last year, Manuel Neuer seems no longer a world-class goalkeeper.

Against the Dutch, Boateng and Hummels often left gaps. At the other end, Germany have only scored 10 goals in the last twelve games.

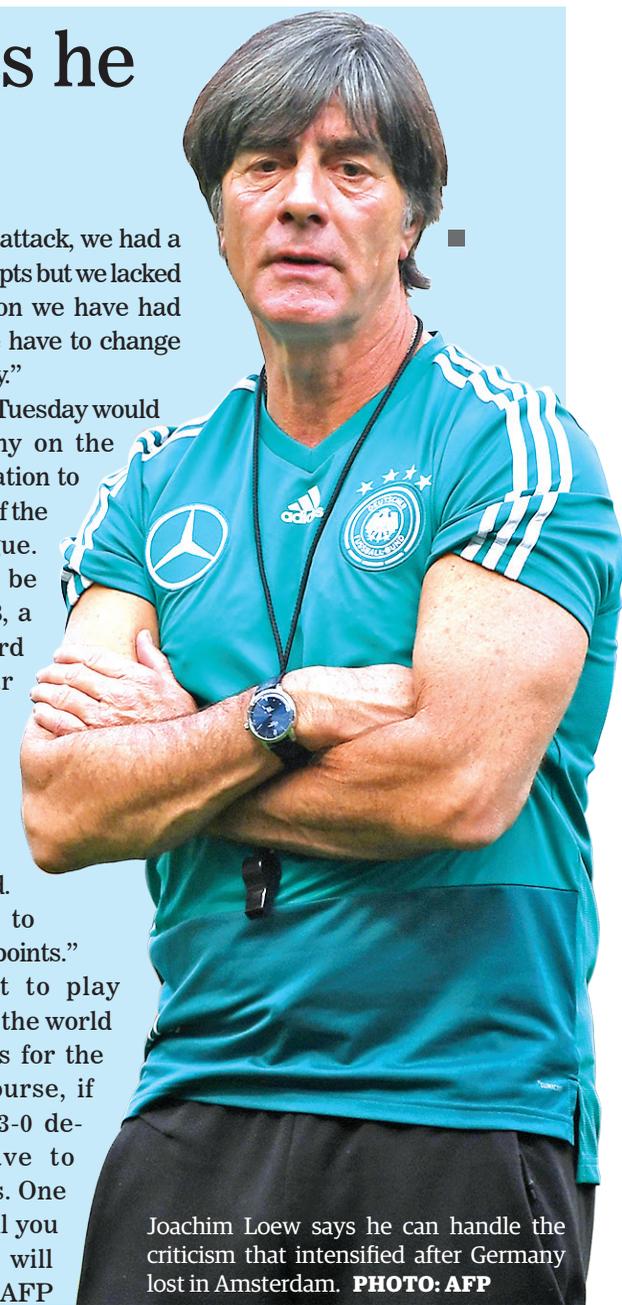
"For the first 30 minutes against the Netherlands we

played well. In attack, we had a lot of goal attempts but we lacked the organisation we have had in the past. We have to change things tactically."

Defeat on Tuesday would leave Germany on the verge of relegation to the B division of the Nations League. It would also be a sixth in 2018, a German record in a calendar year.

"We have nothing to lose against the world champions," Loew said. "We are here to take the three points."

"We want to play boldly against the world champions. As for the players, of course, if you suffer a 3-0 defeat, you have to make changes. One thing I can tell you is that Neuer will be in goal... — AFP



Joachim Loew says he can handle the criticism that intensified after Germany lost in Amsterdam. **PHOTO: AFP**