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Two suspects arrested for robbing fuel company in Ahlon Township

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Tuesday, 13 November 2018

State Counsellor calls on businesses to invest in Myanmar, pledges to bring good returns

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who is currently in Singapore, delivered a keynote speech at the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit-2018 in Singapore yesterday evening.

It was attended by members of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council-ABAC, economists, businessmen and guests.

In her speech, she invited foreign investors to invest in the country's priority sectors including agriculture and its related services, value-added production of agricultural products, live-stock production, breeding and production of fishery products, export promotion industries, import substitution industries, power sector, logistic industries, education services, health care industry, construction of affordable housing and establishment of industrial estates.

This is the second time I have taken part in this event, which provides an excellent platform for the promotion of business and investment in Myanmar and ASEAN at large. The theme of my speech will be simply, "Business and Investment in Myanmar and ASEAN". I would like to start with some background information on Myanmar's Economy. The 12-point National Economic Policy of the Myanmar Government aims at fostering sustainable development in our country, development that is inclusive and people-centered. Our investment policy supports the implementation of our National Economic



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the keynote speech at the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit-2018 in Singapore yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Policy and national economic development.

Reform measures have been undertaken to create a more attractive, investor-friendly environment in Myanmar. As you are perhaps aware, The new Myanmar Investment Law was promulgated by the Union Legislature on 18th October 2016 to create a better environment for investment and to bring our economy in line with international and regional agreements, with the technical assistance of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The new law aims at creating a fair and more level playing field for both foreign and domestic investors.

The new Myanmar Investment Law contains a number of important provisions that will encourage responsible business, support investors to do business with ease, through transparent, simplified and quick procedures. A permit from the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) will not be required for every investment project; it is guaranteed that investments will not be expropriated directly or indirectly; income tax exemptions will be granted according to zones and promoted areas; the development gap between the States and Regions will be reduced through power delegation and the establishment of a grievance system.

Subsequent rules were prescribed on 30 March 2017 and the law came into effect on 1 April 2017.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Tenth session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw begins

THE Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw began the first day of its tenth regular session at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon, at which time the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker addresses the Hluttaw.

In his address to the Hluttaw, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat first spoke of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw welcoming the five Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives who were elected in the recent by-election. He then noted how Hluttaw representatives had returned to their respective



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

constituencies while the Hluttaw was in recess and had learned about the situation among their constituents. Hluttaw representatives were also urged to conduct re-

forms while performing their duties, and work to achieve a permanent peace and to strengthen democracy.

During the tenth regular session, the remaining draft laws are to be approved and enacted, while each Hluttaw conducts their duties. Recently, not only this tenth regular session, but the schedules for each Hluttaw's regular sessions in 2019 were published in a notification. It is expected that through this publication there will be more progress and successes in the work. However, due to the work requirements of each Hluttaw,

there can be changes in dates and durations, while emergency and special meetings can also be convened by following the laws and rules.

Instructions were made to submit proposals, at the latest on 31 December 2018, to use Pyidaungsu Hluttaw development funds and, to date, 31 townships had submitted proposals, out of which permission was granted to 8 townships. The remaining townships have been notified to submit their proposals on time, said the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session resumes

THE second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session started at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Swearing-in of new Hluttaw representatives

Eight new Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives and four newly elected Hluttaw representatives were sworn in before the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, U T Khun Myat, and signed the swearing-in documents.

Welcoming speech and briefing by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

Speaker U T Khun Myat welcomed the new Hluttaw representatives elected in the



Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session held at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

by-election. He then informed the Hluttaw that 23 bills and ten motions will be debated in the current session, and 120 asterisk-marked questions will be raised. The questions include 119 asterisk-marked questions that were transferred to the

tenth session from the ninth session.

"Our legislative pillar, the Hluttaw, has flourished and thrived to reach the tenth session of the second Hluttaw. As a strong and firm legislative pillar, we have to enact laws that are in accord with the time and era. Representatives also need to change their mindsets and functioning. At the moment, when a democratic system is being formed, all must strive towards achieving the democratic norms that ought to be achieved. Words and actions that create and cause misunderstandings and division should be carefully avoided when raising

questions and conducting debates. There will be differences in policies and views among parties, but all are urged to debate and make decisions for national benefit," the Speaker said.

"We all were elected by the people to perform legislative duties. Now is the time to enact laws for the people that stand up to democratic norms, and enable the transition towards democracy. It can be seen that the administrative pillar is carrying out national reforms in tune with a democratic system. Internal peace is the main challenge towards establishing a democratic federal union.

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Amyotha Hluttaw

First meeting of 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw's 10th regular session held

THE first meeting of the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw's tenth regular session was held at 10 a.m. yesterday at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than delivered the welcoming message and swore in new representatives.

During the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, a report was read, and a Bill was also discussed.

In his message, the Speaker said that he believed that all Amyotha Hluttaw representatives had conducted field studies to understand the voice of the people in their respective constituencies. "So, we believe



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

all representatives will listen to the desires and needs of the people and make efforts to ask questions, put forward motions, make laws in accordance with respective committee-wise procedures, and set Bills, laws, bylaws, rules, and regulations," he said. The Speaker wished all Hluttaw

representatives good health, wealth, and prosperity so they can serve the interests of the country and the people better.

Afterwards, U Kyaw Kyaw Win of Rakhine State constituency 8 asked about plans for constructing the Wet-Kyein Bridge between Kyein Kan Pyin-Kyein Chaung, Aungthabye-Bandoola roads in Maung Taw, Tamanthar bridge, Letyarchaung bridge, Longboat bridge, Harlartatphar bridge, Arzarbaw bridge, Mar zee bridge, Padakardawanali bridge, Kyaung Nabay Bridge, and Bridge No. (1/1).

To this query, the Deputy Minister for Construction, U Kyaw Lin, replied that the Min-

istry had proposed the allotment of development funds from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Rakhine State for the bridge projects. Depending on the availability of the funds, the Ministry will carry out construction on the bridge projects in Maungtaw-Kyein Kan Pyin-Kyein Chaung-Aungthabye-Bandoola roads on priority, starting from the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year, the minister added.

Daw Htu May of Rakhine State constituency 11 asked if the government plans to upgrade the roads in Yanbye-Lay Taung Thabye Seik in Rakhine State, to make them suitable to drive the whole year through.

SEE PAGE-7

State Counsellor arrives in Singapore to attend 33rd ASEAN Summit, Related Summits

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi left for Singapore on a special flight yesterday at the invitation of Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong to attend the 33rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summits to be held in Singapore from 13 to 15 November 2018.

The delegation led by the State Counsellor was seen off at the airport by Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr. Myo Aung and wife, Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu, Member of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Col. Min Naung, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo, Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Ms. Vanessa Chan Yuen

Ying Elisabeth and officials.

The State Counsellor was accompanied by Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, high ranking officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials.

The State Counsellor will attend the 33rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summits together with other Heads of State/Government of ASEAN and East Asia Summit participating countries from 13-15 November 2018.

The delegation led by the State Counsellor arrived in Singapore at 1:45 pm local standard time.

They were welcomed at the Changi International Airport by Dr. Mohamad Miliki Bin Osman, Senior Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs, and



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her delegation land at Changi International Airport in Singapore to attend the 33rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summits. **PHOTO: MNA**

officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Htay Aung and wife, Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Col. Win Myat and wife, and officials of the Myanmar Embassy in Singapore.

Afterwards, the delegation

proceeded to Fairmont Hotel where they will stay during the visit.

Another member of the delegation Union Minister for Ministry of Planning and Finance U Soe Win had left for Singa-

pore earlier on 11 November to attend the ASEAN Economic Community Council Meeting and Preparatory Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (Prep-RCEP) Ministerial Meeting. —MNA ■

State Counsellor calls on businesses to invest in...

FROM PAGE-1

The new Companies Law to provide greater flexibility for operating businesses

Reforms have been undertaken in every sector throughout Myanmar. Some are highly visible, some are less obvious. Reforms that seek to strengthen macroeconomic management are absolutely essential for economic stability which, in turn, is a strong magnet for attracting increased investment. Such reforms are not naturally visible to most people, but their impact is substantial and longlasting.

An important recent reform which can be considered “revolutionary” is the modernization of the more than one hundred years old Companies Act to reflect the current business and regulatory environment. The Myanmar Companies Law was enacted on 6 December 2017. It came into effect on 1st August 2018 with the implementation of the electronic registry. As a result of the electronic registry, companies can be registered in Myanmar within a few hours by using the MyCO (Myanmar Companies Online) system. The new Companies Law has transformed Myanmar’s corporate landscape and will make it easier

for businesses to be registered as companies. It will provide greater flexibility for companies in their conduct of business and the management of their internal affairs, while at the same time ensuring certainty and stability in corporate regulation.

It will also do much to improve the “starting business ranking” which is a main indicator of the “doing business ranking” of Myanmar. Up to now, as of September 2018, over 14,000 companies are reregistered in our online platform and over 4,000 companies are newly incorporated.

Simple, clear and predictable Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

The Myanmar Investment Commission has been re-organized with a new management team led by Union Minister U Thaung Tun. The new MIC team is now reviewing all processes not only within the MIC itself but also within other government agencies with a view to streamlining and then establishing simple, clear and predictable Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

We anticipate that this exercise will contribute to the development of a single window

system for use by all investors and businesses who may or may not be registered under the MIC. Such a single window system will go a long way toward addressing impediments faced by investors while at the same time, allow us to provide them with not only

As what has been referred to as Southeast Asia’s final frontier market, Myanmar provides innumerable investment opportunities.

State Counsellor

pre-investment, but also post-investment, services.

The main purpose of this procedural streamlining, SOP development and single window system creation is to advance not only a favorable but also a predictable, facilitative and friendly investment environment.

Another success story which highlights the type of positive

partnership that can be achieved between our respective public and private sectors is the Thilawa SEZ. I am happy to be able to claim that the Thilawa SEZ has become a crowning success in a very short period of time, receiving a total investment of USD 1.491 billion, a figure that reflects the dollar value of those investments actually entering the economy. Investors from countries such as Japan, the United States, Germany, France, Sweden, Australia, China, India, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan have invested in the Thilawa SEZ, and there are many more eager to invest in Thilawa SEZ Zone B.

Myanmar’s markets is now in full swing.

Myanmar’s re-emergence comes at a time when the world is facing rising protectionist sentiments, a shift away from multilateralism in favour of bilateralism, and in some cases, even isolationism, and amidst currency and trade tensions between some countries.

Unlike ten years ago, today, Myanmar is exposed to these global macroeconomic shifts in ways never before experienced. Luckily, despite global challenges, the growth outlook

for developing Asia in 2018 was recently upgraded to 6 percent, or 0.1 percentage points higher than the rate envisaged in September 2017 by the Asian Development Bank. As part of this developing Asia, Myanmar’s economic trajectory is therefore truly promising.

The opening of Myanmar’s markets is now in full swing. As what has been referred to as Southeast Asia’s final frontier market, Myanmar provides innumerable investment opportunities. Some are plain to see, others are waiting to be found by those with foresight and imagination.

I would like to turn now towards ASEAN business and investments. We, ASEAN Member States are holding together and marching forward to reach our goal with one vision and one identity as one community. For Myanmar, ASEAN plays an important role for economic cooperation. As of September 2018, investments from ASEAN account for about 45 % (US\$ 35,507.349 million) of total investments in Myanmar, demonstrating the strong economic ties between our country and other ASEAN Member States.

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State Counsellor calls on businesses to invest in...

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As we all know, the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA) has been signed and investors from ASEAN countries can now enjoy the incentives provided under the terms of the Agreement. The ASEAN-India, ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Korea, ASEAN-Hong Kong investment agreements and the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement have also been signed, and these agreements will bring new benefits for our member states.

I strongly believe that by working together, we will enjoy greater efficiency, productivity, and profits and that better jobs will be created as a result of the global value chains.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our ASEAN friends to invest in Myanmar, in such priority sectors as agri-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is greeted by attendees at the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit-2018 in Singapore yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

culture and its related services, value-added production of agricultural products, livestock production, breeding and production of fishery products, export

promotion industries, import substitution industries, power sector, logistic industries, education services, health care industry, construction of affordable

housing and establishment of industrial estates.

Investing in Myanmar will bring good returns to us,

and to you

As many are aware, private sector development is crucial for the economic development of a country and Myanmar recognizes the importance of promoting the private sector. The Private Sector Development Committee led by Vice-President (1) meets with private investors every month and brings them together with officials from relevant ministries.

A Working Group on improving the Ease of Doing Business Ranking and ten supporting groups related to Ease of Doing Business indicators have also been established with the aim of raising Myanmar's ranking in the ease of doing business index of the World Bank.

Let me conclude by saying that I am confident that investing in Myanmar will bring good returns to us, and to you. —MNA ■

NRPC holds workshop on capacity building for staff

THE National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) organized a workshop on capacity building for its staff in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. The workshop included sessions on Myanmar's peace process, providing support to enhance awareness of the peace process, federalism, and peace support structures.

"The workshop aims to provide a comparative lens by discussing peace processes in other parts of the world. In terms of the support work done by the NRPC staff, sessions on diplomacy and protocol, communication, funding for peace, and essentials of presenting minutes and writing executive summaries have been arranged. We have also includ-

ed a session on understanding the important role of women in Myanmar's peace process," said Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, U Khin Maung Tin.

"We are confident that this workshop will furnish the necessary tools, skills, and building blocks for career advancement and capacity development. We would like to encourage staff to take ownership of their work and strive for personal excellence. We hope that this workshop will encourage behavioral change, and interest towards strengthening the administrative mechanisms of the government," said the deputy minister.

The 11-member NRPC was

established in July 2016, soon after the current Government took over and is chaired by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Union Government is currently implementing the peace process to reach a political agreement to sign the Union Accord, and to implement steps for establishing a Union based

on democracy and federalism.

"Establishing a federal Union and achieving the democratic standards anticipated by the government will take time and can only be done step by step," said Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin, "We are steadfast in achieving the ultimate goal of a democratic federal Union, regardless of the challenges it presents."

We are grateful for the understanding, trust, and support shown by some countries who appreciate the complexities of the peace process and continue to support us: U Khin Maung Tin

continuous assistance and cooperation from friendly countries like the EU, both in financial and technical aspects. We are grateful for the understanding, trust, and support shown by some countries who appreciate the complexities of the peace process and continue to support us," said U Khin Maung Tin.

The EU's Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Kristian Schmidt, also made opening remarks at the session. During the first session of the workshop, Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet, U Zaw Htay and U Moe Zaw Oo gave talks on the peace process in Myanmar; Dr. Ngun Kyon Lyan spoke on federal systems, U Hla Maung Shwe and U Aung Naing Oo spoke on supporting peace, and Dr. Min Zaw Oo gave a talk on international conflicts.

Till now, 51 political agreements have been entered into. The government has reiterated its commitment to establish a Union based on democracy and federalism, which has been requested continuously by ethnic groups. In his speech, the deputy minister also expressed thanks to the EU for its contribution to and financial support for the NRPC's aims and goals.

"Implementation of peace is a long-term process as the government, ethnic armed groups, and political groups seek consensus towards drafting a Union Accord. The NRPC will need

In further sessions, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun and U Kyaw Myaing of UEHRD will give talks on communication and relations, Dr. San San Aye and Daw Nan Raw will speak on the role of women in the peace process, U Maung Wai and Daw Kaythi Soe will talk about external relations and diplomacy, Daw Su Mon Nyein and Kam Sian Thang will speak about the peace fund, and Daw Moe Thuzar and Daw Khaing Myat Chit will give talks on meeting records.—MNA ■



Workshop on capacity building for NRPC staff held at NRPC in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Gems, jade stones put up for auction in Nay Pyi Taw

RAW gems and utility jade are being put up for auction in the local currency at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw from 12 to 17 November.

On Monday morning, raw gems and jade were displayed inside and outside of the Hall for local merchants. The Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, U Ohn Win, visited the emporium in the afternoon to see the display.

A total of 96 gems lots and 3,339 jade lots are being exhibited, and they are to be sold under a competitive bidding system. The gems lots will be exhibited on 12 and 13 November and they will be auctioned from 14 November.

The jade lots will be dis-

played on 12,13, and 14 November. Lot numbers 1 to 1,150 will be auctioned on 15 November, lots 1,151 to 2,300 will be put up for sale on 16 November, and lots 2,301 to 3,339 on 17 November. The exhibition will end on 17 November.

The chairman of the Emporium Management Committee, U Than Zaw Oo, said many local jade and gems merchants have started their businesses with a small capital investment. We have been holding raw and jade stones auctions for these merchants, he added.

A total of 1,186 local merchants have registered for the exhibition. Local and foreign media have also been invited to cover the sale.—MNA ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Merchants checking quality of jade stones at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Muse-Ruilion priority as work on Sino-Myanmar border trade zone begins

By May Thet Hnin

THE development of the economic cooperation zone along the Myanmar-China border has begun, with work on the Muse-Ruilion section being given priority, said U Aung Htoo, the Deputy Minister for Commerce. He is also the secretary of the central committee set up to implement the Myanmar-China border economic cooperation zone.

"A series of discussions on the border economic cooperation zone have been conducted. Work will start first on the Muse and Ruilion section. China has erected fences around the Kyegaung

checkpoint. We will also install fencing around the New Start Light Company in Muse area," he said.

Government officials from the two countries will hold discussions on the border economic cooperation zone at a trade expo being organized next month on the Sino-Myanmar border, he said. Business-to-business (B-to-B) discussions will also be conducted at the expo, he added.

As part of the plan, trade zones will be set up in Kanpikete in Kachin State, Muse in Shan State, and Chinshwehaw in the Kokang Self-Administered Zone.

"The border trade zone

will be set up on the lines of the Thilawa Special Economic Zone implemented by the two governments, which saw participation from entrepreneurs. Invitations for Expression of Interest (EOI) will be soon issued and a feasibility study will be undertaken for the zone," said U Aung Htoo.

Myanmar and China agreed to establish the economic cooperation zone in the border areas during the State Counsellor's visit to China in August 2016. The two governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding for setting up the zone in May 2017.

The trade zone is expected to promote domestic and for-

eign investments, create business opportunities and jobs, help small and medium enterprises to grow, develop manufacturing power, and improve bilateral trade.

China is working to create the world's largest economic platform with its One Belt, One Road initiative (the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-century Maritime Silk Road). The new economic cooperation trade zone plan is a part of OBOR, and is included in plans to establish a Myanmar-China economic corridor.

At present, tight controls by China on importation of rice,

sugar and corn through the main checkpoint in Muse has halted most trade, with only onions, green gram, and watermelons being traded.

In the last mini-budget period from April to September, Sino-Myanmar trade at the Muse, the Lweijel, the Chinshwehaw, the Kanpikete, and the Kengtung gates was valued at over US\$3.3 billion, with exports pegged at \$2.42 billion and imports valued at \$876 million. The trade value plunged remarkably in the first month of the current fiscal year 2018-2019, owing to the current state of tight controls by China. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Import surpasses export in bilateral trade with Singapore

BILATERAL trade between Myanmar and Singapore touched US\$1.99 billion in the last mini-budget period (from April to September), with the country's imports exceeding exports, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Singapore is Myanmar's second largest trading partner in the region, after Thailand. During the last mini-budget period, Myanmar's exports to Singapore were pegged at just \$190.4 million, while imports touched \$1.8 billion.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, footwear, textile and clothing, minerals and animal products to Singapore, and imports plastic, fuel oil, cap-



A container ship docks at a Port in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

ital goods, intermediate goods, consumer products, metals and chemicals.

Myanmar's bilateral trade

with Singapore was pegged at \$3.83 billion in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, \$2.96 billion in 2016-2017 FY, \$3.69 billion in 2015-2016 FY,

\$4.89 billion in 2014-2015 FY, \$3.6 billion in 2013-2014 FY, \$2.82 billion in 2012-2013 FY, \$3.05 billion in 2011-2012 FY.

Ten Singapore-listed enterprises brought in a capital of over \$724 million in the last interim period prior to fiscal year 2018-2019, making the country top on the investment line-up, according to data released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

Singapore also tops the list of countries with the largest FDI inflows in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, with investments of \$598 million so far, followed by Japan and Thailand, respectively.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade
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Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgement, hear cases in Nay Pyi Taw

UNION Supreme Court yesterday sits at Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning with Chief Justice of the Union Supreme Court U Htun Htun Oo and all Union Supreme Court judges to pass judgments on three special criminal cases and two special civil appeal cases. In addition to this it hear four special criminal cases and two special civil appeal cases. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Tenth session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw begins

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At the end, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker prayed that all may perform their duties correctly.

Submission and putting on record foreign trips

Foreign trip records of the Myanmar delegation led by President U Win Myint, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Hluttaw representatives were then submitted and the Hluttaw put the records into the minutes.

Establishment and expansion of new ministry

Next, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo explained about establishing and expanding the Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Ministry sent by the President. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that those Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the matter should register their names.

Appointment of Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union

Afterwards, a message sent by the President to appoint U Myo Win as Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union was submitted to the Hluttaw, and an announcement made for Hluttaw representatives who want to object to the appointment to submit their names, though if there are no objections the matter will be carried out.

Joint Bill Committee report on Tax Management bill

Following this, the Joint Bill Committee joint secretary Dr. Myat Nyana Soe read the committee's report and findings on the Tax Management Bill sent by the Union Government and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, who announced that Hluttaw representatives who want to table the amendment bill should register their names.

Becoming member of IASIA

Later, Union Civil Service Board Chairman Dr. Win Thein explained about the benefits of becoming a member of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Admin-



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo. PHOTO: MNA

istration (IASIA), to which the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that those Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the matter should submit their names.

Bill Amending the Sea Customs Act

After this, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win explained about draft amendments to the Sea Customs Act (2018) for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to discuss and approve.

Regarding this matter, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that a report, including the findings and comments of the Joint Bill Committee, is to be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and will be conducted according to the Hluttaw's law and rules.

Interest free Yuan 80 million loan from PRC

Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung and Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win explained about the interest free Yuan 80 million loan from the People's Republic of China for the passenger carriages' purchasing project and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that those interested Hluttaw representatives could submit their names to discuss this matter and added that it will be discussed and decided in

the forthcoming Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting.

Deputy Ministers explain about Ks 316.925 million emergency fund

The matter of using the Ks 316.925 million emergency fund from the Union Budget Law 2018 sent by the President was then explained by Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe and Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin.

Regarding this matter, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that the Hluttaw is putting on record the two ministries using the emergency fund from Union Budget Law 2018 sent by the President.

AFD Loan Euro 70 million

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Maung Maung Win also explained about the Euro 70 million loan from the French Development Agency (AFD or Agence Francaise de Developpement) to conduct project works in the Yangon Region.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that interested Hluttaw representatives could submit their names to discuss this matter. **Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put on record the reorganizing of villages, village tract in Shan State**

Finally, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced the putting on record of the expansion and reorganizing of Heho Town with five wards, by merging 3 villages in Taunggyi District, Kalaw Township, and Heho village tract.

The five villages will be merged as the Wayonepin village tract, the three villages will be merged as a village tract and 3 villages will be stricken out after the matters are submitted to the Hluttaw. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

President's Office continues announcement of illegal drug arrests, seizures acting on tip-offs

THE Office of the President issued Press Release No. 23/2018 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 10 November.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 10 November.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 14 November issue of *The Global New Light of Myanmar*. —GNLM ■

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Heads of service organizations appointed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names on expiry of the one-year probationary period from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Ye Naing	Director-General Information and Public Relations Department Ministry of Information
(2) U Khin Zaw	Managing Director Myanma Shipyards Ministry of Transport and Communications
(3) Dr Kyaw Moe Oo	Director-General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Ministry of Transport and Communications
(4) Dr Aye Aye Myint	Rector University of Education, Yangon Ministry of Education
(5) Dr Aye Aye Tun	Rector University of Bago Ministry of Education
(6) Dr Aung Myat Kyaw Sein	Rector University of Mawlamyine Ministry of Education

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting over the Bill Amending the Sea Customs Act (2018) at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Bill was sent by the Union Government after deliberation.

The meeting was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, who is also Chairman of the Joint Bill Committee and Joint Public Accounts Committee.

Also present at the meet-

ing were the deputy chairmen, secretaries, joint-secretary and committee members from the Joint Bill Committee and Joint Public Accounts Committee, members from the Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, officials from the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Planning and Finance, officials from the Union Attorney-General Office and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.—MNA ■

(Translated by
Thandar Aung)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung and MPs discuss sections of the Bill Amending the Sea Customs Act (2018) displayed on a monitor during a Joint Bill Committee meeting, in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session resumes

FROM PAGE-2

A democratic federal union can be established only when internal peace is achieved and so, I urge that we all do our assigned duties and work with the people for national reconciliation and internal peace," he said.

After his address, the Speaker notified the Hluttaw about a study tour to Germany undertaken by a delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung @ U Tun Tun Hein; the Pyithu Hluttaw representative from Yankin constituency, Daw Zin Mar Aung, attending the Southeast Asia and Pacific Regional Conference on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in Indonesia; a delegation, including Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Bo Bo Oo from Sangyoung constituency, led by Amyotha Hluttaw representative Prof. Dr.

U Than Win attending the 137th Assembly and related meetings of the International Parliaments Congress in Switzerland; a study tour to the People's Republic of China by a delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Zaw Thein from Wakema constituency; a delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr. U Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency attending the Global Parliamentary Summit in Spain; Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr. Daw Khin Sithu of Loikaw constituency attending the round-table discussion on Regional Investment Framework for Migrant Health in the Greater Mekong Subregion; a delegation that included Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Lone Jone San Mai of Sumprabum constituency led by Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Kyaw

Token attending the 20th Congress of King Prajadhipok's Institute (KPI) in Thailand; and a delegation that included Pyithu Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Myo Htat Win led by Amyotha Hluttaw representative Daw Nwe Nwe Aung attending the 14th Study Tour in Japan on Law/Judicial Co-creation Program. The notifications were made during the recess between the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth and tenth sessions after which they were put on record.

QNA Session

In the question-and-answer session that followed, asterisk marked questions raised by U Nyunt Aung of Monywa constituency and U Win Min of Hlonthaya constituency were answered by Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun. Questions raised by U Thaung Htay Lin of

Patheingyi constituency, U Sai Aung Kyaw of Kehsi constituency, U Ba Shein of Kyaukpadaung constituency, U Naing Naing Win of Tamu constituency, and U Aye Naing of Dagon Myothit (South) constituency were answered by Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Deputy Minister Dr. Ye Myint Swe.

Tabling motion on garbage

Afterwards, U Sai Ngaung Hsai Hein of Maukmai constituency tabled a motion urging the Union Government to define and set priority work guidelines so that relevant organizations can establish and open adequate garbage dumping fields and pits for systematic garbage collection and disposal, so that all wards and villages in the country are equally and consistently clean prior to the implementation of the national-level waste manage-

ment strategy and work processes. He also explained the reason and aim for tabling the motion.

The Speaker announced the Hluttaw was in agreement to accept and debate the motion, after obtaining the decision of the members. He asked Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the motion to enrol their names.

Receipt of Myanmar Mine Rules

Later, the Speaker informed the Hluttaw about receiving the amendment to the Myanmar Mine Rules sent by Amyotha Hluttaw, and asked Hluttaw representatives who want to table an amendment motion to enrol their names.

The second meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session will be held today.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA) ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

First meeting of 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw's 10th regular session held

FROM PAGE-2

To this, the Deputy Minister for Construction replied that the Ministry will coordinate with the Union Government to implement the road projects, although the portions in question were under the management of the State government. Currently, plans are under way to upgrade earth roads to laterite roads to become

all-weather roads. Daw Thiri Yadanana of Mon State constituency 12 asked if there were plans to upgrade the Bilin Bridge in Thaton District of Mon State. The Deputy Minister replied that plans were under way to construct a new bridge beside the existing bridge, to improve the transport system in Mon State. That project was listed in the Regional Infra-

structure Improvement Project together with JICA ODA Loan Phase III, and construction on the new bridge will begin in the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, he said.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin also replied to questions raised by U Kyaw Kyaw of Rakhine State constituency 4 and U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5 during the session.

Afterwards, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member U Soe Moe clarified the Gambling bill 2018 approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw. He also read out the report of the Bill Committee for discussion at the Amyotha Hluttaw.

Then, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker asked Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2 joined the discussion on the Bill amending the Bar Council Act submitted by U Soe Moe of Ayeyawaddy Region constituency 1. The second-day meeting of the second Amyotha Hluttaw's tenth regular session will continue on 13 November.—Aung Ye Thwin ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Workshop on economic development, CoC planned in Magway Region

MYANMAR'S Anti-Corruption Commission, along with the Magway Region government, will hold a workshop, entitled 'Economic Development and Code of Conduct', on 17 November in the City Hall, Magway Region.

During the workshop, officials

from the Magway Region Government, the chair and members of the ACC, as well as representatives from UMFC-CI and UNDP, local businessmen and representatives from CSOs, will learn of anti-corruption efforts, which will be followed by discussions.

ACC Chairman U Aung Kyi, Mag-

way Region Chief Minister Dr. Aung Moe Nyo, members of the ACC, regional Hluttaw Representatives, NGOs, patrons, business organizations, CSOs, government officials and staff members of the commission will also be attending the forum.—MNA ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Investing in research secures a brighter future

A COUPLE of days ago, a paper reading session on research development was held at the Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road in Yangon. The session, held on 10 November, was facilitated by the Ministry of Information and was intended to highlight the role of research and development in Myanmar and establish research-oriented organizations in the country.

Just as Information Minister Dr. Pe Myint said in his opening speech at the paper reading session, listening to researchers offers valuable insights into their thinking and reasoning, as well as expert analysis and thoughtful evaluations.

But the main aim of the paper reading session was to generate consensus to revive the historic Burma Research Society, or at least establish a similar well-grounded society.

Myanmar once had a prominent academic society that was devoted to historical research. The aptly named Burma

Research Society was founded in 1910 and recruited not only scholars from Myanmar, but from abroad as well. It published original research which appeared in the Journal of the Burma Research Society two to three times a year.

The Society was founded and first led by J S Furnivall, and later continued under the helm of U May Aung, Hmawby Sayar Thein, and U Tun Nyein. The society initially had 213 members and grew gradually to hold yearly discussions.

Sadly, the society was discontinued in 1980, and although a university journal based on research was published after this, it too ceased printing 20 years later.

Some years ago, a similar journal was proposed by Prof. James C. Scott of Yale University, who wanted to revive the

tradition of the Journal of the Burma Research Society. Eventually his efforts paid off, and after acquiring multiple grants and conducting workshops with Burmese scholars, the first issue of the 'Independent Journal of Burmese Scholarship' was published in August 2016. Their second issue was published in May this year, in both Burmese and English. The themes of the first and second issues were poverty and everyday justice, respectively.

Every developed country has a strong research community whose works offer a better understanding of things that can be immensely beneficial in the future. In addition, publishing of scholarly works in journals allows the public to access them and provide their feedback.

The initiative to reestablish a strong research society for Myanmar's development is a much-welcomed move that would be further empowered by active support from the country's citizens.

Public Transportation means.....

■ by Dr. Maung Aung

THE Public Transportation means the system of buses, trains, etc. provided by the government or by companies, which people use to travel from one place to another in safe mode, comfortable, cheap in fair price, going through fastest in travel time and most convenient method with the emphasis on all better services for the public.

As the service related to the public, all relevant governments pay greater importance for this sector. Since mass transport is vital, the train transportation is also prioritized. All governments on this planet are striving for better public transportation through motley assortment of ways.

Based on the development of each country, the available mode of public transportation is somewhat different. In most of the developing countries, bus system is being applied as it needs lesser investment. As the country becoming more developed, the train transport system is being filled in that needs with more investment. In the developed countries, the train systems such as the conventional train, the subway train, and the sky rail are being in use. However, in the developing countries, the bus transport system is commonly used for sustainable development as it takes lesser investment with low technology. In most of the countries of the world, the Bus Rapid Transit—BRT has been put into main focus for the convenient of the general public. The BRT is a high-quality bus-based transit system that delivers fast, comfortable, and cost-effective services at metro-level capacities. Therefore, the successful BRT system is seen



PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

in many countries of the world. **Service Centered Public Transportation**

All the governments across the world are prioritizing better public transporting with safe mode, comfortable, convenient, transparent, and with reasonable pricing. Therefore, it centered on providing good service to the public, but not mainly on profit making. For the sustainable operations of the transport companies, subsidy and financial assistance are being facilitated by the government. Individual ownership system is being transformed into company ownership system with a view to make better management. As the individual ownership system could never be contributed good service for the public. In order to provide better service in the public transport sector, the government is getting

involved merely in the management and supervision task. All the tasks are carried out through transparent tender system in the selection of companies based on the price offer and proposed service to be rendered. Tenders are submitted through competition.

All the cash received from the sale of tickets are collected by the government. When the company is not getting enough cash from providing service, necessary financial assistance is being given out by government. Therefore, the companies are not necessary to worry about profit and loss, and at all to provide service for the public transport as have committed themselves in the proposal.

In Singapore, the subway and the bus transport are placed under the Land Transport Authority. There are over (150) bus routes

within designated zonal area for transportation. There are four companies such as SBS and SMRT operating with the subsidy granted by the government.

In the People's Republic of China, transport service is provided for the convenient of the public and they are subsidized by the government. When the public transportation sector could be developed, the use of private cars could be reduced. Therefore, all governments are trying their best for the improvement of public transport sector.

Yangon Public Transport System

Yangon is the home of over six million people and stands out as the largest city with high degree of political, economic and social status. It is also a commercial hub of the country. Around 2.8 million population relies on buses, taxis, private vehicles, trains, water buses, and sampans. Among them 2.3 million people are using buses and that number reflects 85 per cent of the daily travelers. The circular trains are transporting about 100,000 people, and when the JICA aided rail project is completed it may carry about 300,000 people.

The role of urban bus transportation in Yangon is vital in the past as well as at present time, and it may remain crucial in the future. Since regaining independence of the country, the bus transport is being managed by the successive

governments namely the Road Transport Corporation. During the Tatmadaw Government, the functioning of bus was being managed by private motor vehicle line called All Bus Lines Control Committee (Ma Hta Tha) until 15 January 2017 under the incumbent government.

Under the management of Ma Hta Tha transport system, individual bus owners reaped the one sided financial gain of which was termed as "grab all what you worked it out", leaving the transport system in chaotic atmosphere with unfair and unjust burdens and woes over the travelers.

Introducing YBS System

The new Yangon Bus Services (YBS) system was commissioned on 16 January 2017 under the new incumbent government, and dismantled the old Ma Hta Tha transport system. The YBS system is being introduced with the aim and purpose to better serve the people with all aspects for convenient and decent travel through "People-Centered" Policy. The YBS system is not the reformation or revamp of the older system, but changing into a new system as a whole. The new changes included four features such as the management system; the changing of ownership system; changing of operational routes; and the substitution of new vehicles in place of old buses.

The first change is the dismantling of the Ma Hta Tha, and put the management into the hands of Yangon Region Transport

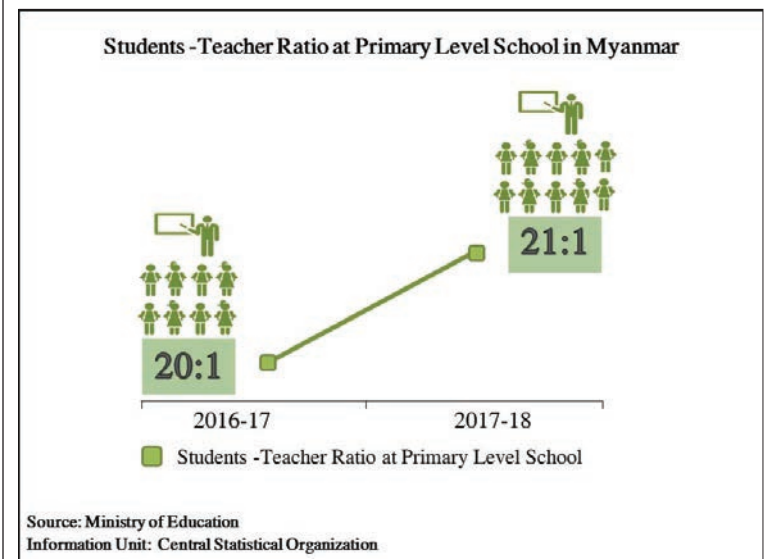
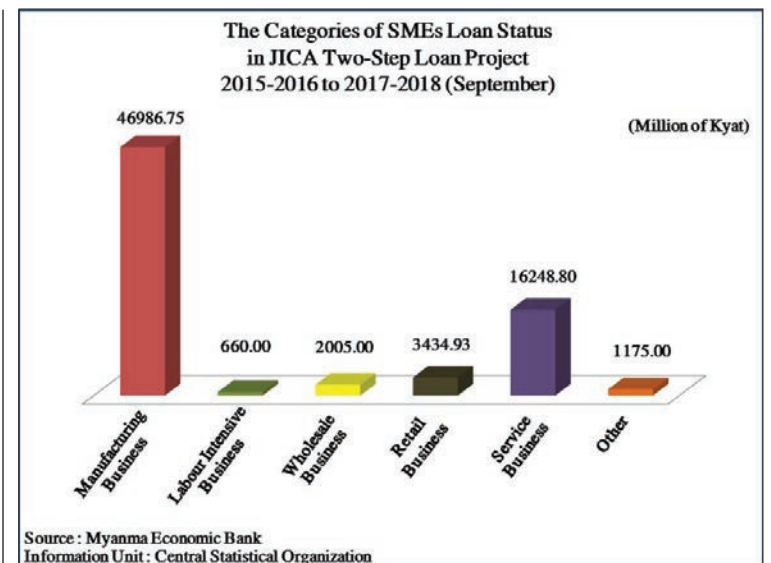
Authority (YRTA). As the former Ma Hta Tha happened to be a non-governmental organization, the management is rather weak and fragile to handle, and therefore, it has been changed into the hands of YRTA. The second point is that the individual ownership has been switched into company ownership. During the individual ownership, the focus remained on the exclusive financial gain of the individual owner, without any consideration for providing better service of the public. In saving the investment, the individual owners deployed old vehicles and entrusted the buses into the hands of the drivers and the bus conductors just to grab money as much as possible, resulting with problems on the roads including car accidents along the untold miseries of the travelers.

The third change is the operational routes such as that the previous 330 running routes were integrated and reduced into 100 routes under YBS system. One route is designated only to one bus line. In the earlier system, one route was jammed with multiple bus lines, causing chaotic driving in danger zones just to grab cash from the passengers. In the new system, all the roads including the main three thoroughfares of the city are being allocated to (100) bus lines. The fourth salient point is that the substitution of new buses in place of old vehicles, as better service needs new vehicles. The old vehicles such as Dyna and BM and the 20 years old buses were being replaced. In compensating the old car owners, the government provided them with the special privilege by granting them authorization slips to buy saloon car for the old bus that they handed over so that the old car owners are not at a loss.

Now under the new system of YBS, there is no 20 years old outdated and inefficient vehicles, but functioning with 2006-2007 models and brand new vehicles. Some vehicles are found to be in lesser functioning power and capacity as they could not provide the air-conditioning system for passengers, and that the vehicles happened to be buses of the individual owners. One basic requisite under the YBS transportation is to provide air-conditioning system for passengers.

(To be continued)

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)



Cyclonic Storm New

Monday, 12 November 2018 14:00 MST Today

Cyclonic Storm

According to the observations at (13:30)hrs MST today, the Cyclonic Storm (Gaja) over the West Central Bay of Bengal has moved Westwards and centered at about (375)miles East of Chennai (India) and about (430)miles East-Northeast of Nagapattinam (India).

It is not moving towards Myanmar coasts, the present stage of the Cyclonic Storm is coded yellow stage.

Position of Cyclonic Storm, center pressure and wind

Cyclonic Storm is located at Latitude (13.3) degree North and Longitude (86.7) degree East, Centre pressure of depression is (1000) hPa and maximum wind speed near the center is (45-50) miles per hour at (13:30)hrs MST today.

During next (24)hrs Forecast

It is forecast to further intensify into a Severe Cyclonic Storm (Gaja) during next (24) hours and move West-Southwestwards.

General caution

Due to the Cyclonic Storm, rain or thundershowers will be scattered to fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, and Kayah states within next (24) hours commencing today afternoon.

Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Wave height will be about (8 - 10) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware trawlers, vessels and ships off and along Myanmar Coasts.



PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

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able to publish "Letter to the Editor"
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you submit a text longer than 500 words
please be aware that your letter will be
edited.

OJT Program on Irrigation Asset Management, GIS begins

AN On-the-Job Training (OJT) program on Irrigation Asset Management and GIS is being conducted at the Irrigation Technology Center (ITC) Bago Township, from 12 to 17 November.

The OJT is being jointly conducted by the Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department and Japan's Agricultural Development Consultants Association (ADCA), under a technical exchange program.

At the start of the program, the Director of the ITC, Bago, Daw Aye Aye Hlaing delivered the opening speech, while Japan ADCA's Director-General, Mr. Shozo Ohira, explained the objective of the training.

As part of the program, Japanese experts will con-



Japan ADCA Director-General Mr. Shozo Ohira explains about the training in Bago Township Irrigation Technical Development Training Centre. **PHOTO: TIN SOE (BAGO)**

duct surveys using the GPS system and maintain records of the surveys with the use of the GIS system for maintenance of irrigation systems and water

facilities. The training course will include practical sessions at the Bawni irrigation system in Daik-U Township.

The six-day training course

has 20 participants from the Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department.—Tin Soe (Bago)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Apartments from Mya Yee Nanda affordable housing complex to be sold in 2019

THE Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC) plans to sell nearly 2,000 apartments at the Mya Yee Nanda affordable housing complex to government staff and retired service personnel in the Mandalay Region in 2019, said U Kyaw Hsan Myint, a member of the MCDC.

A total of 312 apartments from the housing complex being constructed in the Chanmyathazi Township will be completed in December. There are plans to construct an additional 1,512 apartments in September 2019.

The MCDC had sold 672 apartments in the housing complex in August. But, 113 apartment buyers have not paid their deposit yet. Therefore, the MCDC will sell a total of 1,937 apartments, including the 113 apartments for which deposits have not yet been paid, he said.

"The MCDC is making arrangements to sell these apartments to those who will really stay there. Moreover, the MCDC will also upgrade the roads and erect electric lamp posts, for regional development," he added.

The MCDC has upgraded the roads and drainage systems, installed the water supply system, set up power lines, and planted trees in the Mya Yee Nanda affordable housing compound. The MCDC has printed the doc-



About 2,000 affordable apartments to sell in Mandalay Region in 2019. **PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)**

uments for owner and plans to hand over apartment to owners in November, said U Kyaw Hsan Myint.

The MCDC will inspect the apartments to check whether the owners are living in those apartment or not, over a

five-year period. If the MCDC finds any apartments that have been resold, they will take them back according to regulations.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay sub-printing house)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Timber confiscated in Singaing Township

A combined team, including officials and staff from the Forest Department, confiscated an illegal consignment of timber in Singaing Township last Saturday.

Acting on a tip off, the team stopped a truck, driven by Pyae Phyo Win, 30, from Singaing township, and found 50 logs of timber inside. The truck,

which was transporting the timber illegally, had two other occupants on board. They have been identified as Pho Kyaw, 30, and Min Thu, 28, from Singaing Township.

The Singaing Myoma Police have lodged a case and are investigating it.—Maung Pyithu (Mandalay) (Translated by Hay Mar)

ACC holds Forensic Accounting Workshop, Publicity & Public Education Training



Anti-Corruption Commission Chair U Aung Kyi delivers the speech at the opening Publicity and Public Education Training in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE opening ceremony of Forensic Accounting Workshop, jointly conducted by anti-corruption commission of Myanmar and United States Department of justice was convened at Hilton Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by Anti-Corruption Commission Chair U Aung Kyi, commission secretary U San Win and commission members, trainers led by Resident Legal Advisor, Mr Robert Strang from United States Department of

Justice, staffs from anti-corruption commission and trainees.

Resident Legal Advisor, Mr Robert Strang delivered an opening remark and after the opening ceremony the workshop was continued.

The workshop was attended by three observers from anti-corruption Commission members, 25 officials and staffs from Anti-Corruption commission, three members from Ministry of Home Affairs, two members from Union Attorney General Office and Union Auditor-General's office. The

duration of workshop is from 12 to 13 November for 2 days.

Following this, an opening ceremony of the Publicity and Public Education Training, jointly organized by Anti-Corruption Commission of Myanmar and Independent Commission Against Corruption -ICAC, supported by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was held at Hotel Royal ACE. The ceremony was attended by Anti-Corruption Commission Chair U Aung Kyi, commission secretary U San Win and commission members, officials from UNODC, trainers, ICAC representatives, officials, staffs and trainees from Anti-Corruption Commission.

At the training, Commission Chair U Aung Kyi and Mr. Martin Chan from ICAC delivered opening speeches. The training was attended by two observers from Anti-Corruption commission and a total of 30 members including 24 officials and staffs from anti-corruption commission, six members from private organization. The duration of the course is from 12 to 16 for 5 days. — MNA ■



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Commission Chair Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with EU Ambassador Mr. Schmidt. **PHOTO: MNA**

Thura U Shwe Mann receives EU Ambassador to Myanmar

CHAIRMAN of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Thura U Shwe Mann received Ambassador of the European Union to Myanmar, Mr Kristian Schmidt at Hluttaw Affairs Building I-11 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they cordially and openly discussed about cooperation to correctly assist the peace process in Myanmar; economic collaboration between European Union and Myanmar; promoting bilateral trade and cooperating more in Myanmar transition to democracy process. — MNA ■

Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin attends donation ceremony of elevator

U Khin Maung Tin, Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor attended the inauguration ceremony for the installation of elevator, donated by the European Union, at the National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

First, U Khin Maung Tin, Secretary of the NRPC and Deputy Minister, expressed thanks to the European Union

(EU) for their elevator donation. Followed by, Ambassador of the European Union to Myanmar, Mr. Kristian Schmidt clarified the purpose of donation for installation of the elevator while an official from the Hitachi Myanmar Co. Ltd explained regarding the elevator.

Next, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin, Ambassador of the European Union to Myanmar and officials opened the

ceremony by cutting the ceremonial ribbons.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun, Chief Coordinator of UEHRD Dr. Aung Tun Thet, State Counsellor's Office Director General U Zaw Htay and other departmental officials. — MNA ■

(Translated by
Win Ko Ko Aung)



From left to right, EU Ambassador Mr. Schmidt, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin cut ribbons to formally open the donated elevators at the National Reconciliation and Peace Center in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Two suspects arrested for robbing fuel company in Ahlon Tsp

A GROUP of masked people entered a company in Ahlon Township in Yangon yesterday evening and forcefully took away the company's manager in his vehicle. Police managed to arrest two members of the group within a few hours and are taking investigations into the case to apprehend all suspects.

At around 6.50pm yesterday, a group of masked people in a white light truck arrived at an engine oil distribution company on Min Ye Kyaw Swar street in Ahlon Township. The group was armed with sticks and knives, according to the police source.

They tied up two company employees and ransacked the building, removing CCTV cameras in the process.

The suspects then took

U Myint Sein, the manager, with them and in his own Landcruiser.

The Myanmar Police Force immediately responded after receiving information of the incident. Police set up blockades and conducted patrols in each township.

Police managed to arrest Thura and Soe Kyaw Kyaw Lwint, two of the suspects who live in Dagon East Tsp, within a few hours.

U Myint Sein was discovered in his Landcruiser in front of Novotel Hotel on Pyay Road around 7:30pm.

According to U Myint Sein, there were five people in the masked group. Police are continuing to apprehend the remaining suspects. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Abe to visit Singapore, Australia, PNG to attend regional summits

TOKYO — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Monday he will make a five-day Southeast Asian and Oceanian trip to attend annual regional summits later this week.

Abe said he will take part in annual meetings of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Singapore and a summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Papua New Guinea during his trip from Wednesday.

“As a flagbearer of free trade, I am planning to lead discussions to promote free trade and economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region,” the prime minister said in a meeting attended by senior officials of the government and ruling parties.

In Singapore, Abe is expected to hold talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, in which a decades-old territorial row between the two countries over a group of islands is ex-



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (c) at a meeting attended by senior officials of the government and ruling parties. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

pected to be high on the agenda, Russian media reported.

The group of islands off Hokkaido is called the Northern Territories in Japan and the Southern Kurils in Russia. The Soviet Union occupied the islands at the end of World War II and the territorial dispute has prevented the

two countries from concluding a postwar peace treaty.

Before flying to Papua New Guinea from Singapore, Abe is scheduled to stop over in Australia to hold his first meeting with Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who took office in August. — Kyodo News ■

North and South Korea begin destroying border guard posts



South Korea has around 60 guard posts along the heavily fortified border while the North has about 160. **PHOTO: AFP**

SEOUL (South Korea) — The two Koreas began destroying 20 guard posts along their heavily-fortified frontier on Sunday under a plan to reduce tensions on the border.

Under an agreement made between their generals in late October, North and South Korea agreed to each remove 10 posts and preserve one on either side of the frontier.

The militaries on Sunday began destroying the 20 border guard posts in the Demilitarized Zone dividing the two Koreas after withdrawing troops and equipment from them, Yonhap news agency reported, citing Seoul's defence ministry.

South Korea has around 60 such posts along the rest of the border while the North has about 160, Yonhap said.

The border truce village of Panmunjom — or the Joint Security Area (JSA) — is the only spot along the tense, 250-kilometre (155-mile) frontier where soldiers from the two Koreas and the US-led UN Command stand face to face. But as part of the latest reconciliatory gesture, the two Koreas last month removed all firearms and guard posts from the area, leaving it manned by 35 unarmed personnel from each side. The moves come as a diplomatic thaw between the former wartime foes gathers pace.

Under doveish South Korean President Moon Jae-in, Seoul has pursued a policy of engagement with its isolated, nuclear-armed neighbour, in contrast with the US which insists pressure should be maintained on Pyongyang until it denuclearises.

Moon and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un agreed on a broad plan to ease tensions along the border during their third summit in Pyongyang in September.

The two nations technically remain at war after the 1950-53 Korean War that sealed the division of the peninsula and ended with a ceasefire instead of a peace treaty.

But ties improved markedly this year as Moon and Kim took a series of reconciliatory gestures.

Kim and US President Donald Trump also held a historic summit in June in Singapore and signed a vaguely worded deal on denuclearisation, but little progress has been made since then, with the two countries sparring over the exact meaning of the agreement. Planned talks between US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and one of Kim's right-hand men, Kim Yong Chol, were also delayed this week. —AFP ■

Call for open markets as world leaders gather in Singapore

SINGAPORE — Singapore's prime minister made an impassioned plea on Monday for open markets and warned “political pressures” were driving countries apart, in a swipe at rising protectionism at the start of a gathering of world leaders.

Leaders including Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and US Vice President Mike Pence are meeting this week in the city-state against the backdrop of a months-long trade dispute between Beijing and Washington.

Some of those attending are expected to announce major progress on a massive China-backed trade deal that excludes the US, in a rebuke to President Donald Trump's increasingly unilateralist approach to international commerce.

Trump is skipping the annual summit — which was regularly attended by his predecessor Barack Obama — in a sign of how far he has withdrawn from attempts to shape the global rules of trade and raising new questions about Washington's commitment to Asia.

Addressing a business forum ahead of this week's main meetings, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong called for Southeast Asian companies to invest more in each others' markets and be more open to foreign competition.

“The more integrated and open our markets are, and the more conducive our rules and business environments to for-

eign investment, the larger the pie will grow, and the more we will all benefit,” he said.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) “has great potential, but fully realising it depends on whether we choose to become more integrated, and work resolutely towards this goal in a world where multilateralism is fraying under political pressures”.

The US-China trade dispute has seen Trump slap higher tariffs on roughly half of Chinese imports, and Beijing retaliate with its own levies.

The standoff is having an impact far beyond the world's top two economies, and leaders at the four days of meetings will be keen to voice their grievances to Pence, who is participating in Trump's place, and Li.

Many of those attending are expected to send a message in support of free trade by announcing major progress on the China-backed deal, the 16-member Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

With the US having pulled out of rival pact the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the RCEP is now the world's biggest trade deal.

The pact — which is less ambitious than the TPP in areas such as employment and environmental protection — groups the 10 ASEAN members plus China, India, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. —AFP ■



Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong speaks at a business forum on the sidelines of the 33rd Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Singapore on 12 November, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Ten ways climate change can make wildfires worse

PARIS (France) — Deadly wildfires such as those raging in northern and southern California have become more common across the state and elsewhere in the world in recent years. AFP talked to scientists about the ways in which climate change can make them worse.

Other factors have also fuelled an increase in the frequency and intensity of major fires, including human encroachment on wooded areas, and questionable forest management. “The patient was already sick,” in the words of David Bowman, a professor of environmental change biology at the University of Tasmania and a wildfire expert. “But climate change is the accelerant.”

Fine weather for a fire

Any firefighter can tell you the recipe for “conductive fire weather”: hot, dry and windy.

No surprise, then, that many of the tropical and temperate regions devastated by a surge in forest fires are those predicted in climate models to see higher temperatures and more droughts.

“Besides bringing more dry and hot air, climate change — by elevating evaporation rates and drought prevalence — also creates more flammable ecosystems,” noted Christopher Williams, director of environmental scienc-

es at Clark University in Massachusetts. In the last 20 years, California and southern Europe have seen several droughts of a magnitude that used to occur only once a century.

More fuel

Dry weather means more dead trees, shrubs and grass — and more fuel for the fire.

“All those extremely dry years create an enormous amount of desiccated biomass,” said Michel Vennetier, an engineer at France’s National Research of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (IRSTEA). “That’s an ideal combustible.”

Change of scenery

To make matters worse, new species better adapted to semi-arid conditions grow in their place.

“Plants that like humidity have disappeared, replaced by more flammable plants that can withstand dry conditions, like rosemary, wild lavender and thyme,” said Vennetier.

“The change happens quite quickly.”

Thirsty plants

With rising mercury and less rain, water-stressed trees and shrubs send roots deeper into the soil, sucking up every drop of water they can to nourish leaves and needles. That means the

moisture in the earth that might have helped to slow a fire sweeping through a forest or garrigue is no longer there.

Longer season

In the northern hemisphere’s temperate zone, the fire season was historically short — July and August, in most places.

“Today, the period susceptible to wildfires has extended from June to October,” said IRSTEA scientist Thomas Curt, referring to the Mediterranean basin.

In California, which only recently emerged from a five-year drought, some experts say there’s no longer a season at all — fires can happen year-round.

More lightning

“The warmer it gets, the more lightning you have,” said Mike Flannigan, a professor at the University of Alberta, Canada and director of the Western Partnership for Wildland Fire Science. “Especially in the northern areas, that translates into more fires.”

At the same time, he noted that 95 per cent of wildfires worldwide are started by humans.

Weakened jet stream

Normal weather patterns over North America and Eurasia depend heavily on the powerful, high-altitude air currents — produced by the con-



Climate change not only boosts the likelihood of wildfires, but their intensity as well. P **HOTO: AFP**

trast between polar and equatorial temperatures — known as the jet stream.

But global warming has raised temperatures in the Arctic twice as fast as the global average, weakening those currents.

“We are seeing more extreme weather because of what we call blocked ridges, which is a high-pressure system in which air is sinking, getting warmer and drier along the way,” said Flannigan. “Firefighters have known for decades that these are conducive to fire activity.”

Unmanageable intensity

Climate change not only boosts the likelihood of wildfires, but their intensity as well.

“If the fire gets too intense” as in California right now, and in Greece last summer — “there is

no direct measure you can take to stop it,” said Flannigan. “It’s like spitting on a campfire.”

Beetle infestations

With rising temperatures, beetles have moved northward into Canada’s boreal forests, wreaking havoc — and killing trees — along the way. “Bark beetle outbreaks temporarily increase forest flammability by increasing the amount of dead material, such as

needles,” said Williams.

Positive feedback

Globally, forests hold about 45 per cent of Earth’s land-locked carbon and soak up a quarter of human greenhouse gas emissions.

But as forests die and burn, some of the carbon is released back into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change in a vicious loop that scientists call “positive feedback.”

—AFP ■

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Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

Dated: 13th November 2018

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V TUG: SALVAGE ACE & BARGE: TENMA VOY. NO. (2268)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TUG: SALVAGE ACE & BARGE: TENMA VOY. NO. (2268) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-11-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of KAMTGU-MI where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BINAN DEVELOPMENT CO
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Sealed tenders are invited by Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Medical Equipments in the (2018-2019) Budget year.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services office No (4), Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from (19.11.2018).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office, not later than (20-12-2018), 15:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Phone No. 067-3411510, 067-3411544, Procurement and Supply Division Office, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports.

Procurement and Supply Division
Ministry of Health and Sports

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Universal sees lots of green as 'Grinch' tops box office

LOS ANGELES (United States) — Universal Pictures saw plenty of green over the weekend as its remake of "The Grinch" pulled in an impressive \$66 million in North American theaters, industry tracker Exhibitor Relations reported on Sunday.

The three-day estimate put the ever-popular Dr Seuss tale — with Benedict Cumberbatch voicing the small-hearted, ill-tempered, kid-hating title character — well ahead of last week's No 1 film, "Bohemian Rhapsody," which slid to second place with a still-healthy take of \$30.9 million.

It also put this "Grinch" comfortably ahead of the Ron How-

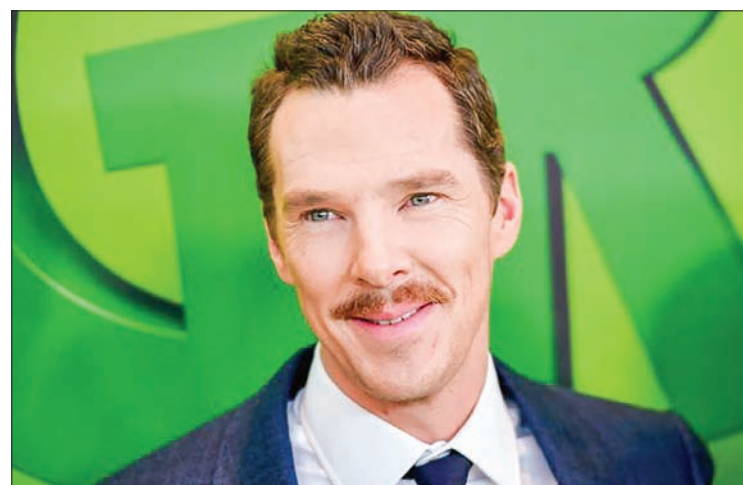
ard-directed 2000 version, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," which took in \$55 million in its opening weekend. The new film also features the voices of Rashida Jones, Kenan Thompson and Angela Lansbury, with Pharrell Williams narrating.

"Bohemian Rhapsody," with Rami Malek playing Queen lead singer Freddie Mercury, has drawn mixed reviews but has proved a foot-stomping audience favorite. The Fox production has taken \$100 million domestically in its first two weeks and \$110 million overseas. In third place, at \$10.1 million, was Paramount's new release "Overlord," a super-

natural horror film set against a backdrop of the D-Day invasion. It stars Jovan Adepo and Wyatt Russell. Another seasonal film, Disney's "The Nutcracker and the Four Realms," placed fourth, at \$9.6 million. It stars Mackenzie Foy as a young girl who travels to a magic land in search of a key to unlock a gift from her late mother. Keira Knightley, Helen Mirren and Morgan Freeman also star.

Fifth spot went to new Sony release "The Girl in the Spider's Web," which took in what analysts called a disappointing \$8 million.

Claire Foy — a young Queen Elizabeth II in Netflix's 2016-17 series "The Crown" — makes



Benedict Cumberbatch, who voices 'The Grinch' in the film leading North American box offices as of 11 November, 1918, is seen here at the recent New York premiere of the Universal film. **PHOTO: AFP**

the not-inconsiderable leap to portraying tough, brooding, street-smart Lisbeth Salander, AKA "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo."

Rounding out the weekend's top 10 were:

"A Star Is Born" (\$8 million)
"Nobody's Fool" (\$6.5 million)
"Venom" (\$4.9 million)
"Halloween" (\$3.8 million)
"The Hate U Give" (\$2.1 million)—AFP ■

Pressure on girls for perfect body 'worse than ever', says Orbach



Susie Orbach has been involved with a year-long campaign to remove cosmetic surgery apps targeting primary school-aged girls. **PHOTO: AFP**

HONG KONG, (China) — Girls and young women are under more pressure than ever to achieve the perfect body in an oppressive social media-driven world that could never have been imagined by 1970s feminists, says psychoanalyst and bestselling author Susie Orbach.

Forty years after the publication of her seminal book "Fat is a Feminist Issue", the British writer — who was once Princess Diana's therapist — said women were commodifying their bodies as they tried to conform to false images peddled by online beauty influencers.

Girls as young as six were being conditioned to think about cosmetic surgery, she added, with a host of industries fueling and profiting from body insecurity.

Faced with the reality of modern life, many women were turning inward, obsessed with

diet and fitness or embracing being overweight as a sign of rebellion. "It's much, much worse than we ever envisioned," Orbach told AFP on the sidelines of the Hong Kong International Literary Festival, where she was speaking about her new book "In Therapy: How Conversations with Psychotherapists Really Work." Orbach has recently been involved in a year-long international campaign to force Apple, Google and Amazon to remove cosmetic surgery apps targeting primary school-aged girls, in which cartoon-style characters can be modified with procedures such as liposuction.

"This is not just a problem related to girls and women, and it's very, very profitable if you can destabilise people's bodies," she said. "There are all kinds of industries both creating and feeding off these insecurities."

Orbach, 72, said the inevita-

ble outcome was the creation of a society where women would divert their energy and focus inward, rather than trying to change the world.

"We're so self-focused now, we produce our bodies, rather than live from them. Your body is your product."

She added: "If you just dropped in on any conversation, the amount of mental space that people take up with what they're eating, what they're not eating, their yoga routine, is expressive of the level of distress in our society."

"It's not about contribution, it's about how I manage this horror I'm personally living with." Orbach has spoken about the liberation women felt from the late 1960s when they began to challenge beauty pageant objectification and rebel against body expectations.

But the pressures back then started later, not in childhood, she told AFP.

"It happened at 18, it didn't happen at six. You didn't have girls and boys saying 'Have I got a six pack?' or 'I'm too fat' at six and seven. You didn't have girls throwing up over the toilet bowl at nine." Reality television shows such as "Love Island", where sculpted single men and women compete to couple up and win a cash prize, were both a symptom and a cause of pushing body image on impressionable young minds. —AFP ■

Guitarist Joe Perry recovering after collapsing at NY concert

NEW YORK (United States) — Famed Aerosmith guitarist Joe Perry was recovering in hospital on Sunday after collapsing shortly after performing with rock superstar Billy Joel in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Perry, who is 68, suffered "shortness of breath and was treated backstage by paramedics who gave the guitarist oxygen and used a tracheal tube to clear his airway," said a statement from a spokesman.

It said he was "alert and responsive" on Sunday, but would have to cancel an appearance later in the day at a rock 'n' roll

fantasy camp in Florida.

"Perry is expected to return to the road later this month," the statement said.

Perry was playing hit song "Walk This Way," penned by him and Aerosmith's Steven Tyler and later covered by hip-hop group Run-DMC, shortly before he collapsed in his dressing room, TMZ reported.

Perry, who has been inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and, with Aerosmith, into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, is ranked by Rolling Stone as one of the 100 greatest guitarists of all time.—AFP ■



Joe Perry suffered "shortness of breath and was treated backstage by paramedics who gave the guitarist oxygen and used a tracheal tube to clear his airway", said a statement. **PHOTO: AFP**

How to drive a robot on Mars

GREENBELT (United States) — Some 78 million miles (126 million kilometers) from Earth, alone on the immense and frigid Red Planet, a robot the size of a small 4x4 wakes up just after sunrise. And just as it has every day for the past six years, it awaits its instructions.

Around 9:30 Mars time, a message arrives from California, where it was sent 15 minutes earlier.

“Drive forward 10 metres, turn to an azimuth of 45 degrees, now turn on your autonomous capabilities and drive.”

The Curiosity rover executes the commands, moving slowly to its designated position, at a maximum speed of 35 to 110 metres (yards) per hour.

Its batteries and other configurations limit its daily drive span to around 100 metres. The most Curiosity has rolled on Mars in a day is 220 metres.

Once it arrives, its 17 cameras take shots of its environs.

Its laser zaps rocks. Other tools on board drill into a particularly interesting rock to study small samples.

Around 5 pm Martian time, it

will wait for one of NASA's three satellites orbiting the planet to pass overhead.

Curiosity will then send several hundred megabytes of scientific data via large ground antennae to its human masters on Earth.

A miniature lab

On the ground floor of building 34 at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland, scientists pore over Curiosity's data every day at 1 pm, in a large windowless room full of scientific instruments and computers.

The scientists are looking for any indication of life on Mars.

Inside Curiosity lies a “marvel of miniaturization,” says Charles Malespin, the deputy principal investigator for Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM), a chemist's lab the size of a microwave oven.

“It's the most complicated instrument NASA has ever sent to another planet,” said Malespin, who has devoted his professional life to the project since 2006.

SAM analyzes samples of Martian soil by heating them in



A self-portrait of NASA's Curiosity rover taken on Mars on 7 June, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

an oven that reaches 1,800 Fahrenheit (1,000 Celsius).

The hot rocks release gas, which is separated and analyzed by instruments that offer a sample “fingerprint.”

At Goddard, Maeva Millan, a French postdoctoral researcher, compares this chemical fingerprint to experiments carried out on known molecules.

When they look similar, she can say, “Ah, that's the right molecule.”

It is thanks to SAM that researchers know there are complex organic molecules on Mars.

And SAM has helped sci-

entists learn that the Martian surface — geologically speaking — is far younger than previously thought.

“If you're going to go to Mars, you don't want to bring stuff that's already there that you can use for resources,” such as water, said Malespin.

“If you want to mine the soil and heat it up and release the water, you can bring a big oven with you and you have all the water you want.”

The same goes for various materials that could be used to make rocket fuel, allowing the Red Planet to serve as a future service station for rockets.

No joystick

On the other side of the United States, at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, about two dozen men and women make up the team that drives Curiosity.

“My favorite part of the day (is when) I get to sit down and start looking at the imagery from Mars and understand where the rover currently is,” said Frank Hartman, who has driven both Curiosity and another, older rover, Opportunity.

“And my feeling is that sometimes I'm probably the first person on Earth looking at some of these pictures.” —AFP ■

Old Master? Cave paintings from 40,000 years ago are world's earliest figurative art

TOKYO (Japan) — A painting of an animal in an Indonesian cave dates from at least 40,000 years ago, making it the world's oldest piece of figurative art, new research has shown.

The painting in Borneo, possibly depicting a native type of wild cattle, is among thousands of artworks discovered decades ago in the remote region.

But it was only using technology called uranium series analysis that researchers have finally been able to work out just when they were painted.

The discovery adds to a growing body of evidence that cave painting did not emerge only in Europe, as was once thought.

“We can see that figurative art developed and evolved more or less at the same time in Asia and in Europe,” researcher Maxime Aubert told AFP.

In 2014, researchers dated figurative art on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi to 35,000 years ago, but some of the paintings examined by Aubert and his team in nearby Borneo were produced at least 5,000 years earlier.



The painting in Borneo, possibly depicting a native type of wild cattle, is among thousands of artworks discovered decades ago in the remote region. PHOTO: AFP

Aubert, an associate professor at Australia's Griffith University, worked with a team in remote and inaccessible caves in the East Kalimantan area of Borneo to date the paintings.

The team, whose research was published in the journal *Nature* on Wednesday, looked at multiple layers of artwork painted on top of each other.

The bottom-most and old-

est layer featured paintings of animals, mostly a local type of cattle, as well as hand stencils in a reddish colour.

On top of those artworks were hand stencils in a mulberry colour grouped in patterns and embellished with lines and dots, as well as small stick-like human figures in the same colour. The final layer featured people, boats and geometric designs. —AFP ■

5G to be expected on world's longest cross-sea bridge

GUANGZHOU — The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge, as the world's longest cross-sea bridge, is expected to have 5G service in the future, according to Fang Zheng, vice general manager of the WLAN office of ZTE Corp, the bridge's network operator.

The 55-km Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge that opened last month connects the mainland province of Guangdong with the country's two special administrative regions, Hong Kong and Macao.

“The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge now has good coverage of 4G service,” said Fang. “Experts and workers have overcome the difficulties of a complex construction environment and the lack of an optical fiber to provide tailored 4G solutions for the bridge and prepare for the future upgrading of 5G service.”

Experts and workers ex-

tended the coverage area of the optical fiber to 20 kilometers, double the conventional maximum onshore coverage of 10 kilometers, to ensure the full coverage of network signal along the bridge, according to the constructors.

“The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge can be seen as a unique application of wireless technology, highlighting the high-quality products and advanced technology provided by China's communication sector,” said Fang.

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge is now ready for the access of Internet of Things, a major business to be achieved by 5G technology. From the very beginning, the technological base needed for 5G has been considered in terms of network architecture, room for 5G station and the installment of fiber, according to Fang. —Xinhua ■

Cyclists are in a bike race in Mandalay. **PHOTO: SPED**

Myanmar finishes second in Men's Junior U-19 of Invitational Criterium Bike Race 2018

MYANMAR cyclist Kaung Wai Hlaing finished the second place in Men's Junior U-19 of Five-Country Invitational Criterium Bike Race 2018 held in Mandalay on 11 November.

The Criterium Bike Race 2018 was jointly-organized by MSP CAT, Myanmar Cycling Federation and Ministry of Health

and Sports.

More than 400 cyclists happily participated in the event.

A total of 12 cyclists from Myanmar, Cambodia and Singapore in the event of Men's Junior U-19, and the Cambodian cyclist finished first, the Myanmar, second and the Cambodian, third respectively.

Altogether 28 cyclists from Myanmar, Singapore, Cambodia, China and India took part in the event of Men's U-23 with China finishing first, Cambodia, second and India, third respectively. The Open U-40 event for local cyclists was also held. The officials awarded prizes to the winners. —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■

Myanmar's hope of reaching next round needs win in last group match

MYANMAR national women's football squad has been in an urgent need for a win over India in the last group match of Qualifier Round 1 of Women's Olympic Football Tournament 2020.

If Myanmar won over Nepal, it would be able to reach the second round in the early hours with ease. For that reason, the draw result is in need of a triumph in the final group match against India.

India and Myanmar have four points each in the group-C, but India stands first on goal difference against Myanmar; the second place in the group. Nepal stands at the lowest position with zero point.

Myanmar must a win against the last group match so as to survive the dimming hope of reaching the next round. The last group match will be at Thuwunna Stadium on 13 November. —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■

Myanmar women's players celebrate after scoring an equalizer against Nepal. **PHOTO: MFF**

Guardiola glad as Man City overcome derby 'fear' to beat Man Utd

MANCHESTER (United Kingdom) — Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola said his side had to overcome early "fear" before the reigning Premier League champions returned to the top of the table with a 3-1 derby win at home to Manchester United on Sunday.

Goals early in each half at the Etihad from David Silva and Sergio Aguero left City in a commanding position before an Anthony Martial penalty gave visitors United hope of a comeback.

But Ilkay Gundogan put the result beyond doubt four minutes from time with a third goal that crowned a sublime 44-pass move.

Victory left City two points clear of Liverpool and Guardiola told the BBC: "We deserved the victory. The first half we played a little bit with fear but football is a game and we didn't want to lose the ball."

Asked why his team had been fearful, Guardiola replied: "We wanted to play good in front of our fans and we know how im-

Manchester City's Spanish midfielder David Silva (r) has a shot on goal during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Manchester United at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, on 11 November, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

portant it is to play in this game. But we did well and that goal from Sergio Aguero helped us a lot after half-time."

Defeat left United 12 points behind City just 12 games into the league season, with beaten manager Jose Mourinho accepting there was now a "gap" between the Manchester clubs.

He insisted his team were united in reality as well as in name, while saying all three of

City's goals were down to mistakes by his players.

"For me zero words against my players, everything is positive," Mourinho said. "I am with them and they are with me."

"There is a gap, Manchester City start playing from the beginning of the season at a certain level that allows them to get a lot of points." The Portuguese boss, in a separate interview with Sky Sports, added: "All three goals

are our mistakes. Against a team like City, if you make mistakes you will get punished."

United scored twice in the closing five minutes to win 2-1 away to Juventus in the Champions League in midweek while

City continued their campaign in European club

minutes, another thing to beat Shakhtar Donetsk at home 6-0 and be very relaxed.

"We arrive in different circumstances."

—AFP ■

football's elite tournament with a 6-0 thrashing of Shakhtar Donetsk on Wednesday.

Mourinho, while not blaming United's defeat on their exertions in Italy, said: "Everybody has to agree, it is one thing to go to Juventus and play against one of the best teams in the world for 90

Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola. **PHOTO: AFP**