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## Second Hluttaws reach third year milestone

President, State Counsellor, Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaw Speakers address commemoration ceremony



President U Win Myint accepts the congratulatory gift from Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat during the ceremony of 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Second Hluttaws in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accepts the congratulatory gift from Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat during the ceremony of 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Second Hluttaws in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

**ON** THE 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Second Pyidaungsu, Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaws yesterday, President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered separate speeches at the ceremony commemorating the event held in the dining hall of the Hluttaw compound in Nay Pyi Taw.

The anniversary event was attended by Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing

Than, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal U Myo Nyunt, Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein, former speakers of the First Hluttaws Thura U Shwe Mann and U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Union Ministers, the Union Attorney-General, Union Auditor General, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption

Commission, Chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, representatives of the Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaws, department heads and invited guests.

Firstly, President U Win Myint delivered a speech, followed by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

*(The full speeches of the President and State Counsellor are covered on Pages 4 and 5 respectively)*

### Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker delivers speech

Next, U T Khun Myat, incumbent Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, delivered a speech. He said this ceremony marked the third anniversary of the Second Hluttaws and also signals the eighth year of the Hluttaws' terms. He said we must continue working together to establish the democratic ideals that would bring benefits for the nation and its people. He said we must amend the requirements and weaknesses

hindering the path to a strong legislative pillar that would support the people's path to democracy. U T Khun Myat said we must constantly monitor the laws, rules and regulations of the Hluttaw, its processes, and the efficiency of skills and necessary experience of its human resources to gauge if they were in alignment with the existing situation so that the trajectory of the Hluttaws achieved accomplishments and develops.

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## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Fourth-day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 11<sup>th</sup> regular session convenes

By Aung Ye Thwin,  
Aye Aye Thant

THE fourth-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 11<sup>th</sup> regular session was held yesterday at 10 a.m. in the Main Hall of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw.

### Putting on record the appointment of the Kachin State ministers

At the Hluttaw session, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has put on record the appointment of U Kyaw Kyaw Win as the Kachin State Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, U La Sai as the Kachin State Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and U Naw Li (a) Za Khaung Kham Yal as the Kachin State Minister for Development Affairs, which was sent from the President after putting it forward to the Hluttaw.

### Findings, remarks of the report of the Joint Public Accounts Committee (2/2019)

Hluttaw representatives then discussed the status of tax collection during six month-period from April to September 2018, and the findings and remarks of the report from Joint Public Accounts Committee (2/2019).

### A sound decision should be made after weighing up



The fourth-day meeting, 11<sup>th</sup> regular session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in session. PHOTO: MNA

### pros and cons

U Tin Tun Naing of Seikgyi Kanaungto constituency joined the discussion, saying that it is of great importance to avoid actions that damage our health as much as we can, especially for keeping the younger generation fit and healthy. In line with remarks of the report of the Joint Public Accounts Committee, a sound decision should be made after weighing up pros and cons of the special tariff reduction.

### Stamp duty and taxes

U Khin Cho of Hlaing Bwe constituency took part in the discussion, saying that the public lacks adequate knowledge concerning stamp duty and they fail to pay their taxes. As

a result, they were being taken advantage of. He cited that there are people who buy and sell buildings, plots of land and vehicles using illegal contracts, and the State had to suffer the tax loss from the income tax and trading revenue. That's why, efforts should be made to share educational brochures among the people, as an attempt to receive full payment on taxes.

Concerning the special tariffs, concerted efforts are needed to check the restaurants and guest houses while checking the lists of the companies registering at the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) to assess whether they are exempt from tax payments or not.

### Taking into consideration to assign the allotment of the tax

Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency discussed that the policy of the Union should consider assigning the allotment of the tax and revenue for the fiscal year. According to the Union taxation lists, it was found that the allotment of Union Revenue tax had amounted to 122.65 per cent which had exceeded the allotment. When it comes to the taxation of the Union, it was seen that the Government achieve higher tax revenues from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation,

the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, the Ministry of Planning and Finance and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. It was also found that the Government obtained lower tax revenues than expected amount of revenues from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Commerce and the Nay Pyi Taw Council.

### Establishment of a tax payment culture

U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu constituency discussed that it is needed to establish a tax culture in our country while reforming our current tax systems. In doing so, it is needed to set up grand strategy, vision and goal with systematic approaches, as an effort to achieve our goals, and relevant ministers are urged to build tax culture in our country as soon as possible.

### Participation in the discussion

Regarding this motion, U King Shein of Taninthayi Region constituency 9, Daw Wint Wah Htun of Shadaw constituency, Daw Khin San Hlaing of Pale constituency and Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Lat of Bago Region constituency 3 participated in the discussion.

The fifth day-meeting of the 11<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be held on 5 February 2019. ■ (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

## Union Attorney-General receives International Development Law Organization delegation

UNION Attorney General U Tun Tun Oo received Ms. Morgane Landel and delegation of International Development Law Organization (IDLO) at Union Attorney General Office guest hall yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, expanding rule of law related works conducted under MoU signed between Union Attorney General Office and IDLO, more involvement of law offices and related departmental organisations in law-related education works, expanding

law-related education works in Mogok, PyinOoLwin, Kengtung and Bhamo townships in addition to Rule of Law Centres opened by UNDP and IDLO in Yangon, Mandalay, Taunggyi and Myitkyina, reviewing the works of Rule of Law Centres and including programs that are appropriate to the requirement of the locals and second stage program works to start in 2019 were discussed.—MNA ■

(Translated by  
Zaw Min)



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo receives Ms. Morgane Landel and delegation of International Development Law Organization at his office. PHOTO: MNA

# Second Hluttaws reach third year milestone

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Only when we success was achieved in these reforms would the legislative pillar be relevant and coherent with modern times and last in continuity, said U T Khun Myat.

He said the current times saw all ethnic races coming together in their collective strength to establish a democratic federal Union that the nation and all its people desire. He reminded the attendees that everyone responsible understood the importance and gravity of the legislative pillar's role during these times. He said the lawmakers were the foundation of democracy and stressed that as the Hluttaws became stronger it would strengthen people-centered approaches and the checking power on the other pillars of democracy.

U T Khun Myat said that as we have reached the third year of the Second Hluttaws, the individual capabilities of the MPs and the performances of the various Hluttaw committees were as important as ever. He reminded the MPs that the legislative pillar was indispensable to a nation and should be firm and strong. Each and every MP must assess and overcome their challenges, weaknesses and requirements to take full responsibility of their assigned duties and accomplish them, said U T Khun Myat. He said doing so would allow the legislative pillar to stand strong as an achiever of accountability and cooperation for the nation and hopes of all ethnic nationals in the reform processes.

U T Khun Myat said MPs needed to be more vigilant in the remaining Hluttaws' term and successfully carry out their roles as representatives of the people, lawmaking, and providing checks and balances. He said this would realize the Hluttaw's motto of "People's Voice, Hluttaw's Voice, People's Will, Hluttaw's Will, People's Expectations Hluttaw's Implementation."

In conclusion, said the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, the Hluttaws needed to continue enacting laws that brought socioeconomic benefits to the nation and its people while balancing and checking the executive and judiciary pillars as the country continued on the path of democracy.

## Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker delivers speech

Next, incumbent Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mhan Win



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the ceremony commemorating the third year of the Second Hluttaws in Nay Pyi Taw.

PHOTO: MNA

Khaing Than delivered a speech. He said as the Second Hluttaws reached their third year, the legislative pillar has amended, repealed, and enacted laws that were coherent with modern times. He expressed his gratitude to the MPs and Hluttaw staff who have tried their best to fulfill the aspirations, desires and hopes of the public.

Mhan Win Khaing Than urged MPs to continue striving for public safety and protection under the law, to enact laws relevant to modern times, and to cast away favoritism to a single party, race, region or personal factors, as the Hluttaw members continued on the path to implementing a democratic system. He told MPs to continue cooperating towards a people-centered democratic system as they carried out their remaining legislative duties either as the Hluttaw, part of a committee, or on an individual

basis. Being the representatives of the people, MPs must continue striving for the benefit of the nation and the people as there was no other component more essential than the Hluttaw in enacting laws for the basic rights, democracy, and socioeconomic development of the people, said Mahn Win Khaing Than.

For the entire Union to achieve uniform development across its highlands and flatlands, MPs needed to listen and understand the wishes and requirements of the people to be true to the Hluttaw's motto of "People's Voice, Hluttaw's Voice, People's Will, Hluttaw's Will, People's Expectations, Hluttaw's Implementation" said the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker. He concluded by urging the attendees to use their experience gained over the three years of the Second Hluttaws, and to base them on Union spirit, as the people head-

ed towards a peaceful and developed democratic federal Union together.

## Ceremony to confer commemoration gifts

Following the speeches from the two Hluttaw Speakers, the Hluttaw anniversary commemoration gift ceremony began.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker conferred commemoration gifts to the President and the State Counsellor. The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker conferred commemoration gifts to the main contributors for successfully convening the Hluttaw sessions: the Union Ministers of the ministries of Information, Transport and Communications, Electricity and Energy, and the deputy minister of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw conferred commemoration gifts to the Union Ministers of the ministries of

Health and Sports, Construction, and the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman. The Deputy Speaker also conferred commemoration gifts to a representative for successfully showing the film 'Naung Twim U-Dan Twin Say Mye' (To be passed down as utterances in the future), which was shown to commemorate the third anniversary of the Second Hluttaws.

Afterwards, the President, State Counsellor, Vice Presidents, and the Speakers of the Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaws, joined the other attendees in the anniversary luncheon reception.

After the lunch reception, the President, State Counsellor, Vice Presidents, and the Speakers of the Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaws cordially greeted the attendees and then viewed the commemorative film for the anniversary. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

# As discussions mature and strengthen, a culture of democracy will come into existence: President

Following is the speech delivered by President U Win Myint at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Second Hluttaws.

First of all I wish to send metta good wishes for the health and well-being of the State Counsellor, present and former Speakers of Hluttaws, Union Government members, members of union level organizations, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives and honorable guests.

Today is a day that will be recorded in the annals of Myanmar's transition to democracy. It is the third anniversary of the Second Hluttaws. As the Hluttaw is a sovereign entity formed with elected representatives of the people who were also given the sovereign authority by the people and it thus has enormous prestige and power. In the same way, the pomp and splendour of the Hluttaw building where these representatives have come together to discuss the country's affairs is also huge.

As described in our law related to the Hluttaw, Hluttaw representatives are respectable persons who have outstanding features. In order to be outstanding, they must be distinctive and well versed in laws and rules related to the Hluttaw. In the same way, as it is a Hluttaw that is in a democratic transition, it must understand the features of democracy. For the Hluttaw repre-



President U Win Myint delivers the speech at third anniversary of the Second Hluttaws in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

sentatives to be respectable for the majority, they are required to serve the country and its people.

In addition to this, at one point it was prescribed that Hluttaw representatives are persons with unique characteristics with whom regional authorities and

departments consult with respect and thus they must have wide ranging general knowledge.

They are required to have regional and international views and knowledge in addition to political, economic, social and security views and knowledge. Hluttaw

representatives are described as persons with whom the regional authorities and departments ought to coordinate with on projects in the constituencies if it is not against the Constitution.

An important thing to note is the word "ought to coordinate" is the fact that it must not be against the Constitution. The administrative, legislative and judicial pillars must not interfere in one another but must be segmented in their own parts doing their own works while checking and balancing the works of others. This is an enactment to prevent deviation from the path of democratic transition.

Furthermore, Hluttaw representatives were granted with duties, rights and responsibilities. In other words, Hluttaw representatives were granted with these to conduct matters according to the law freely on one hand while they have limitations, rules, regulations and ethics that they must follow on the other hand. These limitations, rules, regulations and ethics are there so that the Hluttaw representatives are dutiful and responsible. In other word it is a dual prescription to use the freedom and rights correctly dutifully and responsibly without abusing and misusing.

On top of all, Hluttaw repre-

sentatives come from all walks of life. So there will be different ideas and opinions with one another and one group from another which is natural. But these differing views and ideas must be overcome through discussion with understanding, restraint, forgiveness, and optimistic views that are part of the 12 pillars of democracy. As discussions mature and strengthen, a culture of democracy will come into existence, and the capability of the Hluttaw representatives and the dignity and honor of the Hluttaw will rise.

Our motherland Myanmar is a union formed with all ethnic nationals. All must bear in mind that although our geography, forests and mountains may be different, all states and regions are part of the union. In the same way, although ethnic nationals have different languages, literatures, cultures and practices, all must consider themselves to be the sons and daughters of the union. In the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives should look towards the interest of the Union and unify their differences. I wish to conclude by saying that only the ability to unify in this way signifies the strength of the Union. I thank all of you. ■

(Unofficial Translation by ZM)

## President receives Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

PRESIDENT U Win Myint received a delegation led by Cambodian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr. Prak Sokhonn, who is also deputy prime minister, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the success of the Myanmar-Cambodia Joint Commission meeting, promoting cooperation between the foreign ministries of both countries, increasing collaboration in agriculture, trade and tourism, working towards signing MoUs for cooperation in education and cultural sectors, ending double taxation, increasing investments, and planning direct airways between Mandalay and Siem Reap.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung, Union Minister



President U Win Myint meets with Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Prak Sokhonn at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, and officials from the

Office of the President and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Cambo-

dian Deputy Prime Minister was accompanied by Cambodian Am-

bassador Mr. Sok Chea. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

# Giving the people the opportunity to choose is the fundamental idea of a democracy: State Counsellor

Following is the speech delivered by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Second Hluttaws.

I'M glad to be with our Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives and staff at the third anniversary ceremony of the Second Hluttaws.

I say this frequently. Democracy starts from the Hluttaw. Today, I'd like to say that Hluttaw starts from the people. Hluttaw came about because of the people and democracy system. That is why I want to say today that it is not sufficient to see our Hluttaw as a legislative pillar. Hluttaw in our country should be seen as a nursery where democracy is nurtured to flourish.

Participation of the people plays a main role for the establishment of a democratic Hluttaw. We said this from the very beginning. Multi-party democracy is an unnecessary word. There can't be democracy in a single party system. There must be at least two parties. Giving the people the opportunity to choose is the fundamental idea of a democracy. In working to give the people the opportunity to choose, we see the emergence of the roles of the political parties and the people. Before the Hluttaws even began political parties had to learn about democracy while they started organizing amongst the people.

Democracy is a system based on the people. How to get the support of the people? What is it that the people want? What are their expectations? What are their worries? Political parties have to study this before they enter the election for the Hluttaw.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the third anniversary of the Second Hluttaws in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

law. This in fact amounts to the political parties learning about democracy based on the Hluttaw. Learning about how to organize the people within the rules and regulations in the election period is also an act of elevating democracy.

Support of the people must be obtained to get into the Hluttaw and become a Hluttaw representative. All candidates are to learn how to obtain the support of the people as they try to get into the Hluttaw. Once in the Hluttaw,

the legislative pillar is not about enacting laws for the people only. Hluttaw representatives have the main responsibility and duty towards the Constitution. I want to see this duty as a work to nurture democracy and make it flourish.

Some don't think highly about Hluttaw representatives. Some hope for higher positions after becoming Hluttaw representatives. But there is no one more honorable than a dutiful and responsible Hluttaw representative in a democratic system.

A dutiful and responsible Hluttaw representative benefits the people and represents the people. Think about the people all the time. They balance between their duty and responsibility towards their party, their township, their country and decide and perform what needs to be decided and performed.

In a democratic system, there is no one more honorable than Hluttaw representatives who serve the country and people with cetana (good intention), metta (loving kindness), courage and knowledge. Hluttaw representatives should be proud as people who are nurturing the nursery for the plant to flourish. Strive towards raising your capability day by day. There'll be many opportunities to make a strong force out of a Hluttaw full of differing parties and views.

Hluttaw representatives must think not only about their dignity but also the dignity of the country. What and how things were said in the Hluttaw and your intentions does not reflect you alone. It does not reflect your party alone. It reflects on the country. That is why Hluttaw representatives have a big and heavy duty and responsibility. A Hluttaw representative truly respected, loved and valued by the people is a role model not only for the present Hluttaw representatives but for all the future Hluttaw representatives. We are strengthening the base of our democratic system once there is this role model.

A nursery is not to be left

where it is. The plants nurtured there are transplanted to the entire country. Our Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be a nursery for other nurseries of Hluttaws in the states and regions. Once the good work processes, cetana and thoughtfulness are spread to other state and region Hluttaws, our country will be a trusted and respected federal union of Myanmar. Take the opportunity of meeting one another here by encouraging one another. Treat one another in a friendly way. One must help and support to raise the capabilities of others.

An opposition party is not just to oppose. It is to raise the capability of one another. Only when there is an opposition with differing views can our capacities improve. This is because opposing views make you review your views. If it is wrong, we must have the courage to change it. No matter whoever may oppose your view in whatever way, if you are truly doing things correctly for the benefit of the people, you must have the courage to stand on your views.

However, if your views and positions are not beneficial to the country, you must have the courage to change as well as the skill to change. That is why our Hluttaw representatives should value themselves and value the country. I conclude by urging all to nurture our democratic nursery with cetana, metta, knowledge and courage. ■

(Unofficial Translation by ZM)



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than presents a commemorative gift to Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint. PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE-1)



Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Tun Tun Hein presents a commemorative gift to Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe. PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE-1)

# State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia who has been in Myanmar to attend the 2nd Meeting of Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation between Myanmar and Cambodia at the Presidential Palace on 1 February 2019.

During the meeting, the State Counsellor and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia discussed various issues on promoting bilateral relations, economic and socio-cultural cooperation, exchange of high level visit between the two countries and enhancing people-to-people contacts.

They also discussed to enhance cooperation among developing countries at the international fora in addressing



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Prak Sokhonn at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

the challenges facing them and in the areas of mutual interests.

Also present at the meeting

were U Min Thu, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, U Kyaw Tin, Un-

ion Minister for International Cooperation, Senior Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Af-

fairs, Ambassador of Cambodia to Myanmar and Senior Officials from Cambodia.—MNA ■

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets locals, departmental officials, militia in Khaunglanphu, Kachin State

TATMADAW Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing went to Kachin

State, Putao District, Khaunglanphu town and discussed regional development matters

with local elders, ethnic nationals, departmental officials and members of the people's militia



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing greets local people in Khaunglanphu, Kachin State. PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

yesterday afternoon.

First, the township administrator explained about particulars of Khaunglanphu region, status of road communication and requirements while a local elder submitted requirements for Khaunglanphu region development.

The Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief said the cooperation of the local people was required in conducting development of Khaunglanphu and that the local people must protect regional stability, peace, above ground and underground resources. As the drug problem would affect and slow down regional development, entry of drugs must be totally prevented. Town folks and elders should coordinate with departments for rice sufficiency in the region, producing of appropriate food and goods, said the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief.

Next, the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief presented

ready-to-eat meals while Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Tin Aung San, Commander-in-Chief (Air Force) General Maung Maung Kyaw, high ranking officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) presented foods such as eggs, instant noodles, MEC Tel telephone handsets and SIM cards to the people. The Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief, wife and party then cordially greeted the local populace.

Afterwards the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief and party went to a welfare shop opened by Northern Command for people of Khaunglanphu town.

From there the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief and party went to inspect the status of constructing Magwayza-Khaunglanphu road according to news released by the Office of the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief. — MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

## Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe attends Chinese New Year celebration

UNION Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe and wife Daw May Yin Tun attended the Chinese New Year celebration of the People's Republic of China (PRC) held at the residence of Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

The ceremony was also attended by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko and wife, Peace Commission Chairman Dr. Tin Myo Win and wife, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Thet Pone and wife, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin, Yangon Region ministers, Yangon Region Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, high ranking Tatmadaw officers, departmental officials, ambassadors and diplomats from foreign embassies in Yangon and invited guests.

At the ceremony Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang delivered a message of greeting followed by Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe addressing the ceremony.

In his address, the Union Minister spoke of his happiness in being able to participate with Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang, diplomats and staff of the embassy, diplomats, ethnic Chinese in Myanmar and distinguished guest in the traditionally and culturally important New Year ceremony of the people of China.

For the Chinese people, it is becoming a tradition for family members to come back from far off places to have dinner together



Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe delivers the speech at the Chinese New Year celebration of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

with the family in the New Year and noticed that it is a very important day for the Chinese people. Participating happily and meeting with Ambassador of China and other guests is believed to be renewing the Myanmar-China Paukphaw relation as well as feeling like meeting with old friends.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar had a long border with People's Republic of China and is good neighboring countries. In addition to raising the bilateral Paukphaw relation to all round strategic cooperation relation, there is a deep development in regional and international cooperation.

Especially mutual trust and friendship between the leaders of the two countries were firmly established and bilateral relations

had reached a historically unique high level.

In addition to this, China's support and firm stance with understanding toward Myanmar in the international arena is highly valued. People's Republic of China is providing positive supports to Myanmar's peace and national reconciliation processes as well as economic and technical support for the development of Myanmar people. It is believed that this will continue.

Mr. Xi Jinping's policy of "Common Destiny of Mankind" or "Community of Common Destiny" is noticeable. Only when there is cooperation with mutual trust aimed toward equal development can there be stability and peace in the world.

Myanmar is participating en-

thusiastically in the People's Republic of China's Belt and Road Initiative and will continue cooperation toward the mutual benefit of the people of the two countries within the frame of the project.

Looking at the bilateral trade and investment sector, People's Republic of China still stands as the country that had invested the most in Myanmar. It is wished that this is continued for the mutual benefit of the people of the two countries.

According to the calendar of China, 2019 is the Year of the Pig and represents luck and overall good fortune. As such in 2019, there is a full and complete belief that cooperation between the two countries will expand for good luck and overall good fortune of the people of the two countries.

In such a beautiful and pleasant Chinese New Year event, it is wished in conclusion that may the people of People's Republic of China be happy. May there be stronger Myanmar-China all round strategic cooperation relation and friendship. May there be increase in peace, luck, prosperity and social security of the people of the two countries. May the Ambassador and embassy staff succeed in their works. May the guests be healthy and prosperous said the Union Minister in conclusion.

Next, Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Thura U Aung Ko, Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang and party observed the Myanmar-China traditional culture dances and entertainment performed and took commemorative group photo.

Afterwards an opening ceremony of a photo exhibition on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of People's Republic of China's open door policy and reform processes was held where Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Thura U Aung Ko, Peace Commission Chairman Dr. Tin Myo Win, Yangon Command Commander, Deputy Minister, Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang simultaneously cut the ceremonial ribbon.

This was followed by Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Thura U Aung Ko and party observing the exhibited photos.

Finally Ambassador of PRC to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang and wife hosted a Chinese New Year dinner for the attendees. —MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

## Myanmar, Cambodia hold 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation

THE 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation between Myanmar and Cambodia was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 1 February 2019 at 10:00 am. The meeting was co-chaired by U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Mr. PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

During the Meeting, the two Ministers touched on a wide range of issues relating to promote bilateral relations and cooperation; to enhance cooperation in trade and investment sectors; to coordinate between

the two sides to develop the tourism sector by operating direct air links between Bagan and Angkor and to discuss possible signing of the MoU in further promoting religious and cultural affairs; to jointly celebrate the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 2020, to promote people-to-people contacts; to enhance cooperation in culture, education, forestry, environment and economic sectors between the two countries; and to work together at the regional and international fora on the issues of mutual interest and concerns.

The two Ministers signed the Agreed Minutes after the meeting. After the meeting, U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation between Myanmar and Cambodia being convened at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

International Cooperation, hosted a luncheon in honour of Mr. PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International

Cooperation and the delegation at Mount Pleasant Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw at 12 noon. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs

and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia left Myanmar in the evening on 1 February 2019.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

# Cultivating the Union spirit will keep us pure

THE Union spirit can be defined as the mental outlook that has helped keep all ethnic nationals united in the most difficult of times. In Myanmar, where people from over a hundred different ethnic races live, the Union spirit is vital. It is this spirit which can bring ethnic races together, help the perpetuation of the Union, and ensure peace and stability.

All ethnic nationals must cultivate the Union spirit in the deepest recesses of their mind. Only with the Union spirit can the country's citizens achieve non-disintegration of the Union, harmonious coexistence, and national unity.

Our Union, which had survived intact for over thousands of years, disintegrated when the colonialists took over the country. The Union spirit inherited from our forefathers also diminished during colonial rule. Ethnic nationals ceased cordial relations with each other. Our strong Union spirit was systematically dismantled.

The hearts of all ethnic national are pure and with the help of the Union spirit, we must wash away any attempts to discolor or taint them.

To build a peaceful Union we must first establish peace. We must proliferate the Union spirit to bring about a Union built on honest policies. We must cultivate the Union spirit. In the present day, all ethnic nationals are displaying affection and unity towards each other. They are making efforts to participate in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Panglong to bring about peace.

The hearts of all ethnic national are pure and with the help of the Union spirit, we must wash away any attempts to discolor or taint them. We must bring about equality and unity to our Union and all ethnic nationals who traverse together through thick and thin.



## Hailing 72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Union Day

# We solemnly pledge to preserve the Union and its heritage for perpetuity

By Maung Maung Kyaw

MY mind is still fresh with the words of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who talked about Myanmar's democratic transition at the forum held in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 August 2017.

Myanmar State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi urged people to understand other people's feelings and hopes for the sake of internal peace and to get rid of a self-conceited mindset as they consider the country's transition to full democracy.

"If we don't have such understanding we cannot work efficiently for the successful democratic transition, our unity and peace in the country," she said.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi made these words in her inaugural address delivered at the Forum on Myanmar Democratic Transition which kicked off on 11 August 2017 at Myanmar International Convention Centre 2 (MICC-2).

The following are highlights of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi speech.

### Path to democracy

The path to democracy needs to be correct and dignified. Some think what counts, is to reach the goal regardless of whatever ways and means are used. But I have a different opinion. If we follow the wrong path, we will not achieve what we want even if we reach the goal. The goal itself cannot be dignified. That is why we need to follow the correct path in a dignified manner.

The path the country walked after gaining independence was not smooth. A change can be a change for the better or a change for the worse. Our country started with democratic norms, from which we deviated. So, we have walked on the road to democracy to put the country back on the right path to democracy with peaceful, non-violent ways.

When we are trying to change, it is not easy, she added. The writer of this article has duly noted the speech.

Despite we regained our

independence; we have not enjoyed the peace at all until today. Although we have tried in many ways in different and successive eras for changes, the worse things were there much more than the good things. Therefore, we are trying to build a democratic system with justice.

### National Anthem

The road map of the state leaders being aspired for the future of the nation after regaining independence had been clearly mentioned and included in the national anthem.

By referring these aspirations, the State Counsellor had clarified in her speech with regards to the nation building. The messages in the national anthem must be inscribed in the hearts of all the citizens and people from all nationalities residing in the union, and they must work to uphold them. Therefore, we could visualize the implementation of three factors in crafting the democracy federal union.

The meaning of the national anthem is very much important and valuable as it referred and expounded the short and clear ways and means that the citizens must build the nation.

It also clearly mentioned the aspiration of our leaders and the forefathers how they have visualize and how they intend to maintain its position as a unified nation. The messages in the national anthem must be upheld and seriously vowed in the hearts by all the citizens and the nationalities residing in the union.

### Literal translation of both verses

Where justice and independence prevail,  
This is our nation, this is our land.  
Where equality and rightful policy prevail,  
For people to lead a peaceful life,  
This is our nation, this is our land.  
We solemnly pledge to preserve the Union and its heritage for perpetuity.  
Until the world ends up shat-



tering, long live Myanmar!

We love our land because this is our real inheritance.

We will sacrifice our lives to protect our country,

This is our nation, this is our land and it belongs to us.

Being our nation and our land, let us do good causes to our nation in unity!

And this is our very duty to our invaluable land.

### Poetic translation of the second verse

We shall love; forevermore Myanmar is the land of our fathers of yore!  
Giving our lives for our union we fight,  
This is our country, our land, ours by right.  
We, for her the tasks responsibly shoulder,  
As we'll stand in duty to this, our precious land.

### It started with justice

When we are looking at the national anthem, we could clearly see the arrangement of the union

the citizens must have the equal opportunities of rights.

When the equal rights are not guaranteed in the society, the individual would antagonize each other and the community would clash with one another, and eventually ended up in killings and fall dead into utter devastation.

Each and every one must have clear state of mind and have righteous ideology, only then the people could be termed as dignified people. Loving kindness is to be spread out by all to one another in the nation.

### Democratic System

We can see and witness that the nation is heading for a democratic system with justice and liberty as aspired by Bogvoke Aung San, the fallen leaders, the national leaders, and the citizens.

In changing the system, the journey is rather tough and bumpy, and also adventurous. When we talked about democracy, it comes along with the rights and the responsibility, and that if one is expecting only the rights, then the person is not worth with the democratic values.

The messages in the national anthem must be inscribed in the hearts of all the citizens and people from all nationalities residing in the union, and they must work to uphold them.

Democracy means the promotion of interests of the people, and in other words, it is to prioritize the greater good of the people.

Human being is naturally a body and soul of greed that always look forward for self interest, and therefore, they tend to hold tight only on the personal interest. In the democratic transition, there might be the frictions, the challenges, and the conflicts, and all these are to be settled through peaceful means without violence. This is the way of democracy.

### Peace for all human beings

Peace is very much important for an independent nation, as peace could bring to the people all the liberty, freedom and emancipation. For such tranquil peace to enjoy by the people, all

are easy to discuss, but hard to implement, with many challenges and have to work and cooperate with different types of people.

If we could have been working in unity in the nation building since the independence, then we would be enjoying the fruits of liberty with all the luxury by this time. Only in a later time, we have changed our mind and work with new concept and outlook. Some people follow the path of changes, and some adamantly remained as usual in the dogmatic ideas. Some remained opposite, some antagonize, and some remained indifferent, making hindrances and difficulties on the way to reform and development as a union.

### Looking forward at the destination

In the post Second World War period, most of the nations stepped into transition and worked for development, however, Myanmar left far behind to other countries due to disunity. It is the time for all the citizens to work in zest and zeal for the reform and in building the nation for justice and independence as suggested

MYANMAR GAZETTE

## Heads of service organizations confirmed and appointed

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Daw Tin Nwe Soe, Director-General, Office of the Union Judiciary Supervision under the Supreme Court of the Union upon expiry of the one-year probationary period.

2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Than Zaw Director Administration Department Myanma Oil & Gas Enterprise Ministry of Electricity and Energy	Director-General Department of Oil & Gas Planning Ministry of Electricity and Energy
(2) Professor Dr. Hla Hla Win Professor/Dean University of Medicine 1, Yangon Department of Human Resource for Health	Rector University of Public Health, Yangon Department of Human Resource for Health Ministry of Health and Sports
(3) Professor Dr. Htay Hla Pro rector University of Medicine 2, Yangon Department of Human Resource for Health	Rector University of Medicine, Magway Department of Human Resource for Health Ministry of Health and Sports

## 72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary (2019) Union Day National Objectives

- All ethnic nationals to work with collective strength for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national unity, perpetuation of national sovereignty; and to work for preservation and protection of the above.
- To strive for the emergence of a Constitution that is in alignment and harmony with the Democratic Federal Union.
- To strive for the success of the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong and thence till the success of the internal peace process.
- All union nationals to cooperate and work in "Unity and Harmony" for rule of law and for the people to be secure and free from danger.
- All union citizens to be able to enjoy good education and adequate health care protection.

Trade Mark Ads

Call Thin Thin May,  
 ● 09251022355  
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Translated by UMT (Ahlon)



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# Level crossings on western side of Yangon Circular Railway to be upgraded this month

By Nyein Nyein

THE Myanmar Railways will upgrade level crossings on the western side of Yangon Circular Railway, between Kyimyindine and Insein stations, in February, said U Tun Aung Thin, the General Manager of Myanmar Railways (Lower Myanmar).

During the upgrade project, some roads will be closed completely, while some will be kept partially open. The MR will work with related departments to ensure the public do not face any transportation difficulties, he said.

“The project to upgrade the western portion of the Yangon Circular Railway Line commenced on 21 November. We cannot avoid road closure while implementing the level crossing project. We will first submit the project outline to the Yangon Region government. At a later time, we will notify the public through the railway stations,” said U Tun Aung Thin. The Yangon Circular Railway Line project will include upgrade of level crossings at Ywama Kyaung Street, Kamayut Station, Okkyin Station, and Parami and Say War Factory streets, he said.



A locomotive runs on the Yangon Circular Railway at Yangon Central Railway Station.

**PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

While the level crossings are being upgraded, access to one half of the Ywama Kyaung Street will be closed, in turn, for six days between 3 and 14 February.

Similarly, the Parami Street will be partially shut, first one half and then the other. Half of Say War Factory Street will be kept closed, alternately, for five days between 8 and 17 February.

Okkyin Station Street will be completely closed for 5 days between 3 and 7 February. Kamayut Station, and Parami and Say War Factory streets, he said.

“Complete closure of the two streets during the project to upgrade the level crossings may cause difficulties to commuters,” said Region Hluttaw representative Daw Khaing Mar Htay from Hlaing constituency.

In response to her concern, U Tun Aung Thin said the railways will draw a plan so roads need not be closed completely and people can travel smoothly. The upgrade project has been divided into two parts. The Shwetaung Company will conduct the upgrade work on the

eastern part of the Yangon railway, while the A1 Company will work on the western part.

The western part from Insein to Kyimyindine railway stations, spanning 5.5 miles, and the eastern part from Danyingon to Paywaseikgone, spanning 7.25 miles, are being upgraded simultaneously, starting 21 December 2018.

The Yangon circular railway is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2019, said U Tun Aung Thin.

*(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

## Pontaung Ponnyar area set to be 18<sup>th</sup> CBT destination

THE Magway Region’s Directorate of Hotels and Tourism is planning a Community-based Tourism (CBT) destination at Htanpingon village, Hteelin Township, Pontaung Ponnyar area, Gangaw District, where the Taungtha ethnic people live.

At present, there are two CBT destinations in Magway Region — Myaing CBT and Magyekan CBT in Chauk Township. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has approved CBT in 17 areas, including two in Magway Region. Htanpingon will be the 18<sup>th</sup> CBT

destination in Myanmar.

“The Htanpingon Village is naturally scenic. Travellers can observe the livelihood, traditions, and customs of the Taungtha people. They can even visit the creek and waterfall. Amber is also found in the place. Therefore, the CBT destination may attract foreigners,” said U Myint Sein, the head of the Magway Region’s Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

“Our tradition is not being conserved just for show. There are 80 traditional looms in 120 households and the village is

filled with the sound generated by weaving looms. Camps have been installed in peanut fields, where visitors can enjoy the sunrise and take in the local sights,” said local residents. Preparations have been made for a year to set up the CBT in Htanpingon Village. A village-led CBT committee was formed and educational programmes related to CBT are being conducted. The villagers have also had a chance to attend a basic English language course. In cooperation with the Small-scale Industries Department, the

Hotels and Tourism Ministry is offering courses on organic dyeing, running a motorcycle workshop, hotels and tourism, and community development.

Myanmar’s 17 CBT destinations were created without using government funds, but with financial support from donors and companies. The Magway Region’s Directorate of Hotels and Tourism has invited donors to help set up the 3<sup>rd</sup> CBT in the region and accommodate tourists. — Zeyatu (Magway)

*(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

## Myanmar’s maritime exports reach \$2.8 bln

MYANMAR’S maritime exports between 1 October and 25 January in the 2018-2019 fiscal year touched US\$2.83 billion, up \$495 million, or 21.24 per cent, from the corresponding period of the previous FY, the Ministry of Commerce reported on Friday.

The country’s maritime export reached a peak of \$9.3

billion in the 2017-2018FY. Myanmar shipped goods worth \$5.9 billion to overseas buyers through the sea routes during the 2018 mini-budget period (from April through September).

According to data from the ministry, the value of Myanmar’s maritime exports stood at \$6.8 billion in the 2012-2013FY, \$8.4 billion

in the 2013-2014FY, \$8.23 billion in the 2014-2015FY, \$6.5 billion in 2015-2016FY, and \$7 billion in the 2016-2017FY.

Myanmar primarily uses maritime routes for export of goods, shipping seven major groups of commodities, namely, agro, animal, fisheries and forest products, minerals, manufac-

tured goods, and other miscellaneous products.

During the October-January period, the country’s border exports totalled \$1.8 billion, with goods shipped mainly to neighbouring China, India, Thailand, and Bangladesh. — Swe Nyein

*(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)*

### Write for us

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

# Projects signed to electrify 193,000 households



Officials sign the agreement at the ceremony between Ministry of Electricity and Energy and twelve awarded companies in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Electricity Supply Enterprise (ESE) under the Ministry of Electricity and Energy and 12 companies on Thursday signed agreements for the implementation of electrification projects in seven areas, including the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

At the signing ceremony held in Nay Pyi Taw, U Saw Win Maung, the Managing Director of the Electricity Supply Enterprise inked construction agreements with representatives from the 12 companies which won the tenders for the projects.

The newly signed C1-W2, C1-W3, C1-W4 and C1-W5 projects are part of the ministry's National Electrification Plan (NEP), which is being carried out by the ESE with loans provided by the World Bank (WB). The agreements target to electrify 193,013 households in Rakhine, Chin, and Shan states, Sagaing, Magway, and Bago regions, and Nay Pyi Taw.

At the signing ceremony, U Win Khaing, the Union Minister for Electricity

and Energy, said efforts are being made to meet the ministry's electrification target of 55 per cent by 2020 and 75 per cent by 2025, under the goal to increase the supply of electricity throughout the country by 2030.

The WB granted US\$400 million to Myanmar to implement the National Electrification Plan, developed between May 2013 and August 2014, with \$1.5 million funds allocated under the head of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative. The ministry's grid extension projects are currently being implemented with \$310 million from the WB grant, and the remaining \$90 million has been earmarked for off-grid rural electrification projects that will be carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

As an initial stage, the ministry is currently implementing grid extension to electrify 5,080 villages located within two miles of the national grid. The ministry has bought 60 per

cent of project-related machineries and equipments such as transformers, concrete electric pillars, power cables, and related accessories.

Construction work on the first phase of the NEP will begin next month. The first phase targets to electrify 5,080 villages located within two miles of the national grid. Upon completion of this phase, a total of 626,757 households will have access to electricity through the national grid.

The ministry said the implementation of the second phase of the project will be finalized in late September in 2021, and it will target villages situated within five miles of the national grid. Upon completion of Phases I and II, a total of 1,032,411 households will have access to electricity, increasing the country's electrification rate to about 9.5 per cent. In 2021, the country's electrification rate is expected to rise to 55 per cent.—MNA ■

*(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)*

## ADVERTISEMENT

### Nagata Advertisement Co., Ltd. donates new elementary school building to Kachin State

A ceremony to celebrate the completion of the new school building and to donate by Nagata Advertising Co., Ltd. (head office Tsushima-shi, Ichiro Nagata, Myanmar) to Kachin State's Bankar Yang Elementary School in Myanmar was held on 31 January, 2019. The ceremony was attended by officials of Kachin State Government, Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Association Hideharu Watanabe and others.

The ceremony was held to celebrate the completion of the new school building at Mayan Village, Bankayan Elementary School (150 students in Kachin). At the ceremony, dignitaries from the Kachin State Government, Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Association Hideharu Watanabe and villagers were welcomed by local traditional Kachin dance. This elementary school building was built by donation of Nagata Advertising Co., Ltd. (Head Office is at Tsushima-shi, Aichi prefecture, with Ichiro Nagata, President).



The company established NAGATA Myanmar Co., Ltd. in Myanmar and is developing an infrastructure development project with advertisement to rebuild Myanmar's mailbox to a Japanese type post with advertisement, as well as many projects.

We have implemented advertising infrastructure development projects such as installing recycle bins with advertisements and map advertisements in Bagan.

Also, it is now planned that a bulletin board with an advertisement space of

a sponsor company will be set up within the school as a result of the donation of school buildings, and we plan to develop it to tens of thousands of public schools and university campuses throughout the country.

At the ceremony, after a greeting from the guests including Mr. Watanabe, the dignitaries gave a stationery as a souvenir from President Ichiro Nagata to 150 students. Nagata Advertising Co., Ltd. is committed to continuing to assist infrastructure development for Myanmar citizens on the occasion of this event.

## Thailand-Myanmar border trade value doubles in Oct-Jan

THE value of border trade between Myanmar and neighboring Thailand between 1 October and 18 January touched a high of US\$1 billion, double the figure recorded in the corresponding period of the previous FY, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

For the same period of the 2017-2018FY, Thailand-Myanmar trade was valued at \$455.9 million. Normally, the Myawady gate sees the largest trade among the Myanmar-Thailand checkpoints. In the

current 2018-2019FY, trade surged at the Hteekhee gate, raising the total value of Myanmar-Thailand border trade.

Of the seven border trade points between Myanmar and Thailand, the Tachilek, Myawady, and Myeik gates witnessed a small decrease in trade in the current financial year, while the remaining gates registered an increase in trade.

The value of trade stood at \$579.6 million at Hteekhee, \$249.57 million at Myawady, \$78 million

at Myeik, \$70.6 million at Kawthoung, \$19.86 million at Tachilek, \$6.9 million at Mawtaung, and \$0.64 million at Maese.

Myanmar primarily exports fishery products such as crab, fish, and shrimp, as well as onions, sesame, dry tea leaves, coconut, and turmeric to Thailand. It imports capital goods such as machinery, raw industrial goods such as cement and fertilizers, consumer goods such as cosmetics, and food products.—Ko Htet ■

*(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

## Gold prices hit new peak at K 1,060,000 per tical

By Nyein Nyein

GOLD continued its upward trend in the domestic market on the back of high global gold prices, with domestic prices touching a fresh record at K 1,060,000 per tical on 30 January.

“The high rates in the

local market can be attributed to the rise in global gold prices,” said U Ohn Myaing, the chairman of the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

With global gold prices at their peak, the price of the yellow metal has been gradually climbing in the domestic market. Gold hit

a new high of K 1,050,000 per tical on 4 January, and then, touched a record K 1,060,000 per tical on 30 January, said gold traders.

The local market witnessed higher consumption than sales, said U Myo Myint, the chair of the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

Global gold price was recorded at US\$1,283 per ounce on 25 January and rose by \$37 within a week to touch \$1,320 per ounce by January-end.

During the fourth quarter of 2018, local gold prices reached a minimum of K 969,000 per tical on 1 October and a maximum of

K 1,040,000 on 31 October. In the month of November, the rates touched a low of K 1,027,100 on 30 November and a high of K 1,044,500 on 2 November.

In the month of December, gold prices recorded a low of K 987,000 on 4 December and a high

of K 1,043,000 on 29 December. Domestic gold prices have stayed above K 900,000 per tical since 21 July, 2017. With global gold prices increasing, domestic gold prices touched a high of Ks1,047,700 on 20 September last year. ■ *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

## Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu attends harvesting of sugar cane model plot in Nay Pyi Taw

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr. Aung Thu attended a harvesting ceremony of sugar cane model plot for assuring output of sugar cane held at Nay Pyi Taw Council area Pobbathiri Township, Letha Village-tract on the morning of 31 January.

At the ceremony, officials first explained about stages of harvesting the model plot and Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu observed the harvesting of the model plot and calculation of output. The Union Minister remarked to note the production and

requirement of the consumers, data and information supporting the drawing up of future plans for the country and effect of these on the politics and economy and to strive toward accuracy of work sector wise numbers.

During this sugar cane season Nay Pyi Taw, Pobbathiri Township planted 2106 acres earmarked for model sugar cane plots and according to the day's calculation on harvesting of the sugar cane model plots the output averages 53.17 ton per acre, it is learnt.—MNA ■  
(Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu inspects the sugar cane model plot set up in Letha Village-tract, Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

## China, Myanmar discuss cooperation in ethnic affairs



Union Minister Nai The Lwin receives Mr. Li Faun, Chairman of Myanmar-China Economic Cooperation Development Promotion Association, in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

A Chinese delegation led by Mr. Li Faun, Chairman of the Myanmar-China Economic Cooperation Development Promotion Association, called on Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai The Lwin at the latter's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. At the meeting, they cordially and openly discussed and exchanged views on mat-

ters related to peace and stability at the border areas of China and Myanmar and the socio economic development of local ethnic people there, cooperation between the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs and the State Ethnic Affairs Commission of China, conducting China-Myanmar ethnics festivals likes Yangon's ethnics culture

festival in a bid to develop ethnic areas-based tourism sector and stepping up efforts for bilateral cooperation in ethnic affairs.

Following the meeting, the delegation visited the ministry's booth displaying the traditional costumes of the ethnic peoples.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

## Former police captain released after one year in jail for breaking Police Disciplinary Act

MOE Yan Naing, a former police captain, released from Insein Correctional Department yesterday after one year in jail under Section 16 (b)/22 of the Police Disciplinary Act.—Myo Min Thein (Mayangon) (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



Former police captain Moe Yan Naing meeting with the press outside Insein Prison. PHOTO: MYO GYI

## Invitation for Open Tender Ministry of Construction Department of Rural Road Development

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a Grant from the Federal Republic of Germany (KfW bank) through the Ministry of Construction towards the cost of Rural Development Programme - Phase IV.

2. Department of Rural Road Development under Ministry of Construction intends to implement, with contract system, the construction of bituminous roads and bridges along the roads in Taunggyi District and Loilem District, Shan State. Rural roads express as follow:

No	Township	Lot No	Road Name	Road Type	Length (Km)
(i)	Pinlaung	TP-1A	Hle Gon-Moene Tharabu Road	DBST	7.80
(ii)	Pinlaung	TP-1B	Moene Tharabu-Kyar Dun Road	DBST	6.50
(iii)	Pinlaung	TP-1C	Kyar Dun- In Dain Road	DBST	5.10
(iv)	Pinlaung	TP-3A	Naung Pi - Ti Lon Road	DBST	11.40
(v)	Pinlaung	TP-3B	Ti Lon - Moe Oo Road	DBST	10.25
(vi)	Pinlaung	TP-3C	Moe Oo - Nam Pha Mu Road	DBST	11.35
(vii)	Loilem	LL-1A	Mingalar Oo - Ti Hay Road/bridge	DBST/Concrete	2.10

3. Procurement will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedures and under the laws and regulations governing public procurement within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

4. Interested companies may obtain further information and may inspect the complete bidding documents, and may purchase a set of the documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of MMK-65000 at International Relationship and Legal division of Department of Rural Road Development.

5. A pre-bid conference will be held in the Meeting Room of the DRRD at (25-2-2019) at 10:00AM. Each bidder is invited to attend the conference with maximum two representatives.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before (18-3-2019). Late bids will be rejected.

7. Interested companies may obtain further information at following address:

Daw Tin Moe Myint  
Deputy Director General  
Department of Rural Road Development  
Yan Aung (2) Yard, North of (200) Bedded Hospital  
Pyinmana,  
Tel/Fax: 067-24821  
Email: rbbdrd@gmail.com, ruralroad.drrd@gmail.com

## China-Myanmar trade declines 22% in November

MYANMAR'S bilateral trade with China in November, the second month of the 2018-2019 fiscal year, touched about US\$870 million, a decline of about \$250 million, or 22 per cent, as against the corresponding period of the 2017-2018FY, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

The total trade figure includes \$353 million in exports and \$515 million in imports. During the same month in the previous FY, China-Myanmar trade exceeded \$1 billion, with exports of \$616.6 million and imports of \$500.4 million.

Compared with the previous FY, bilateral exports have decreased by \$263.3 million this fiscal. However, bilateral imports have increased by \$14.7 million.

Myanmar's exports to China, its top trade partner, mainly include agriculture, marine, and forest products. The country imports medicines and related equipment, consumer goods, electronic appliances, food and beverages, cosmetics, and other commodities from China.

Sino-Myanmar trade is conducted through sea routes as well as border trade camps. Myanmar delivers goods to China mainly through five border trade stations—

wehaw, Kanpiketee, and Kengtung.

In the first month of this FY, Myanmar's trade with China totalled \$799.8 million, with exports worth \$299.5 million and imports valued at \$500.3 million.

According to the Commerce Ministry, bilateral trade between the two countries amounted to \$5 billion in the 2011-2012FY. It decreased to \$4.957 billion in the following financial year. Trade between the two nations increased to \$7 billion in the 2013-2014FY and reached \$9.7 billion in the 2014-2015FY. Sino-Myanmar trade exceeded \$10 billion in the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 financial years.

During the 2018 mini-budget period (April-September), bilateral trade between the countries exceeded \$5.5 billion.

The Myanmar Investment Commission approved new investments from China to the tune of over \$106 million in the first two months of this FY. During the last mini-budget period, China's investments in Myanmar touched \$304.7 million. China's investments in Myanmar totalled \$1.39 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.—Swe Nyein ■

*(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)*

## Chair of management committee for 72<sup>nd</sup> Union Day meets ethnic cultural troupes

CHAIRMAN of the Management Committee for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Union Day Ceremony, Dr. Myo Aung, who is also the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, met with ethnic cultural troupes in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. During the meeting, the Chairman explained agendas for the upcoming ceremony for Union Day. He then met cordially with leaders and members of the ethnic cultural troupes. The Chairman then inspected the troupes' temporary lodgings, dining hall, clinic, libraries, and the sub-committee offices.

With the aim of exchanging ethnic traditional dances, ethnic cultural troupes from different states and regions are invited to attend the 72<sup>nd</sup> Union Day Ceremony.

A total of 446 ethnic nationals from different



Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung greets ethnic cultural troupes in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: HTAN PHONE

cultural troupes have arrived so far, with 63 from Kachin State, 78 from Kayah State, 43 from Kayin

State, 40 from Chin State, 43 from Taninthayi State, 34 from Mon State, 36 from Rakhine State, 77 from Shan State and 32 from Ayeyawady Region.—Han Lin Naing *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (SCY1049)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (SCY1049) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 02-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S LAND AND SEA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (113 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (113 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 02-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ELENAK

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ELENAK VOY. NO. (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 02-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (SINGAPORE) PTE, LTD

Phone No: 2301928

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V RATANA THIDA VOY. NO. (131 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V RATANATHIDA VOY. NO. (131 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 02-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1097 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1097 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 02-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

# Myanmar takes steps towards e-Government

THE e-Government Implementation Work Committee held its second work coordination meeting at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, U Min Thu, the Chairman of the e-Government Implementation Work Committee and Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, urged committee members to step up efforts to draft and enact the required law, framework, policies, and rules and procedures on time as the Union Government is committed to providing e-Government services to the people to boost competitiveness, attract investment, and ensure transparency, accountability, and responsibility.

To implement the e-Government system, the e-Government leading committee and implementation committee were established on 23 January last year.

When implementing the tasks containing in the Myanmar e-Government Master Plan, the committee will also have to carry out tasks which are required and demanded from time to time, after seeking approval from the



Union Minister U Min Thu addresses the second coordination meeting of the e-Government Implementation Work Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

leading committee, said Union Minister U Min Thu.

“The action plan must be realistic and effective,” said U Min Thu, while asking the committee members to present the findings of the survey.

He also asked the committee to report on plans for upgrade of the quality and safety of

the government service network.

He called for systematic cooperation and coordination between the sub-committees and the work committee so tasks can be implemented effectively.

Afterwards, U Thant Zin Maung, the Vice Chairman of the work committee and the Union Minister for Transport and

Communications, said the committee will lay down future tasks after reviewing the responses to the e-Government Readiness Assessment Survey sent from ministries.

As the Myanmar National Portal has been opened, cooperation between ministries needs to be increased further so in-

formation can be distributed to people, he said.

He also suggested the government use current data centres, instead of establishing new ones.

U Thant Zin Maung also suggested the same platform be used for the project, as the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has already approved the e-GIDC project.

Government departments and the private sector are working together to draft the Cyber Law and Policy, and the first draft is targeted to be complete in June this year, he said.

Besides, the work committee will make efforts for promoting digital literacy and connectivity, he added. At the meeting, members of the work committee and sub-committees and invited guests discussed the implementation of resolutions taken at the first meeting, the Myanmar Unicode system, the Radio Frequency ID system, the registration of domain names and e-mail addresses for ministries and State-level bodies, drafting of the Cyber Law, and formation of aid groups.—MNA  
■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

## Over 55,000 companies registered on MyCO in last six months

MORE than 55,000 companies have registered and re-registered on the online registry system MyCO over the last six months, said U Myo Min, the director of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

MyCO was launched on 1 August, 2018, and since then, more than 10,200 new companies and 44,800 existing companies have registered and re-registered on the online platform, according to data from the DICA.

“The DICA had notified companies to complete registration on MyCo by 31 January. Those companies which fail to re-register on MyCO before the deadline will be struck off from the register list. Those who want to restore their corporate status will have to shell out a fee, and provide sufficient reasons for failing to register,” according to the DICA.

“Companies must not think that they can register by paying a penalty after the six-month period is over. According to reg-

ulations, companies will have to provide sufficient reasons why they failed to register before the deadline,” said U Myo Min.

Earlier, over 60,000 companies were registered in Myanmar, according to data from the DICA. More than 10,000 corporates are yet to re-register on MyCO before the deadline.

“We are sure all previously registered companies will not re-register. Some companies have not contacted us, some businesses have been dissolved, and some have downsized to reduce the number of companies. Therefore, the number of registered companies is expected to decline,” said U Aung Naing Oo, the director-general of the DICA.

Some corporates that are yet to re-register may be considered to be running the business the wrong way, said U Myo Min, director of the DICA.

“They seem to stand as corporates, but they do not operate their business in the correct way. Now, we have terminated those companies. We have notified all

companies to finish re-registration. Some branches of foreign banks have registered,” said U Myo Min.

As per Chapter III of the notification (66/2018) issued by the Ministry of Planning and Finance on 23 July 2018, if an existing company fails to re-register on the electronic registry system within the deadline, the registrar may strike its name off the register and publish a notice in the Gazette. Once the notice is published, the company will be dissolved, while the liability of the directors and the members of the company shall continue to be enforced.

Under Section (d) of Chapter III, a registrar may restore an existing company or corporate body which has failed to re-register, if it provides sufficient cause before its name is struck off the register. Such companies will be restored after they shell out a fee, which will be prescribed by the Union Minister.—Nyein Nyein ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Myanmar-Singapore trade up 14% in November

THE bilateral trade between Myanmar and Singapore reached US\$285.5 million in November, the second month of fiscal year 2018-2019, recording an increase of \$35 million, or 14.03 per cent, compared with the corresponding period of the previous FY, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

In November, Myanmar imported goods worth \$257 million from Singapore and exported products valued at \$28.54 million to the ASEAN member state.

Compared with the same month in the previous fiscal, the value of bilateral exports has increased by \$46.6 million, while imports have risen by \$415 million.

Goods traded by the two countries include agricultural products, footwear, textile and clothing, minerals, animal products, food, rubber and plastics, fuel, capital goods, intermediate goods, consumer products, metals, chemicals, and other miscellaneous items.

According to data from the ministry, bilateral trade between

Myanmar and Singapore during the 2018 mini-budget period (April-September) was valued at \$1.997 billion, an increase of over \$870 million from the same period of the 2016-2017 FY.

Myanmar delivers goods to Singapore mainly via sea.

Trade between the two countries was at its peak in the 2014-2015FY, reaching almost \$4.9 billion. It decreased to \$3.7 billion in the 2015-2016FY. The bilateral trade continued to decline in the 2016-2017FY, touching \$2.97 billion.

Singapore is one of the top investors in Myanmar, with investments of \$2.2 billion in the 2017-2018FY. During the 2018 mini-budget period, Singapore’s investments in Myanmar totalled \$724 million.

According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, Myanmar has approved eight new investment projects worth \$606 million from Singapore in the current FY.—Shwe Khine ■

(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

## Russian specialists eliminate anomaly on Fregat booster

MOSCOW—Russian specialists at the Kourou spaceport in French Guiana have eliminated a micro-hole on the Fregat booster intended to deliver OneWeb satellites into orbit, a source in the domestic space industry told TASS on Thursday. “There was a micro-hole in the duct with helium and pressure started to fall during checks. The specialists at the Kourou spaceport used standard materials and have already eliminated the micro-hole, using an ordinary repair kit. The transportation of the Fregat booster to Russia won’t be required,” the source said.

The commission for the preparation and launch of OneWeb satellites, including French specialists, has given its approval for the further preparation of the Fregat upper stage for the launch, the source said. A source in the Russian space industry earlier told TASS that a micro-hole had been found in one of the Fregat booster’s ducts. Specialists of Russia’s Lavochkin Research and Production Association were working on eliminating the problem at the Kourou spaceport, the source added.—Tass ■



There was a micro-hole in the duct with helium and pressure started to fall during checks, a source said. **PHOTO: TASS**

## Tomb savers: Conservationists unveil work on Tutankhamun grave

LUXOR (Egypt)—After almost a decade, a team of international experts on Thursday revealed the results of their painstaking work to preserve the tomb of Egypt’s legendary Pharaoh Tutankhamun.

Nearly a victim of his own fame, long years of mass tourism had left their mark on the boy king’s burial place near Luxor on the east bank of the Nile River.

“A hundred years of visits, after being sealed for 3,000 years... can you imagine the impact on the grave?” said Neville Agnew, head of the project led by the Los Angeles-based Getty Conservation Institute.

“Visitors, humidity, dust...” lamented the scientist during the unveiling ceremony at the tomb, discovered in 1922 by British archaeologist Howard Carter in the Valley of the Kings.

Called to the rescue in 2009, Agnew has led a 25-member team — including archaeologists, architects, engineers and microbiologists — to preserve the tomb and fend off the ravages of time and tourism. Interrupted during Egypt’s 2011 uprising and the political instability that followed, the project later resumed its work and finished up this month.

The preservation work began with a comprehensive study of the funeral chamber, including its ornate golden-yellow murals, which had been blanketed over the decades by a grey veil of dust.

Lori Wong, a curator specialising in murals, specifically



The tomb of Egypt’s boy king Tutankhamun was discovered by British archaeologist Howard Carter in the Valley of the Kings near Luxor in 1922. **PHOTO: AFP**

looked into the “material composition of the paintings and how it was applied”. The goal in doing so was “to understand the current state of the paintings, to determine if they were in danger and to establish a plan to safeguard them for the future”, she told AFP. Scientists brought heavy duty microscopes into the royal tomb, which they refer to as KV62, to analyse mysterious “brown spots” found on its ancient artwork.

### ‘Think of the future’

Researchers had worried the spots were a fungus that might spread and damage the murals of Tutankhamun’s life.

Careful analysis showed the blotches were indeed of microbi-

ological origin, but the organisms were long dead. One problem still remained: the deeply embedded marks were impossible to remove. “We did conservation, not restoration,” said Agnew, adding that the mission had been to stabilise and protect the site.

“The brown spots are also part of the story,” he said, adding they had not developed since Carter’s discovery.

Architects worked to redesign the platform where visitors stand to keep them away from the fragile walls, and engineers developed a new ventilation system to limit the devastating effects of carbon dioxide, moisture and dust.

While some of the most cher-

ished pieces of Tutankhamun’s treasure are now held at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, the tomb still holds the Pharaoh’s mummy in an oxygenless glass box, along with his outer sarcophagus — made of gilded wood.

Famed Egyptian archaeologist and former antiquities minister Zahi Hawass, who initiated the project, said that the project had “saved the tomb of Tutankhamun”. “Still I really think after this great work that has been done, we need to limit the number of tourists who enter inside,” he added. “If we let mass tourism enter this tomb, it will not last more than 500 years,” he warned, advocating for a complete halt of visits to site. —AFP ■

## NASA’s Curiosity finds Mars rocks more porous than expected

LOS ANGELES—Researchers have used non-science engineering data from NASA’s Curiosity rover to find Mars rocks less compacted, more porous than expected, according to a release of Arizona State University (ASU) on Thursday. A team of researchers, including an ASU graduate student, measured the density of rock layers in the 154-km-wide Gale Crater on Mars. The findings will be published on 1 February in the journal *Science*.

The discovery gives scientists a novel technique to use in the future as the rover continues its trek across the crater and up Mount Sharp, a 4.8-km-high mountain in its center, according to the release.

“What we were able to do is measure the bulk density of the material in Gale Crater,” said Travis Gabriel, a graduate student in ASU’s School of Earth and Space Exploration. He worked on computing what the grain density should be for the rocks and ancient lakebed sediments the rover has been driving over.

“Working from the rocks’ mineral abundances as determined by the Chemistry and Mineralogy instrument, we estimated a grain density of 2,810 kilograms per cubic meter,” he said. “However, the bulk density that came out of our study is a lot less, 1,680 kilograms per cubic meter.” —Xinhua ■

# Former star Myo Hlaing Win made head coach of Ayeyawady United

FORMER Myanmar national football star, Myo Hlaing Win was appointed as the head coach of the Patheingyi-based Ayeyawady United this week, according to a statement released by the football club.

Myo Hlaing Win scored dozens of goals for the Myanmar team. He is well-liked by football fans.

In the early years of the Myanmar National League, he headed the Yangon United and the Nay Pyi Taw F.C.

Myo Hlaing Win helped the Nay Pyi Taw F.C. finish as runners-up in the 2013 Myanmar National League.

Under his guidance, the Nay Pyi Taw F.C. qualified for the 2014 AFC Cup and was placed in Group H with Kitchee F.C. from Hong Kong, Tampines Rovers F.C. from Singapore, and Pune F.C. from India.

Later, Myo Hlaing Win also headed the Myanmar U-19 men's



Former Myanmar national football star, Coach Myo Hlaing Win (left) instructs his players of Ayeyawady United during a training session. **PHOTO:AYEYAWADY UNITED**

national football team. Under his guidance, the team earned a silver medal in the 2018 ASEAN U-19 Championship.

The team officials believe Myo Hlaing Win is the most suitable head coach for the team. With his appointment, the team's

officials are hopeful of a victory in the MNL and the Bogyoke Aung San Shield Competition.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

## Lost chances led to tie against Zwegapin, says Yangon head coach

THE match between Myanmar National League defending champions Yangon United and Zwegapin United at Thuwunna stadium yesterday ended in a draw, with both teams tied at 1-1.

Commenting on Yangon's play, the team's head coach Myo Min Tun said: "We had so

many opportunities to get goals, but we did not use nearly all of them. And, my boys are weak in finishing. So, lost chances led to a draw."

While Yangon United managed to dominate the first half with an early goal at the 4th minute by Miller with an assist from Yan Aung Kyaw, a surprise

goal by Zwegapin's Ken, who kicked a foul ball straight into the net, changed the course of the match.

Yangon's players made continuous attacks in the first half, but they showed weakness in finishing and the first half ended with a score of 1-0.

In the second half, the

teams fought to keep the ball. After the restart, Zwegapin scored an equalizer by shooting a foul ball directly in the net from 18 yards.

After the goal, a shocked Yangon United made some substitutions and fought hard to score, but the match ended in a draw.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

## Qatar upset Japan 3-1 to claim 1<sup>st</sup> Asian Cup title

ABU DHABI — Qatar foiled Japan's bid for a record-extending fifth AFC Asian Cup title on Friday, winning the tournament for the first time in a 3-1 upset.

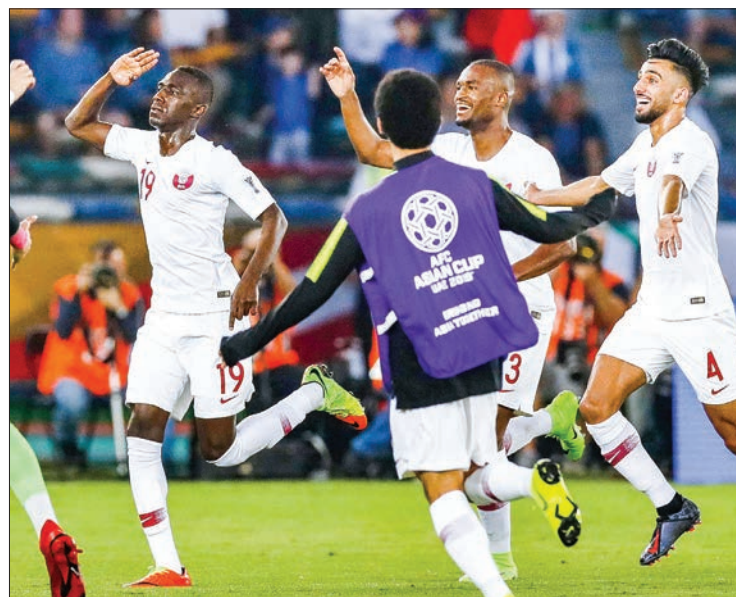
Despite reaching the final at Abu Dhabi's Zayed Sports City Stadium without conceding a goal, the Qataris were considered a long shot against the East Asian heavyweights.

But the first-time finalists went into the break with a 2-0 lead thanks to goals from Almoez Ali and Abdelaziz Hatim.

Sudanese-born striker Ali entered the record books with his ninth goal of the tournament in the United Arab Emirates, eclipsing the eight scored by Ira-

nian great Ali Daei in the 1996 edition.

Japan looked to have the momentum when Takumi Minamoto pulled a goal back in the 69<sup>th</sup> minute, but Akram Hassan Afif sealed the match from the penalty spot with seven minutes remaining after video replays showed Japan captain Maya Yoshida committing a handball in the box. The loss was the first for Japan since being knocked out of last summer's World Cup round of 16 in a 3-1 loss to Belgium. It was also their first loss under manager Hajime Moriyasu, who took the reins following the World Cup.—Kyodo News ■



Qatar players celebrate taking the lead against Japan in the 2019 Asian Cup final. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

## Schmidt and Jones bid to teach other Six Nations lesson

DUBLIN (Ireland)—Joe Schmidt and Eddie Jones have followed similar career paths from teaching to becoming two of the most highly-regarded coaches in world rugby, but the Ireland and England bosses could hardly be more different characters. The studious Schmidt will pit his wits against Jones, the master of the quick one-liner, for the final time in the Six Nations on Saturday in a tantalising opening game for both sides.

Ireland head coach Schmidt, formerly an English teacher, steps down after the World Cup later this year while it could also be the final Six Nations campaign for his Australian counterpart, who once taught geography, as England boss. Schmidt, 53, spoke last week of how he will miss going into the dressing room after a match and seeing the players having "left everything out on the pitch". However, woe betide anyone who has not met his high standards. "He (Schmidt) is a hard task master but at the same time very attentive," Irish Rugby Football Union chief executive Philip Browne told AFP. "He has great human resource skills and he regards rugby as much about managing people off the pitch as the impact they have on it." Jones too drives his players hard but will either try to ease the pressure on them from the media or throw verbal "grenades" at opposing teams and coaches in the lead-up to matches.

### 'Holistic view'

The Ireland game prompted 59-year-old Jones to lob one into Schmidt's lap just before they met with the media at the Six Nations launch last week by saying Ireland could expect "brutality" from his side on Saturday as they seek to avenge two painful successive defeats. Schmidt, whose side denied England consecutive Grand Slams—defeating them in Dublin and last year clinching the Grand Slam themselves with victory at Twickenham—laughed it off as he did with Jones's remark that Ireland's World Player of the Year Johnny Sexton "has the bat-phone to the referee". —AFP ■