

NATIONAL

Union Minister U Min Thu meets GAD staff of Ayeyawady Region

PAGE-6

NATIONAL

Union Ministers inspect resorts in Taninthayi Region

PAGE-5

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 351, 13th Waning of Tabaung 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Tuesday, 2 April 2019

State Counsellor inaugurates Myaungmya Bridge, meets local people in Kyaunggon, Patheingyi

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accompanied by Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, U Min Thu, Dr. Aung Thu and U Ohn Win and officials left Nay Pyi Taw by special plane and arrived in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

The State Counsellor and party were welcomed by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, region ministers, Hluttaw representatives, local populace and officials at the Patheingyi airport.

From there the State Counsellor and party went by motorcade to the temporary pandal where the opening ceremony of Myaungmya Bridge was held.

The State Counsellor delivered a speech at the cere-

mony and said:

The old Myaungmya Bridge collapsed on 1 April 2018. This day last year was a tragic and sad day for the local people. Exactly a year after this, the new Myaungmya Bridge longed for by the people was completed and opened and people can use it. Although there is no doubt about the strength of this bridge, there were many bridges in Ayeyawady Region that were not so satisfactory and fitting. Suspension bridges such as Labutta (Pinlelay) Bridge, Wakema Bridge and Shwelaung Bridge were also being upgraded to a stronger Steel Box Girder bridges. So be patient about temporary inconveniences.

SEE PAGE-2



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi sprinkles scented water on stone plaque of the Myaungmya Bridge in Ayeyawady Region yesterday. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**



An aerial view of new Myaungmya bridge in Ayeyawady Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Union Border Affairs Minister observes government technology in Japan trip

PAGE-7



NATIONAL

Commemorative stamp to be issued for month of Tagu

PAGE-5

NATIONAL

Secretariat museum to be opened in July

PAGE-6

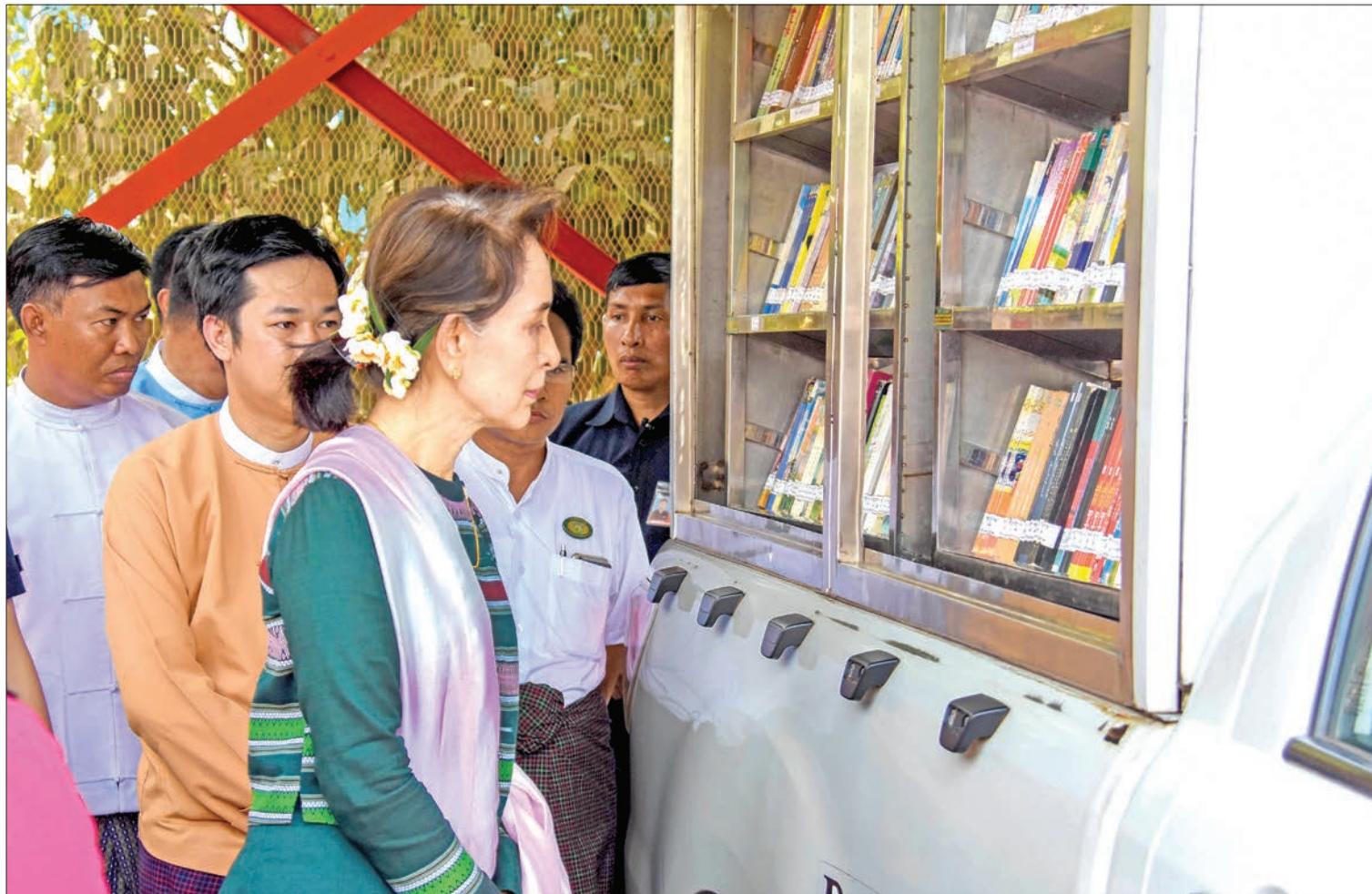
LOCAL NEWS

Sand sculptures to be exhibited at Chindwin water festival

PAGE-10



State Counsellor meets with local people in Kyaunggon, Patheingyi



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi inspects the mobile library of Daw Khin Kyi Foundation in Myaungmya. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

The local people were also urged to help maintain the roads and bridges for long term durability.

Everything was not over after we constructed the bridges. It was important to maintain it. Everyone was required to bear this in mind as your responsibility and help out. Roads and bridges are the most basic for a country's development. Under the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (2018-2030) Prosperity & Partnership pillar, a strategy to build a priority infrastructure base that facilitates sustainable growth of the economy was included and that was why the government has been conducting the infrastructure development works such as construction and maintenance of roads and bridges as priority works.

The Ayeyawady Region being a delta area is full of rivers and creeks. It has fertile land which is good for agriculture. It also has abundant aquatic resources. In the past, waterways were relied upon as the main mode of transportation but now, due to the network of roads all states and regions are reachable in a short time. As the capital of Ayeyawady Region Patheingyi is connected by air to Yangon, travel has become easier and convenient. As the road transport

became better and convenient, goods can be easily and speedily transported. Businesses will develop and more local and foreign visitors will visit the natural beaches in Ayeyawady Region supporting the development of the tourism sector also.

When the Union government conducts basic infrastructure development works, it is important to use the limited natural resources without wastage and obtain the best benefit. All departments are specifically advised to conduct works according to required quality and follow the instructions and procedures of the tendering processes.

The development works, transformation works and peace process works conducted by the Union government will be successful only with the enthusiastic participation of the people. It is natural to encounter challenges and difficulties when transforming from an old era and system to a new era and system which is expected by the people and is also in line with the time. It is strongly believed that with the entire people's collective effort and participation any difficulties and challenges will be overcome. I want the people of Ayeyawady region to cooperate and participate in the country's development, establishment of a democratic federal union and internal peace process.

The Union government wishes to thank the workers, Ministry of Construction personnel and other related ministerial departments, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister and region government members, Hluttaw rep-

the people and the government to trust and respect another, both need to do their respective duties and protect their respective rights. The responsibility of a government was to keep its promise to the people. I'm glad

The responsibility for our country' development lies primarily on the people. This is especially true when we are heading towards a democratic system.

representatives and the local people for constructing and opening the new Myaungmya Bridge during the targeted one year period.

In conclusion, I'd like to mention about the importance of the Myaungmya Bridge. When it collapsed I was here. All had the responsibility to finish what was started. I promised the people that the bridge would be constructed in the quickest way. This was very important. An organization that was responsible in the administrative machinery had promised the people and this promise must be kept. For

to keep a promise and open this bridge today.

I've known Myaungmya and Natmouk since I was young and if I say I had much attachment to both, I hope other towns and cities will understand and forgive me. With special responsibility, I want it to be very developed. Locals said Myaungmya was the most developed and the best in Ayeyawady Region. Locals in other towns and cities may say otherwise. As said by Pakokku Sayadaw, don't be proud of praises and also don't stay where you are without trying. So Myaung-

mya folks should not be proud of praises but must also maintain their good traditions.

The responsibility for our country' development lies primarily on the people. This is especially true when we are heading towards a democratic system. Proper organizations and proper people need to be elected. Only then will you get a government that will respect and support you and take responsibility for the country. The government also had the responsibility to fulfill the expectation of the people. If both can do their works dutifully, we'll be able to overcome all challenges and the challenges will become opportunities. This is my strong belief. In the same way, I conclude by urging people to have confidence in their strength, and use it consistently to strengthen and work for the perpetuation of the Union.

After her speech Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw explained about the construction of the bridge while Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung explained about the status of conducting regional development works.

This was followed by a local Sa Wai Lwin Moe who spoke words of thanks for completing the construction of the bridge.

Next, the State Counsellor and party went to the Myaungmya Bridge head where Union Minister U Han Zaw, Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Kyaw Khaing, region minister U Win Htay, Hluttaw representatives and officials cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the bridge and took a commemorative group photo with ceremony attendees.

Afterwards State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi pressed a button to unveil a pillar commemorating the opening of the bridge and sprinkled scented water on to the pillar. Union Minister U Han Zaw and Region Chief Minister also sprinkled scented water on to the pillar.

After the State Counsellor had inspected the bridge by crossing over it with a car she met with the workers who participated in the construction of the bridge and inquired about the status of obtaining national registration identification cards, education, health and livelihood of family members.

FROM PAGE-2

After meeting the workers she went to the Myaungmya District Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) and inspected the mobile library work jointly conducted by the District IPRD and the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, computer basic course and children reading room.

The State Counsellor and party then left Myaungmya by Tatmadaw helicopters and reached Kyaunggon Town where she met with the local people in the Kyaunggon Township sports hall.

At the meeting the State Counsellor said that in comparison the country lagged behind neighboring countries in development. This was known by the town folks of Kyaunggon and people of Ayeyawady Region. The most important thing was the spirit when we were overcoming difficulties and we were to overcome difficulties with spirit. When doing this, it was important to have strong will and a spirit to look straight into the future and do the best we can. During the New Year a news agency asked for the New Year wish that I made for the country and I said the wish was for every citizen to fulfill their duty.

The people and citizens include government members. There would be no concern for a country's development if everyone starting from government members to public servants, every person and citizens fulfilled their duties. Students and youths were also included in fulfilling duties. Those at school attending ages are to attend school and achieve their aims.

She spoke about the important of education and informed the audience that the education budget had been raised. She also said the people wanted to read but there were no books to read. She spoke of the need to jump in and fill this need.

Regarding the health sector she informed the audience that the budget had been increased. She said the people knew the important of education and health.

They also knew that road transport, electricity, and resolution of farm land ownership matters were also important.

She reminded the audience that all were Union citizens travelling on the same boat, being children of the same Union

She spoke at length about the social media which was characterized by much anger, negativity and self-interest. She said



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets local residents of Kyaunggon Township. PHOTO: MNA

people needed to understand the limits of personal freedom and the need to protect the stability and peace of society.

Look at yourself courageously on what was the aim for a matter that you were intending to do. Do it proudly if it was for the country and the people. It must be done to strengthen the sovereignty of the country, territorial integrity of the country, progress and development of the country, peace and prosperity of the people. If we do things in the spirit of being the sons and daughters of a union, there is no way that our country would not develop.

Even though we were not a full democracy yet, we were on the path towards it. As we do down that path all had duties and responsibilities. Especially our government that was elected by the people has special duties and responsibilities. The people assign these duties and responsibilities with hope and trusts. We must not break their hopes and trusts.

The Ayeyawady Region government and representatives in the Hluttaw were to fulfill the hopes and requirements of the people. The hopes and trust of the people could not be destroyed. It would not be successful to do so. There were no governments that could fulfill a hundred percent. No government, no entity and no one can provide a hundred percent sat-

isfaction.

We all need to do the best we can for the people and the people themselves need to participate in it. It was very important to kick in and put efforts toward your future, your family's future and for the future generation, said the State Counsellor.

After the State Counsellor's speech ten points were raised by the local people of Kyaunggon

Bridge at the Kyaunggon Town entrance toll gate, municipal tax being collected from Thatsaintgon Village despite no development works being conducted, explanation on how the region government select 5 percent of the entry to 23/2018 education college and when Chaunggyi station hospital will be opened, five locals outside the meeting raised matters covering transparen-

the State Counsellor spoke of valuing the opportunity to meet with the people. She noted that people were raising matters without anger and they were raising matters that they disapprove of. She said that itself was a good indication for our country's future. Only when the people were honorable will the country be honorable. She welcomed the people voicing their worries, matters they did not understand and were not clear. This was their rights she said.

She continued and said that on the government side, both the central government and state and region governments were not entirely blameless. Therefore we need to overcome our weaknesses. People were believed to support us in overcoming our weaknesses. In future we must think of various ways to close any gaps between the government and the people. The state and region governments were instructed to be in touch with the people all the time and resolve whatever was asked or raised by the people. Whatever was done must be explained to the people. We must do things fairly and justly. Fairness and justness must be made obvious and explained. Thanks to all the people for their support and making us understand our country's requirements, said the State Counsellor.

Even though we were not a full democracy yet, we were on the path towards it.

covering Home Ministry's recognition of Meethwaytaik Taungsu Village as applied, considering the relaxation of unpaid bank loan by Paukseipe Village Tract for damaged monsoon paddy, continuing the digging of the remaining 17,500 ft. portion to connect Shwenyaungbin creek to Kyaunggon Seik Chaung creek, the matter of land 513 acres of land confiscated by the Golden Green Company, permission to apply pasture land permit for Supadaung field, upgrading the Saphyu-Asugyi village connecting earth road to a gravel surfaced road, status of providing electricity to Magyipin Village and villages within two miles of it, collecting combined tolls for Pathwe Bridge and Kyaunggon

cy in digging Chaungmagyi in Athoke Town, land confiscated after 1988 in Kyaunggon town, pension of retired Tatmadaw personnel, disagreement on 8.33 acres of farmland and notice sent by the railway department about Daka village land, and two locals inside the meeting raised the matter of blockades put up on Athioke-Kyaunggon concrete car road, expanding 3 ft. on both sides of the road and obtaining irrigation water for Phayagyigon Village summer paddy.

The matters raised were answered by Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu, region ministers and officials and the State Counsellor provided additional explanation.

In her concluding speech

SEE PAGE-4

State Counsellor meets with local people in Kyaunggon, Patheingyi

FROM PAGE-3

After her concluding speech she took a commemorative group photo together with students attending the meeting.

On the conclusion of the meeting the State Counsellor and party left Kyaunggon town by Tatmadaw helicopters and reached Patheingyi where she met with the local people at Patheingyi town hall.

In her address to the meeting the State Counsellor said President U Win Myint was from Patheingyi region. Patheingyi producing a president indicates the equality of rights in a democracy. Depending upon their ability, loyalty to the country and their ability, people had many opportunities to do whatever they were skilled in. Democracy was not words only. It was a system that respects the people and provides opportunities. The people also had the responsibility to make this system successful. Only when the people were honorable and valuable will the democracy administrative system will be honorable and valuable.

The country faced more challenges than an ordinary democratic country. Our country was never at peace ever since gaining independence. The Government had been prioritizing on achieving peace. Only those who had first-hand experience of the lack of peace would understand the value of peace. It was important for the entire country to be peaceful, prosperous and developed. There must be peace and rule of law for our country to develop. Only when there was rule of law will the country be stable and tranquil. Only when there was sustainable stability will there be sustainable peace.

It was very important for the people to understand what rule of law was. Most of our people thought laws were to restrict, confine and punish. Those were not the aims of the laws. A law stabilizes a society, reduces conflicts between one another, peacefully resolving unavoidable conflicts. Our language phrased the term as a just law. It can be defined as a law that brings justice and fairness. A law was a just law drawn up to provide justice fairly.

Law was made by the people. Law came about after peo-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by local residents in Patheingyi. PHOTO: MNA

ple thought it out and decided. Law needs to change as time changes. It must be in line with the time. Justice and fairness of the law must be clearly understood by the people and willingly accepted. In a democratic system law must be in line with and acceptable by the people.

We conduct administrative matters according to the rules and regulations that were in accord with the law. People also follow the rules and regulations

take lessons from the mistakes made by already successful and developed countries.

On some matters, late comers or those who were behind had certain opportunities. The entire world had realized that university education was not enough for a country. All had arrived at the understanding that to strive only toward achieving a university education would not bring true success. Only when the importance of voca-

There were no governments that could fulfill a hundred percent. No government, no entity and no one can provide a hundred percent satisfaction.

in their daily lives. Challenges and problems faced by people do not differ from place to place. Most of the challenges and problems faced were the same. Only through cooperation and doing things together can the difficulties and problems be overcome. It would be a great sadness to look at the lagging development of our country and the wasted times. However, we would have to

tional education was understood can the educated people easily acquire jobs.

For our country job creation was important and vocational education was greatly encouraged. Ever since the incumbent government came about in 2016, we realized that only 4 percent of our country were university graduates. As only that 4 percent had university education, we had

the opportunity to make the people value vocational education. That opportunity made the present implementations achieve success. Our sons and daughters were to be encouraged toward obtaining vocational trainings.

Our changes need to be in line with the time. Now was the time to think how to be in line with the time and progress, how to establish things so that the country progressed in a different and spectacular way in comparison to other countries. People need to know and understand the democratic norms. People need to know their responsibilities. What to do for the country and what to do for self. What to do for others. These were the most important things the people need to know.

Only when we know the strengths and weakness of the people, the feeling, worries, expectations and hopes can we support the people to develop. That was why meetings with people were held to know the aims and requirements of the people and find answers toward what we must do for the development and success of the people.

When doing something, it was important to look at it from all angles. It was important for people to have an understanding. Do not look at the spot that

you are interested in. Look at it from all sides in full union spirit. Youngsters here were dressed in all sort of ethnic national dresses. Whatever they wore outside was not important as it was important for all to have the same mind. It was more important for them to have the spirit of being sons and daughters of the union and being siblings. Differences are something that we can be proud of. Our country has many ethnic nationals speaking different languages and believing different religions but if all live happily together in unity our country would develop and earn the respect of all.

If all do things in good will they would have many opportunities. If these opportunities were not used for self alone but for all we would obtain more satisfaction and it would be more effective. If we do things in unity hand in hand, we do not need to worry about any problems.

The four causes of success starts with the will. All need to have a will for the country's progress, stability, and prosperity. Patheingyi was an important town for the country. Starting from this town, all were urged to do more for the entire Ayeyawady Region.

SEE PAGE-5

FROM PAGE-4

Start with the Ayeyawady Region and work towards the progress and stability of the entire country, urged the State Counsellor.

After the speech Pathein town folks raised 11 matters on effective legal action against false complaints and allegations, falling price of rice, long and short term loan, plan to return 180 acres of land to local people, issuing of form 7 and form 105, changing of land ownership, conducting agriculture works in Yo creek and pasture land, returning land confiscated by Fishery Department for salt water shrimp breeding station, upgrading Zinpyongon village connecting road, providing electricity to Thalatkwa Village, speedy construction of a nine story hospital in Pathein, unknown poles setup in a drain, com-

pleting construction of Ywa Haung Gyi sub middle school with 2017-2018 education fund, insufficient equipment in Pathein Hospital as well as space for patients, seven locals outside the meeting raised making Kanyinkauk village clinic an official clinic, improper conduct in Shwe Thaungyan Chaungtha hotel works, land confiscation in Nanwinkan village, permitting usage as before of the old Chaungtha Shwe Thaungyan village connecting road, land confiscation in Okpo village, organization of Chaungtha town, beautifying Chaungtha beach as well as enacting new law related to beach, 3 locals in the meeting raised the construction of an industrial zone in Ayeyawady Region, inflow of investment, construction of fire-fighting pond in Ngwesaung town, returning of confiscated land and 37.44 acres of land confiscated

People need to know and understand the democratic norms. People need to know their responsibilities.

by the Tatmadaw.

Matters raised were answered by Region Chief Minister, region ministers and officials and the State Counsellor provided additional explanations.

In her concluding speech the State Counsellor said there were 5 types of matters raised

by the people and those were acquiring water, road transportation, electricity, education and health. The late addition was land ownership.

It was understood that this matter was also important and will be handled truthfully. There were many difficulties. Difficulties faced by those who confiscated the land. Difficulties faced by the administrative part.

Difficulties faced by the original owners who want their lands back. Much strength and energies were required to solve these difficulties and arrangements were being made. Reviews and assessments were to be made speedily and if necessary more departmental staffs would be deployed. The government would place more emphasis to resolve these matters and had understood the problems faced by the people.

She welcomed the people openly conveying their worries and requirements. And thanks to all for conveying everything in a calm manner.

This shows that our country was a cultured and honorable country. Showing their displeasures in a cultured and high standard was seen as the strength of the people.

It was important to answer what the people want to know by engaging with them. This would be carefully relayed to the region government. The affair of our country was the affair for all of us and must not be seen differently. Anything that benefits the country was related to the people. Matters raised will be looked into individually and answers will be uncovered, said the State Counsellor. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Ministers inspect resorts in Taninthayi Region

Union Minister for the State Counsellor's Office U Kyaw Tint Swe and Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint, who are Vice Chairman and Secretary of Myanmar Special Economic Zone Central Body respectively, visited Myeik in Taninthayi Region on 29 March. They arrived in Myeik Public Corporation's office where they heard report by Pyae Phyo Tun International Company Ltd. Chairman U Hla Than on the prawn breeding projects in Kyar Gyi Oh, Mingyi island, Kyunsu Township, Myeik District.

Next, the Union Ministers travelled to Wa Ale island in Bokpyin Township and inspected the Wa Ale Eco Resort built there. The resort is built to preserve the natural environment, uses systematic waste management, and filters seawater into

freshwater.

On 30 March, the Union Ministers travelled to Aung Bar village-tract in Kawthoung District and inspected the construction process of 26 new hotels by K Future Co. Ltd.

They next arrived in Kyun Phila Hotel in Kawthoung Township and met with General Manager Mr. Steffan. They were explained Yoma Group's hotel and tourism business and questioned him on their preparation to preserve the natural environment, disposing waste properly, sanitizing polluted water, and harnessing solar power for energy and gave suggestions as necessary. They then observed the dry cleaning machine and extraction of freshwater in process.

Later in the evening, the Union Ministers visited Victoria Cliff Resort on Nyaung Oo



Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe and Dr. Than Myint observe the dry cleaning machine at Kyun Phila Hotel in Kawthoung Township yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Phee island near Zadetkyi island, Kawthoung District, and

received a tour of the premises by its owner Daw Khin Thet

Thet Lwin. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Commemorative stamp to be issued for month of Tagu

The Myanmar Posts of the Ministry of Transport and Communications has issued a special commemorative stamp to mark the month of Tagu portraying its symbols of water festival, Padauk flowers and Kantgaw flowers. The sales of the special stamp will be launched at post

offices in states and regions on 5th April, 2019. As a special program, Nay Pyi Taw Central Post Office, Yangon Post Office and Mandalay Post Office will stamp post mark and date on the commemorative stamps and First Day Covers bought on 6 January 2019.— MNA

Union Minister U Min Thu meets GAD staff of Ayeyawady Region

U MIN THU, the Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, met with staff of the Ayeyawady Region General Administration Department at the Regional GAD office in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday.

Firstly, the head of the Ayeyawady Region GAD, U Than Swe Win, introduced the Union Minister to everyone in attendance and explained about the Regional GAD's processes and performances. The Union Minister then delivered a speech.

Nay Pyi Taw workshop sets stage for GAD reforms

In his speech, the Union Minister highlighted that it has been over three months since the GAD was transferred to the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government. He said a workshop was held in Nay Pyi Taw consisting of current and former GAD staff from 26 to 28 February 2019 in order to initiate reforms that are in line with the President's directives, the Union Government's policies, and the political system sought by the people. He said the results from that workshop were combined with recommendations from ministry officials and the advisory team to produce the GAD's vision statement of 'Building good administration and mechanism based on the people.'

The Union Minister said the workshop produced four mission statements, namely – proliferating the rule of law and community peace, implementing State Policy, establishing a good administrative system, and carrying out people-centred regional development. He said it also produced three tasks for reform: (1) reforming policies, (2) reforming regulations and managerial components, and (3) establishing regional development and good practices.



Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government U Min Thu meets GAD staff at the Regional GAD Office in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Public service will be streamlined

The Union Minister said the reforms need to be completed within a designated timeframe to make the motto 'The GAD is a role model for change' become a reality. He said they are collaborating with ministry officials, the advisory team, and experts to accomplish this.

The Union Minister said a manual for all levels of GAD staff and a code of conduct is underway, while a Regulatory Review Unit will be formed. He said they are discussing with the advisory group and experts to lessen restrictions of make amendments to rules, regulations, and standards in order to provide the public with simple and easy administrative services. He said streamlining public services means creating a system that reduces time spent by the people, lessens burdens, and provides all legally available services and opportunities on equitable terms.

For example, The One Stop Shops (OSS) were set up in July 2015 to get rid of the unnecessary

red tape the public has been complaining about, said the Union Minister. He said there are now 316 OSS operating across the nation, which can provide services from up to 15 government departments. He expressed his wish for the OSS not to become an additional unnecessary office but to actually resolve the public's issues. He said the second step is to decide which facts and documents can be removed, which are truly needed, and for departments to decide on a time period for the procedures that can be announced to the public. He said GAD staff will have greater insight into the strengths and weaknesses of the OSS as they are actually working there.

The Union Minister said OSS needs continued support from the Union Government, Chief Ministers and departments, needs to be decentralized, certain regulations need to be cast aside, and standard operating procedures need to be designated.

Honesty and equity

The Union Minister informed GAD staff that they can

submit suggestions through the regional GAD head, the director-general of the GAD, or directly to the ministry. He said they can send suggestions directly to the ministry's Facebook page and the soon-to-be-launched official website will be able to receive suggestions as well. He said they have plans to use IT technology to keep office records for supporting the e-Government system and designing software and applications for smoother services.

The Union Minister said they are working with the utmost transparency with regard to staff changes and the human resource management system to make it fairer and more equitable. He said the Anti-Corruption Commission is also assigning Corruption Prevention Units (CPU) in ministries as a pilot project. He said his ministry will receive a CPU in the near future to combat, prevent, and reduce corruption.

Enhancing GAD staff's skills

The Union Minister said there are plans to upgrade the skills for of GAD staff and a main part of this is reforming the In-

stitute of Development Administration which was opened in 2003. He said this will involve restructuring the institute's organization, consulting with experts and scholars to revise the curriculum and class lessons, and to link with international institutes.

The Union Ministers said he is explaining these processes to the GAD staff as it will implement systematic reform into the department. He urged GAD staff to cultivate a penchant for change, convictions, belief, and endeavours during this period.

GAD staff participation crucial

The Union Minister concluded by saying that the General Administration Department is the administrative backbone of the country and thus, needs to initiate exemplary change to establish itself as a public-centred mechanism for administration. He said we need to firmly build our moral character to be free from self-interest and corruption. He urged GAD staff to meet and discuss with the public, gather their suggestions, and stand together with them.

He expressed his wish for the GAD to follow existing laws, rules, regulations, and procedures without burdening the people. He urged GAD staff to adhere to the policies and procedures of the ministry and the head department while simultaneously striving to improve their daily tasks, become more effective, and reform their tasks and procedures.

Afterwards, GAD staff in attendance submitted requirements to the Union Minister, who gave necessary suggestions and directions and then urged the staff to respect and follow the policies and procedures of the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Secretariat museum to be opened in July

THE museum in the Secretariat building, which is currently undergoing renovation, is scheduled to be opened in July, said officials. The renovation project for the museum cost over K20 million, they said.

The cultural heritage museum will feature two showrooms — one will be dedicated to martyrs and the second will serve as

a parliamentary exhibition hall.

"The museum will open in July. The estimated cost of the project is over K20 million," said Dr. Maung Maung Thein, the chairman of the Secretariat Conservation Trust.

"Nowadays, the majority of youth are not aware of the history of our independence struggle. Therefore, we decided to open

this museum. The museum will have two main showrooms. We will also permit events of different types at the museum. We haven't signed contracts with any organization yet," said Dr. Maung Maung Thein.

The museum will charge an entrance fee from visitors, he added.

"The renovation of the

Secretariat building is almost complete.

In fact, 90 per cent of the work has been finished. But, we still need to renovate some parts of the showrooms. We will try to finish as soon as possible, and expect to complete the project by early July. In spite of charging an entrance fee, it will take us 30 years to recover the

capital investment and interest," he added.

The Secretariat building is a prominent landmark in Myanmar history. The museum which will be housed in the building is expected to turn into a popular site for both tourists and locals.— Maung Myint

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Union Border Affairs Minister observes government technology in Japan trip



Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung meets with Nippon Foundation Chairman Mr. Yohei Sasakawa in Japan. PHOTO: MNA

BY INVITATION of the Nippon Foundation, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung visited Japan with his delegation last week. He met with Nippon Foundation Chairman Mr. Yohei Sasakawa on 29 and 30 March.

During the meetings, they openly discussed the collaborative effort by Nippon Foundation and the Ministry of Border Affairs for developing the border regions and human resources in Kayin and Mon states, which will in turn support the peace process. They discussed the construction of new learning facilities in Rakhine and Shan states under the Education for

Peace and Development project, and renovating existing learning centers. They also discussed setting up a technical institute in Hpa-an with support from Bridge Asia Japan, and future cooperation.

Yesterday, the Union Minister and delegation were accompanied by officials from Nippon Foundation to the National Institute of Technology, Nagaoka College. There, they exchanged views on upgrading the technical institutes for ethnic youths in border areas, procuring learning aides and technical support, and creating employment opportunities for youths graduating from the

institutes.

Afterwards, the Union Minister arrived in International University of Japan (IUJ) and were welcomed by its president and officials. They discussed the collaboration between the Ministry of Border Affairs and IUJ, with support from Nippon Foundation, to provide public administration and leadership skill courses to ministry staff, progress made on that front, and future plans. The Union Minister then met with Myanmar students attending the university with ministry scholarships and gave them words of encouragement. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint visits Qingdao Film Museum in China

A DELEGATION led by Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint arrived to Shangdong Province Qingdao Film Museum via Beijing, People's Republic of China yesterday afternoon.

The museum was the earliest cinema in China built in 1902 and exhibits film documents, film posters and film making equipment that were observed by the Union Minister and party.

Next they met with officials from Qingdao culture travel department and Qingdao film works and discussed and invited for basic infrastructure, technical support and investment in Myanmar motion picture sec-



PHOTO: MNA

tor development. The Qingdao Film Museum was designed by German experts in 1899 and was constructed in 1907 as a three-storey cinema building. The cinema was restored in

2013 and become a film museum and a restaurant. It was the first cinema in China and was showcasing the earliest film history of China. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

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

THE Office of the President issued Press Release No. 13/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 30 March.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 30 March.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 3 April issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar.—GNLM



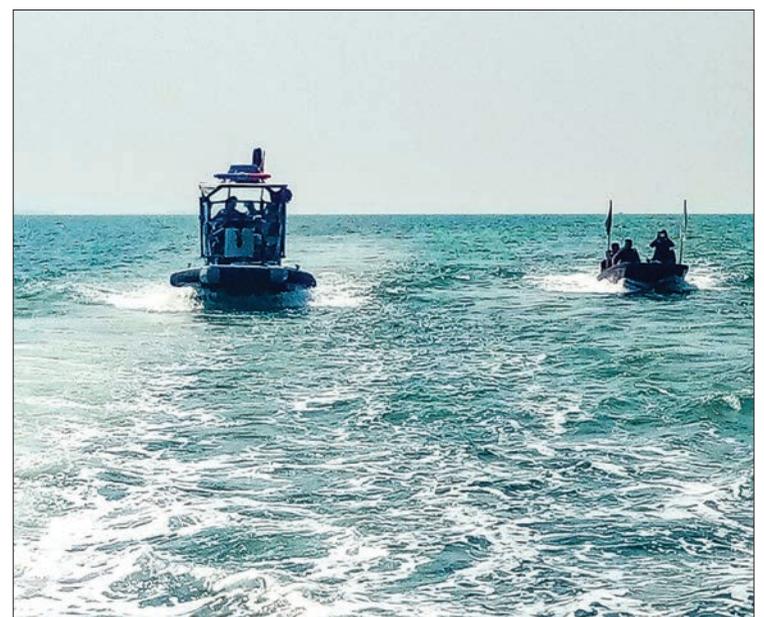
International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action

အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ မိုင်းအန္တရာယ် အသိပညာပေးရေးနှင့် မိုင်းလုပ်ငန်းဆိုင်ရာ အကူအညီပေးရေးနေ့

4th April 2019
Mingalar Thiri Hotel
Nay Pyi Taw

၂၀၁၉ ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလ (၄) ရက်နေ့
မင်္ဂလာသီရိတော်
နေပြည်တော်

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated naval patrols



Myanmar Border Police and Border Guards Bangladesh conducting coordinated naval patrols. PHOTO: MPF

TROOPS led by Police Captain Naing Aung Thu of Ma Gyi Kyaung Wa sentry, area 7, Maungtau Township, on two speed boats including boat No 005, conducted a coordinated patrol along the Naf River with troops led by Subedar Md. Mukter Ali of Shahparirdip sentry, Border Guards Bangladesh No.

2, on two speed boats, on the morning of 30 March, according to Myanmar Police Force. The four boats met up near the mouth of Aungbala creek at the 5 nautical mile and patrolled along Naf River. The troops from the two sides later met on boat No. 005 for discussion. —GNLM

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

A skilled workforce is the backbone of our economy

PROVIDING the jobless or the underemployed with the right training and the right job is an investment which can bring lasting returns.

Skilled workers are a necessary resource for the development of a country. There is a need for skilled employees in Myanmar who understand the production mechanism, and who can work with their hands.

Skills are not inborn. To acquire skills, we need to undergo training, and we have to keep improving on them in the right way.

It has been seen that specialized skills have become more important in our technology-driven economy. Skilled workers are the economic backbone of developed countries.

According to a survey in Thailand, there are three million Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, and thousands of Myanmar migrant workers in Malaysia, Singapore, and other countries. Of the Myanmar workers employed overseas, more than 65 per cent are general workers and about 35 per cent fall in the category of intellectuals and intelligentsia.

Myanmar has abundant human resource in terms of the number of workers. But, it has been found that the number of skilled workers is not as high as we expected. Workers who do not understand the necessary modern skills cannot benefit the country as much as skilled workers, and they also cannot find good

jobs overseas.

To help workers gain skills, the National Skills Standards Authority needs to expand the scope of its work, and this can be achieved only through the cooperation of all stakeholders.

The NSSA has received ISO 9001:2015 certification for its Quality Management System for the sustainable development of work, management of work processes in accordance with international norms, and ensuring quality in the work process.

The NSSA was firmly established as a certifying authority for national skill level 1 to 4, under the vocational training sector's national skills quality framework.

The NSSA required a Quality Management System certification to allow it to connect and work with national skill level certifying groups from other countries in the region.

With the certification, it can conduct part of the ASEAN Economic Community's work processes for certifying skill levels mutually, and Myanmar migrant workers get equal rights and opportunities as skilled workers from countries in the region.

The higher the number of skilled work force we can produce, the better it is, not only for potential employees, but also businesses that continue to be our economic backbone.

More youngsters must consider taking up skilled trades, many of which pay well, and educators and employers need to reach out and train them, as a priority. Once people get the right training, they can land good jobs.



“The Ministry of Construction is organizing an administrative group that will allow us to step back and permit work to progress with the necessary technology and skills, while being free from corruption at the same time.”

Union Construction Minister U Han Zaw

By Hanny Win,
Naing Lin Kyi

THE Ministry of Construction works tirelessly to build roads and bridges and develop the housing sector across the entire country.

We've interviewed the Union Minister for Construction, U Han Zaw, and the Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin on what their ministry has accomplished so far in the third year of their term.

U Han Zaw, Union Minister for Construction

Q: Could you provide a brief explanation of your ministry's policies, objectives, responsibilities, strategies and tactics to us?

A: Our policy is to develop our roads, bridges and residential buildings and implement uniform development on the sub-national level in that regard. We aim to reduce the cost and time for transportation and ensure every citizen has the opportunity to stay in dwellings that meet good living standards. Every road and bridge must be upgraded and made sustainable for a long time, and there must be socioeconomic development for the rural residents as well. To highlight some of the ministry's objectives, we aim to

upgrade over 42,000 km of roads to ASEAN Class III and expand to at least 18 feet tar/concrete roads by 2030. We will ensure all bridges are 24 feet wide, two lane driveways, and are upgraded to either RC steel reinforced concrete bridges, PC concrete bridges, or steel bridges. Furthermore, we will transform all 330 townships in Myanmar into organized settlements with modern urban planning by 2030 as well. Lastly, we aim to install all-weather roads in 80 per cent of rural villages.

Q: Could you go into detail about upgrading the rural roads?

A: There's approximately 55,500 miles of rural roads in Myanmar. By 2030, we're looking to upgrade different sectors of them categorized into classes A, B, and C. There are 25,600 miles of roads grouped in Class A that will be expanded to 12 feet wide and upgraded to tar or concrete roads. Class B roads have 17,300 miles that will also be expanded to 12 feet in width and upgraded to tar, concrete, or gravel roads. Class C has 12,500 miles of roads will likewise be expanded to 12 feet in width and upgraded to gravel or basic solid roads. Our strategies are implemented based on the national budget. We carry out projects with high likelihoods via



U Han Zaw, Union Minister for Construction.



U Kyaw Lin, Deputy Minister.

the public-private partnership program. We also receive grants and loans from international development partners, such as JICA, ADB, WB, KOICA and TICA, and other donors.

The Ministry of Construction, UN-Habitat, and Myanmar Engi-

neering Society are implementing Myanmar National Building Code - 2016, with the ministry in the lead. We've also compiled an English version. The Union Attorney General's office notified us that we need to provide the building code in Myanmar in order to

receive approval from the Union Government for publishing. So, we're currently doing that too.

Q: We'd like to know about the Construction Industry Development Board Bill.

A: We are undergoing dis-

We have four main projects in our portfolio. They are the New Mandalay Resort City in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region, the Eco Green City project and Korea-Myanmar Industrial Complex project in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, and the Smart District project in Dagon Seikkan Township also in Yangon Region.

cussions with the Union Attorney-General's office and the Ministry of Planning and Finance concerning that bill. We managed to pass The Condominium Law on 29 January 2016, its related bylaw on 7 December 2017, and additional amendments were enacted on 4 December 2018.

Q: Are there any other bills being drafted?

A: We are currently drafting the Underground Water Administration Bill, the Urban Planning and Regional Development Project Bill, and the National Housing Development Bill.

We have four main projects in our portfolio. They are the New Mandalay Resort City in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region, the Eco Green City project and Korea-Myanmar Industrial Complex project in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, and the Smart District project in Dagon Seikkan Township also in Yangon Region.

Q: What other tasks do you have planned for the future?

A: The Ministry of Construction is organizing an administrative group that will allow us to step back and permit work to progress with the necessary technology and skills, while being free from corruption at the same time.



Photo shows Kyar Inn Taung affordable apartments. PHOTO: MNA



Photo shows affordable apartments in Pyi Taw Tha. PHOTO: MNA



Photo shows the completion of Bawmin-Hsupaninn-Kanpami-Thayetpu road construction under the rural development programme provided by German Development Bank. PHOTO: MNA



Photo shows the opening ceremony of Pyithayar suspension bridge in Katha Township, Katha District in Sagaing Region. PHOTO: MNA



Photo shows the completion of Kothaung Phayar Road construction in MraukU Township, Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA

U Kyaw Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction

Q: What has the Ministry of Construction accomplished in its third year?

A: The Department of Building assumes the responsibility

of reviewing and negotiating construction projects. The Construction Review Committee has reviewed and approved 2,991 construction projects for Union-level organizations and the 25 Union ministries.

SEE PAGE-13

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

Kyaw Myaing

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

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax - (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gmlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/TheGNLM

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Write for usWe appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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.

Scenic Dee Doke waterfall draws visitors

THE Dee Doke waterfall in Mandalay Region, which is regarded as PyinOoLwin's second Peik Chin Myaung on account of its scenic views, is crowded with visitors.

Visitors find the waterfall, surrounded by beautiful mountains, quite attractive. They prefer to head to Dee Doke to enjoy the unpolluted air and bask in the scenic view of the Dokehtawady river winding its way through the mountains.

The waterfall can be accessed conveniently by bike and car. Tourists can also opt to hike to the waterfall. Walking sticks can be purchased on the mountain road at an affordable price. The waterfall has 10 viewpoints and 10 blue lagoons. The lagoons are deep enough for swimming. Travellers can rent inflatable swimming rings for safety. Tourists often prefer to bathe under the main

Visitors gather Dee Doke waterfall in Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: TAIN TAMAN**

waterfall.

The waterfall also has facilities such as changing rooms and

restaurants for the convenience of travelers. A visit to the waterfall can help 'conquer the anxie-

ty of life' and relieve stress, say travellers.— Tain Taman
(Translated by La Wonn)

Sand sculptures to be exhibited at Chindwin water festival

UNIVERSITY students from Mandalay and Yangon began making sand sculptures on 31 March for the Chindwin water festival, which is scheduled to be held in Monywa Township, Sagaing Region. This will be the second time their sand sculptures will be exhibited at the festival.

"Last year, we learnt how to make sand sculptures from foreign sculptors. This year, we will make the sand sculptures ourselves, using the skills we learnt from local and foreign sculptors. We are planning to make mermaids, children's faces, cartoons, castles, a Myanmar woman's face, and family pictures, which

will be nine feet high. Last year, we created ten sand sculptures. Among them, three sand sculptures were created by local sculptors from Monywa, while one was created by a foreign sculptor," said Ko Phyo Wa, a final year student at the University of Arts and Culture (Mandalay).

The student said the sculptures are made with sand and clay. "We mix sand and clay in a bucket, and then we pour water on it, and leave it overnight. We take out the mixture block the next day, and make the sculpture with it. We spray liquid glue on the completed sculpture to help it withstand wind and rain," he said.

Students making sand sculptures for the Chindwin water festival. **PHOTO: WIN OO (ZAYYARDINE)**

The sand sculptures will be exhibited at the second Chindwin water festival with the aim of promoting tourism in Sagaing Region. This year, the sand sculptures are being created by 20 stu-

dents and eight teachers from the Universities of Art and Culture (Mandalay and Yangon). —Win Oo (Zeyartine)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Track full of corn crashes on Hpa-an-Myawady Road in Hpa-an

A TRACK carrying 697 corn bags tipped over on the Hpa-an-Myawady road, Hpa-an township, Kayin State on 30 March morning, according to the Police.

Acting on a tip, the track driven by Aung Ko Aye, 41 from Thayawady Township and a passenger, 22 from Kyauktaga Township along Hpa-an-Myawady road fell off the right path of road by avoiding other vehicles from opposite side of

road.

Although the accident caused no jury to drivers and passengers confirmed, the losses occurred to front side glass and the right door. The total losses are worth about K100,000.

Action has been initiated against the driver Aung Ko Aye under the section 279 by Township Police. —Min Thu (Hpa-an)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Fire in Myeik Township destroys two houses

A FIRE broke out at U Min Ho's house which rented by Daw Zinmar Naing at the corner of Gangaw and Thitsar streets, Aye Chan Tharyar Ward in Myeik Township, Thaninthayi Region on Sunday around 8:05 pm and it destroyed two houses.

The fire has been started from the scented sticks inside Daw Zinmar Naing's house and engulfed a 20x20 feet house and nearby 15x20 feet house. The total losses are estimated about K 1 million according to the township Fire Services Department.

The fire was brought out under the control at 8:05 pm and it was totally extinguished at 8:20 pm by a team led by U Zaw Win, head of department, fire fighters and local people with 25 fire engines from Myeik Township Fire Services Department.

The fire destroyed two houses and three families became fire victims. The action is being taken against Daw Zinmar Naing by Myeik Police Station. —Khine Htoo (Myeik-IPRD)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Myotha industrial zone attracts over K330 bln in investments

THE Myotha industrial zone, which is being implemented under the supervision of the Mandalay regional government, has attracted local and foreign direct investments worth over K330 billion, said U Tun Tun Aung, Managing Director, Mandalay Myotha Industrial Development (MMID).
“Currently, about K338 billion has flowed into the zone from local and foreign investors. As of now, eight factories are operating in the Mandalay Myotha industrial zone,”

he added.
According to MMID, about K298 billion was invested by local investors, while US\$508 million was parked in the zone by foreign investors.
The foreign direct investments were approved by the Myanmar Investment Commission. Most of the investments were made by investors from China, Thailand, Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Japan, and the US.
Currently, eight plants are operational at the industrial

zone, while six others are under construction.
The Myotha industrial zone project has created over 2,500 jobs for locals, said U Tun Tun Aung.
Currently, Mandalay Myotha Industrial Development has over 1,600 shareholders, with an investment amounting to over K130.6 million. The company has already returned 55 per cent of the invested capital to its shareholders within five years, he added.—GNLM
(Translated by Hay Mar)

Managing Director of No. 2 Mining Enterprise facing corruption charges

THE Anti-Corruption Commission has filed a case of corruption against the Managing Director of the No. 2 Mining Enterprise, U Than Daing, following an investigation into complaints against him.
During the course of the investigation, the commission had found evidence of corruption committed by U Than Daing.
The commission launched an investigation after receiving complaints that U Than Daing

was abusing his position by forcing a company to pay for earthwork on his land and the construction of his home in Nay Pyi Taw. The complaint also stated that U Than Daing returned the money only after there was a dispute between his ministry and the company.
The Commission’s investigation team found that U Than Daing had forced the company to pay over K3 million for the earthwork on his land prior to the construction of his home in

Shwekyarpin Ward in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw in 2014.
The investigation team also confirmed that the official abused his power by making the company pay K4 million for hotel rooms when his family vacationed at the Ngapali Beach during the Thingyan holidays in 2016.
The Commission has filed a case against U Than Daing under Section 56 of the Anti-Corruption Law. — MNA

Trade Mark Ads

Call Thin Thin May, 09 2 5 1 0 2 2 3 5 5 ,
0 9 9 7 4 4 2 4 8 4 8

NOW! Available



THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
သတင်းစာများကို ဤသို့ပို့များတွင် ဝယ်ယူပေးပို့နိုင်ပါပြီ

BUY NOW

- Market Place (6.5 Mile)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- Market Place (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- Market Place (Junction City)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (Junction 8)
- City Mart (FMI)
- City Mart (St. John)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- Ocean Shwegonedine



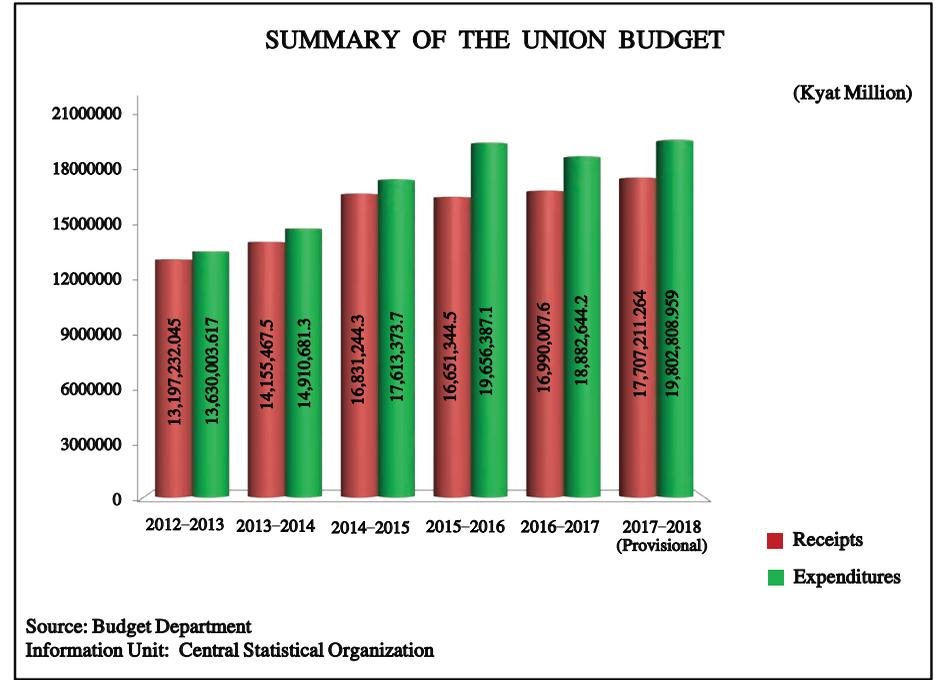
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

circulation@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
သတင်းစာပို့ပေးရန်အတွက် အလွယ်တကူ သွယ်ဝယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။
Circulation order is in easier way. HOTLINE 09-974424114

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
သတင်းစာ၊ ဂျာနယ် စာအုပ်များ အား နိုင်ငံတကာအဆင့်မီ ပုံနှိပ်စက်ဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်ပေးပါသည်။
Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. Contact: 09-254435478

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
ကြော်ငြာရောင်းချမှုနှင့် ကြော်ငြာအရောင်းစီမံကိန်းအဖွဲ့အစည်းဖြင့် ကြော်ငြာ ထည့်သွင်းလိုပါက တိုက်ရိုက်သက်သွယ်သွေးဆွေးနိုင်ပါသည်။
Advertise with us. HOTLINE 09-974424848



YCDC elections: Officials announce results

THE authorities announced the results for the Yangon City Development Committee elections yesterday evening.

Out of 27 candidates who competed for seats of the Yangon City Development Committee, six won in the elections.

Out of 99 candidates who contested for the post of chairman of the township Development Affairs Committees in respective townships, 33 won in the elections.

Seventy-four candidates contested for the post of member of the township Development Affairs Committees in respective townships, 33 won in the elections, according to the Yangon City Development Committee Election Commission.

Those who won for the seats of members of the YCDC are U Win Myint Than from Constituency-1, U Thura Aung from the Constituency-2, U Soe Lwin from the Constitu-



An official from YCDC Election Commission announces results of the YCDC elections.
PHOTO: ZIN MIN

ency-3, U Sein Ohn from the Constituency-4, Daw Nant Su Shwe Sin from the Constituency-5 and U Min Han from the Constituency-6, according to the commission.

A secret ballot will be held to choose a deputy mayor from among the newly elected six members.

“I will give the health care service as the first priority and I will raise awareness about unsafety food for the people. Second priority is traffic rules enforcement,” said U Min Han, who won in the elections from the constituency-6.

U Sein Ohn from the Constituency-4 said he

would focus on cleanliness in backyard lanes in his constituency.

A total of 271 candidates took part in the elections held at 33 townships in the municipal area of Yangon.

There are over 3.4 million eligible voters in the 33 townships. —Min Thit

Scientists find likely source of methane on Mars

PARIS — The mystery of methane on Mars may finally be solved as scientists Monday confirmed the presence of the life-indicating gas on the Red Planet as well as where it might have come from.

In the 15 years since a European probe reported traces of the gas in the Martian atmosphere, debate has raged over the accuracy of the readings showing methane, which on Earth is produced by simple life-forms. Because methane gas dissipates relatively quickly — within around 12 years on Earth — and due to the difficulty of observing Mars’ atmosphere, many scientists questioned previous studies that relied on a single data set.

Now an international team of experts have compared observations from two separate spacecraft, taken just one day apart in 2013, to find independent proof of methane on our neighbouring planet.

Furthermore, they conducted two parallel experiments to determine the most likely source of methane on Mars to be an ice sheet east of Gale Crater — itself long assumed to be a dried up lake.

“This is very exciting and largely unexpected,” Marco Giuranna, from Rome’s National Astrophysics Institute, told AFP.

“Two completely independent lines of investigation pointed to the same general area of the most likely source for the methane.” Europe’s Mars Express probe measured 15.5 parts per billion in the atmosphere above the Gale Crater on June 16, 2013. The presence of methane in the vicinity was confirmed by readings taken 24 hours earlier by NASA’s Curiosity rover.

Using the data, Giuranna and the team divided the region around the crater into grids of 250 by 250 square kilometres. —AFP

The Embassy of Switzerland in Yangon is moving.

Starting from 8 April 2019, the new contact address of the Embassy of Switzerland in Myanmar will be as follow:

Embassy of Switzerland
Vantage Tower
623 Pyay Road
Kamayut Township, Yangon
Myanmar
Tel. + 95 1 230 7465 – 7
Fax. + 95 1 230 7469
Email. yangon@eda.admin.ch
Website. www.eda.admin.ch/yangon

Due to the move into its new premises, the Embassy of Switzerland in Myanmar will remain closed to the public from **4 – 17 April, 2019**.

The Embassy will resume its normal operation on **18th April, 2019**.

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (909S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (909S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-04-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE)
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

Corrigendum

Please read the caption of the photo of the news on “Union Minister U Thaung Tun attends Nepal Investment Summit 2019” on page 2 of the Global New Light of Myanmar dated 1 April 2019 as follows:

“Union Minister U Thaung Tun meeting with Finance Minister of Nepal Dr. Yuba Raj Khatriwada”.

Photo: MIFER

MNA

Invitation for Bids

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

**NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT
SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

IDA Credit No.5727-MM

Contract Title: Concrete Poles for National Electrification Project

Reference No. : C1-G11A/19

1. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the National Electrification Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contract for Concrete Poles for National Electrification Project.

2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of concrete pole 10 meter and 12 meter, for the total quantities of 24,737 Poles to be delivered in 2019 to multiple destinations in Bago(E) and Yangon Region of Myanmar. The goods will be grouped into 2 lots and bidders may submit bid for any one or more lots. Evaluation and award of contract will be on a lot-wise basis.

3. For quick reference, some of the key qualification requirements include:

- Minimum average annual turnover (or annual sales volume) shall be 75% of the bid price in over the last two years per each lot. In case of a bidder bidding for multiple lots, the minimum average annual turnover requirement of those multiple lots will be cumulatively applicable.
- The bidder should have past experience of having satisfactorily completed during the last 5 years, at least one contract for supply of similar goods; with the value of such contract not less than 50% of the bid price for the offered goods.
- More information is included in the bidding documents.

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank’s [Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers](#) [edition of January 2011 revised in July 2014] (“Procurement Guidelines”), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to the paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting for the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Office No. (27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, email: nep.pmomoep@gmail.com, telephone: +95 67 3431175, Facsimile number: +95 67 3431176 and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 10:00 to 16:00 hours at the address given below .

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **2nd May, 2019**, 10:00 hrs (10:00 am) Myanmar Time. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders’ designated representatives at the address below at **2nd May, 2019**, 10:00 hrs (10:00 am) Myanmar Time.

Yadanar Hall, Ground Floor of Office Building No.27,
Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

7. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration as described in the bidding document.

8. The address referred to above is:

Attention: Project Manager
Project Management Office (National Electrification Project)
Office Building No.27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy
City: Nay Pyi Taw
ZIP Code: 15011
Country: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Telephone: +95 67 3431175
Facsimile number: +95 673431176
Electronic mail address: nep.pmomoep@gmail.com

“The Ministry of Construction is organizing an administrative group that will allow us to step back and permit work to progress with the necessary technology and skills, while being free from corruption at the same time.”

Union Construction Minister U Han Zaw



FROM PAGE-9

The Construction Industry Development Board Law is still in the bill stage but we are pushing to have it enacted. The Department of Building has constructed 90 assemble board houses for returnees in Rakhine State and construction is ongoing for 43 board houses in four other villages.

Q: Please elaborate further.

A: We've built 384 high court buildings, hospitals, college and university buildings submitted by Union-level organizations and Union Ministries with 319 projects ongoing. We are trying to get ISO/IEC 17025 certificate for Myanmar Inspection

& Testing Services Ltd (Lower Myanmar). The Department of Building has published a Field Engineer's Manual and Third Party Inspector's Manual. They are currently collaborating with South Korea to publish the Myanmar Standards For Materials.

Q: What have the departments for roads and bridges accomplished?

A: They have worked along the Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao road in Kachin State, paving concrete or tar roads, digging canals, and building embankments where necessary. We have opened the Tiyanzup Bridge and Drukha Bridge along that road as well.

Q: Can you tell us their completed tasks on the sub-national level?

A: We upgraded roads in Kayah State with some of the loans from JICA and constructed the 200 feet-long Dawnoku Bridge in Loikaw. We are working with BOT company for upgrading roads in Kayin State and the rest of the loans will be supplemented from Asian Development Bank. In Chin State we started construction of the Kaladan Bridge (Paletwa) in the 2017-2018 FY and aim to complete construction this 2019-2020 FY. Similarly, we've upgraded roads in Mon State with the allotted Union budget and JICA loans and have started

construction on the At-tayan (Sabel Gu) Bridge on the Kyaikmaraw-Sabel Gu-Kawtpanaw road. In Rakhine State, we are also upgrading the roads including paving 8 miles of concrete roads along the Ponnagyun-Yathedaung-Buthidaung road.

We will also upgrade the Ngataingchaung-Gwa-Thandwe road with loans from the World Bank. We have completed two bridges on Yangon-Sittway road, one on Myebon-Minpya road and one in Sittway while two bridges are still in process. JICA loans are also used to upgrade roads in Shan State and we have started construction of the Takaw Bridge and Thanlyin Bridge (Tarsan) over

the Thanlyin River.

Q: How has the ministry addressed the housing requirements?

A: The Department of Urban and Housing Development has completed 6 townships in the annual shortlist from April 2018 to February 2019.

The Korea-Myanmar Industrial Complex (KMIC) is in the construction phase on 558 acres of Nyaung Napin training school in Hlegu Township. The 'Housing Finance Development Project, MY24' from JICA's ODA Two-Step Loan aims to provide people with low income a chance to own low-cost housings at low interest rates.

Q: Could you speak a little bit more about

low-cost housing?

A: Our Ministry is looking to put up for sale the 4,452 rooms from low-cost buildings completed in Yangon Region during the 2018-2019 FY. We also started the housing saving system on 1 August 2016. We managed to provide Housing Mortgage Loans for people to own houses.

As of 31 January 2019, there are 25,000 people using the housing saving system with a collective K23 billion in savings. K35.17 billion have been provided to 2,720 people for purchasing homes. Lastly, the CHID Bank is increasing its objectives and aspirations to develop basic infrastructure.

Translated by Pen Dali

Notice Inviting Objection To Change of Manufacturer (Registration Holder)

Du Pont Company Singapore Pte. Ltd., a company incorporated under the laws of Singapore, which is located at 21 Biopolis Road #06-21 Nucleos, South tower, Singapore 138567, holds the provisional registration of the following pesticide granted by the Pesticide Registration board of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 19 October 2018:

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Type of Registration	Registration No.
1	Coragen™ Insect Control	Chlorantraniliprole 18.4% w/w SC	Provisional	P2018-4114

Notice is hereby given that the official registration transfer above pesticide to FMC Corporation for all rights from Du Pont Company Singapore Pte., Ltd. Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co., Ltd. remains as official distributor of FMC Corporation (USA) for this pesticide. Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co., Ltd invites objections to Joint-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice, with copies of such documents and other proofs in support of their objections. If no objections are received within the period prescribed above, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co; Ltd.

No 95, Padonmar Street, Dagon Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar.

Tel: +951256193

IN-MARKET CONSULTANT FOR THE SINGAPORE TOURISM BOARD (STB)

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) would like to invite qualified Myanmar-based individuals (and companies) to pitch for the services of an in-market consultant for STB.

The consultant will be required to represent some of STB's key efforts in the Myanmar market, and deliver Services including:

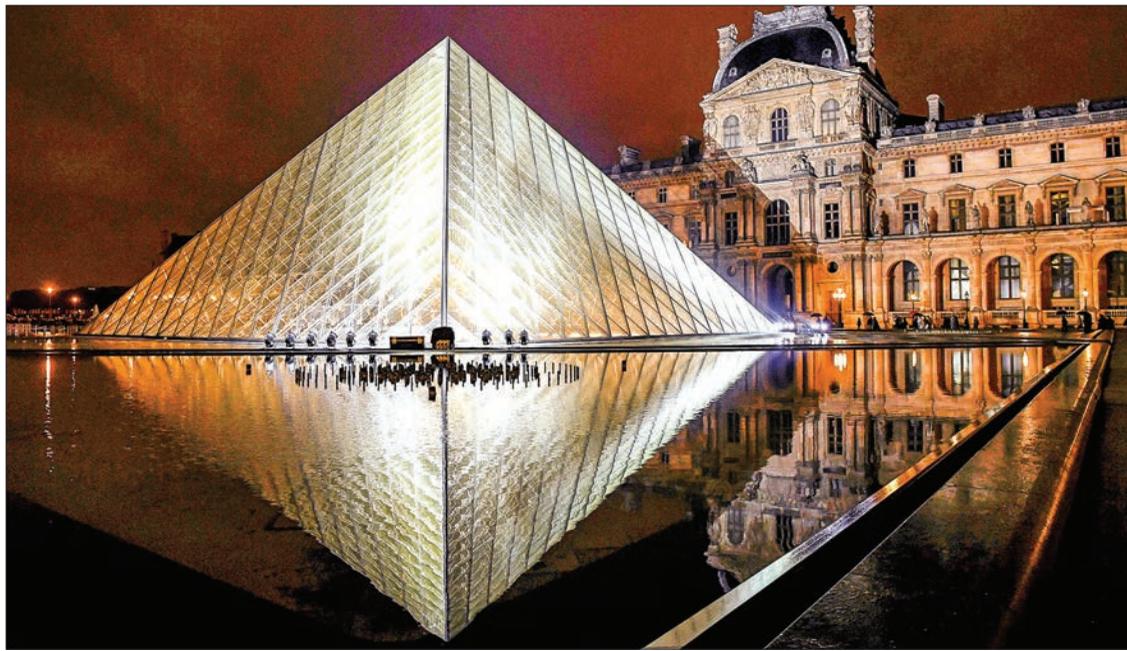
- > **Travel trade and Corporate Engagement:** Execute the annual Singapore Myanmar Incentive Travel Forum, a B2B platform, and conduct sales calls to corporates to encourage large group visits to Singapore for Meetings & Incentive Travel.
- > **Consumer Activations:** Support STB in executing in-market consumer activations.
- > **B2B Destination Product Update:** Plan the Destination Product

The period of appointment is up to 24 months (one year with an option to renew for another one year) from 15 May 2019 to 14 May 2021 (both dates inclusive).

For more details on STB's submission requirements and to receive a copy of the full scope of work, please contact the following before 5 April 2019:

Mr. Nicholas Lim
Singapore Tourism Board
Email: nicholas_lim@stb.gov.sg
Tel: +65 6831 3893





The Louvre Pyramid is illuminated in the night, prior to the Louis Vuitton Spring-Summer 2019 Ready-to-Wear collection fashion show in Paris, on 2 October, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Success shreds JR's Louvre illusion

PARIS — A whimsical collage in the courtyard of France's Louvre art museum had a short shelf life after a swarm of tourists and art lovers left it in shreds.

French artist JR and 400 volunteers put the final touches to the huge collage on Friday to mark the 30th anniversary of the Louvre's glass pyramid.

On Saturday he tweeted a photo of the 17,000 square metre (183,000 square foot) work which, from a certain angle, made the pyramid appear to extend deep into a quarry of white rock, and invited the public to come take a look.

Come they did, and within a few hours the fragile 2,000-odd sheets of paper were torn to pieces, returning the site to its natural state in what could almost be called a work of public performance art.

Art lovers were not amused however, and some expressed themselves on Twitter with comments such as "really disappointing bad experience today for the Louvre pyramid's 30th anniversary". Another noted that "JR's art piece was more fleeting than foreseen." The artist was more philosophical Sunday. "The images, like life, are ephemeral,"

he tweeted. "Once pasted, the art piece lives on its own. The sun dries the light glue and with every step, people tear pieces of the fragile paper. The process is all about participation of volunteers, visitors, and souvenir hunters."

"This project is also about presence and absence, about reality and memories, about impermanence," he added.

Three years ago JR, whose real name is Jean Rene, gave the pyramid a very different treatment, covering it in a giant trompe-l'oeil that made it seem like it had disappeared. —AFP ■

Tokyo Disneyland, DisneySea visitors hit record high in fiscal 2018

TOKYO — The number of visitors to Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea amusement parks reached a record 32.56 million in fiscal 2018 ended March 31, operator Oriental Land Co. said Monday.

The number of visitors in-

creased 8.2 per cent from a year before and broke the previous record of 31.38 million in fiscal 2014 when events featuring the hit film "Frozen" drew visitors to the parks.

During the just-ended fiscal year, Tokyo Disneyland's 35th

anniversary, special celebration events helped attract more visitors than initially predicted, Oriental Land said.

The neighboring theme park DisneySea opened in 2001 is set to introduce a new attraction in 2019.—Kyodo News ■

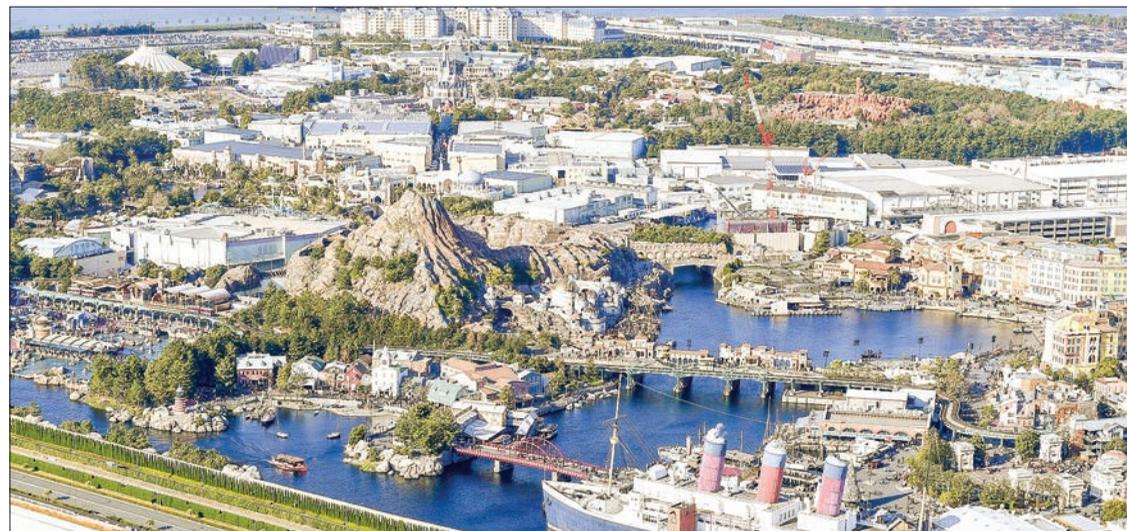


Photo taken on 11 December 2017, from a Kyodo News helicopter shows Tokyo DisneySea (front) and Tokyo Disneyland. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Grammy-nominated US rapper Nipsey Hussle shot dead

LOS ANGELES — Grammy-nominated rapper Nipsey Hussle was shot dead in the US city of Los Angeles Sunday, sparking an outpouring of grief from fellow celebrities as the city's mayor blamed "senseless gun violence."

Local media reported Hussle, 33, was shot in front of his own clothing store Sunday afternoon at close range, by a man who fled in a getaway car.

"Our hearts are with the loved ones of Nipsey Hussle and everyone touched by this awful tragedy," LA Mayor Eric Garcetti tweeted. A police spokesman told AFP the suspected shooter remained at large. Two other people were wounded. "L.A. is hurt deeply each time a young life is lost to senseless gun violence," Garcetti said. The Los Angeles Times reported the shooting was "likely planned and gang-related."

'Gone 2 soon'

The Grammy-nominated rapper found minor commercial success but was highly revered among his peers, and his shock death triggered an outpouring of tributes from hip hop royalty.

"Gone 2 soon," rapper Snoop Dogg posted on Instagram. "I'm so sad right now I'll just reflect on the good times we had."

Superstar Rihanna posted that "this doesn't make any sense! My spirit is shaken by this! Dear God may His spirit Rest In Peace and May You grant divine com-



In this file photo taken on 7 February, 2019 Nipsey Hussle performs onstage at the Warner Music Pre-Grammy Party at the NoMad Hotel in Los Angeles. Grammy-nominated rapper Nipsey Hussle was fatally shot in the US city of Los Angeles on Sunday 31 March, 2019, NBC News reported, citing law enforcement sources. Photo: AFP

fort to all his loved ones! I'm so sorry this happened to you @nipseyhussle."

Outside his clothing store, a crowd gathered behind yellow police tape, and a grief-stricken woman clasped her hand over her mouth. At least one cartridge case lay on the ground, near a black ball cap.

Long part of the underground rap circuit, Hussle struggled to find fame but began selling his own mixtapes, which rap king Jay-Z once bought 100 of for \$100 each. Hours before his death Hussle — whose youth was intertwined with Los Angeles gang culture — tweeted: "Having strong enemies is a blessing." —AFP ■

Difficult to do sequels: Jacqueline Fernandez

MUMBAI, (PTI) — Jacqueline Fernandez, who will soon start working on Salman Khan-starrer "Kick 2", says doing sequels is not easy as they come with huge responsibilities and expectations to live up to.

Jacqueline, who made her debut back in 2009 with "Aladin", rose to fame with 2014 film "Kick" in which she played Salman's love interest.

"Kick 2' is being scripted. Moving into any sequel is not easy. I have done 'Race', 'Housefull' and have been part of 'Judwaa 2'. It is difficult to do and there is pressure.

"Sajid Nadiadwala wants to make 'Kick 2' more bigger and better. He is working hard on the writing," Jacqueline told PTI.

The actor's next release is "Drive" with Sushant Singh Rajput. The film produced by Karan Johar will arrive in theatres in June this year.

There are rumours that Jacqueline will be seen in the sequel of "Chashme Baddoor" and is also likely to star alongside Akshay Kumar in Rohit Shetty's next, "Sooryavanshi".

The 33-year-old actor, however, refrain from commenting about the two project.—PTI

Japanese excited as new era name “Reiwa” revealed

TOKYO — Japan was abuzz Monday with news that the new era beginning 1 May will be called “Reiwa,” with many voicing approval of the choice representing hope for harmony among the country’s people.

The announcement of the era name dominated the airwaves, with major TV networks canceling their regular programming to give live updates and commentary.

In Tokyo’s busy Shinjuku district, a large crowd gathered to watch the announcement on a giant screen, many holding up phones to capture the historic moment as the government unveiled the era name that will mark Crown Prince Naruhito’s reign after the abdication of his father, Emperor Akihito, brings an end to the three-decade “Heisei” period.

Osaka’s central train station was swamped with hundreds of passersby hoping to get a copy of a newspaper extra with the headline “New era name is Reiwa” for posterity. An ambulance



People grab extra editions of newspapers reporting Japan’s new era name “Reiwa” in front of Tokyo’s Shimbashi Station on 1 April 2019. The new era will begin 1 May when Crown Prince Naruhito ascends the throne, succeeding his father Emperor Akihito. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

arrived after several people including children and elderly were knocked down in the scramble.

Reiwa, consisting of Chinese characters for “good” and “harmony,” was taken from “Manyoshu,” an eighth-century anthology of poems.

“It’s a perfect fit for Japan as we venture into new territory while respecting tradition,” said Shinya Yamanaka, a Nobel Prize-winning scientist who sat on the panel that helped choose the name.

The name signifies people

joining their hearts to develop Japan’s culture, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said at a press briefing.

Many prominent figures voiced approval of the choice, with Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike saying the name coming from

“Manyoshu,” which Japanese children study in school, gave it a “sense of familiarity.”

Hiroaki Nakanishi, chairman of the Japan Business Federation, or Keidanren, said, “I hope we can make it an era where the Japanese people can turn their hopes and dreams into reality.”

“Congratulations on the start of a new era. We look forward to strengthening our partnership in the era of #Reiwa!” US Ambassador to Japan Bill Hagerty wrote on Twitter.

The announcement gave some unexpected publicity to Sakamoto Hachimangu, a Shinto shrine in Fukuoka Prefecture where the line about a pleasant spring breeze and plum blossoms that the name Reiwa comes from is said to have been written by an unnamed individual.

“We’ve had a ton of inquiries by phone. It’s been hard to keep up,” said an official at the shrine.

Reiwa is noteworthy for being the first era name, or “gengo,” that was taken from a Japanese text, said Abe.—Kyodo News ■

27 killed, hundreds injured, in Nepal storm

KATHMANDU — A freak storm tore down houses and overturned cars and trucks as it swept across southern Nepal killing at least 27 people and leaving more than 600 injured, officials said Monday as a major rescue operation gathered pace.

The rare spring storm battered the rural district of Bara and adjoining areas late Sunday with high winds. Five children were among the dead, the home ministry said, as rescuers battled to get relief supplies to the region and evacuate injured.

The winds were so fierce that they overturned a bus carrying passengers, witnesses said. Houses, trees and electricity pylons were all toppled in the storm.

Injured victims flocked to local hospitals who were unable to cope and at least seven people were airlifted to Kathmandu for treatment.

“We were in a shop when the wind started to pick up,” Jay Prakash Das, a Bara resident, told AFP.

“It suddenly became stronger and we saw people running to shelter. We closed our shutter and stayed in. When it died down after a minute or two we opened

the shutter to see everything flattened ... trees, houses everything.

Killer trees

He added: “We rushed out to help. A man had died right next to our building under a tree. People had fractured bones and many had head injuries.”

“I’ve never seen anything like this. The winds took away everything, my home and my family,” Ram Babu Patel, 45, whose wife was killed in the storm, told AFP by telephone. “I was at home getting ready for dinner when the storm hit — it was unbelievable. We have nothing left.” Many of the victims were crushed to death under the debris of their houses or by fallen trees and poles. The strong winds overturned parked cars. Prakash Tharu, a volunteer in Bara district hit hard by the storm, described the scene of devastation in the villages.

“The storm destroyed everything in its path. Houses have no roofs and trees are all down,” Tharu said. “There is a desperate need for food and relief.” Rescuers struggled to reach many settlements blocked by fallen trees and electricity poles.—AFP ■

S Korea launches independent excavation of Korean War remains in border area with DPRK

SEOUL — South Korea’s defense ministry said Monday that the military independently launched the excavation works for the remains of soldiers killed during the 1950-53 Korean War in areas bordering the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK).

The militaries of South Korea and the DPRK originally planned to jointly start the excavation of the war remains in the Arrowhead Ridge inside the eastern part of the demilitarized zone (DMZ) from 1 April on a trial basis.

However, the DPRK had yet to respond to the agreed-upon excavation works, according to the Seoul ministry.

The joint excavation was agreed upon through the September 19 military agreement, which was signed by defense chiefs of the two Koreas during the third summit between South Korean President Moon Jae-in and top DPRK leader Kim Jong Un in Pyongyang last September.

It was part of the inter-Korean peace-building efforts inside the DMZ, which has divided the

Korean Peninsula since the Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

The South Korean side independently sent about 100 personnel for the excavation works, which would initially focus on spadework and the additional

demining in the heavily armed border area.

South Korea offered in mid-March to the DPRK holding a general-grade dialogue to discuss the implementation of the military agreement, but Pyongyang has yet to reply.—Xinhua ■



Photo taken on 1 April, 2019 shows the belongings of Chinese soldiers killed in the 1950-53 Korean War, in Incheon, the Republic of Korea. The remains of more Chinese soldiers killed in the 1950-53 Korean War will be returned to China from the Republic of Korea (ROK) on 3 April, 2019, according to China’s Ministry of Veterans Affairs (MVA). It will be the sixth batch of remains of Chinese soldiers returned following a handover agreement signed by the two countries. From 2014 to 2018, the remains of 589 soldiers were returned to China from the ROK, official figures show. PHOTO: XINHUA

Pogba has 'big part' to play at Man Utd — Solskjaer

LONDON — Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer says Paul Pogba has a “big, big part” to play at Old Trafford despite speculation linking the French World Cup winner with a move to Real Madrid.

Real boss Zinedine Zidane is expected to be busy in the summer transfer market as he tries to reinvigorate a side that crashed out of the Champions League in the last 16 and are lagging 12 points behind leaders Barcelona in La Liga.

United midfielder Pogba last week described Madrid as a “dream club for every player” while on international duty with France and Zidane on Saturday hailed him as “a player who knows how to do everything”.

But Solskjaer is determined that Pogba, one of the world’s most marketable players, will not be a part of Zidane’s rebuilding plans and believes the midfielder simply gave a straight answer to a question. “I don’t like to talk about other teams’ players,” the Norwegian said ahead of his

side’s Premier League match against Wolves on Tuesday. “That is one of the challenges of the international break.

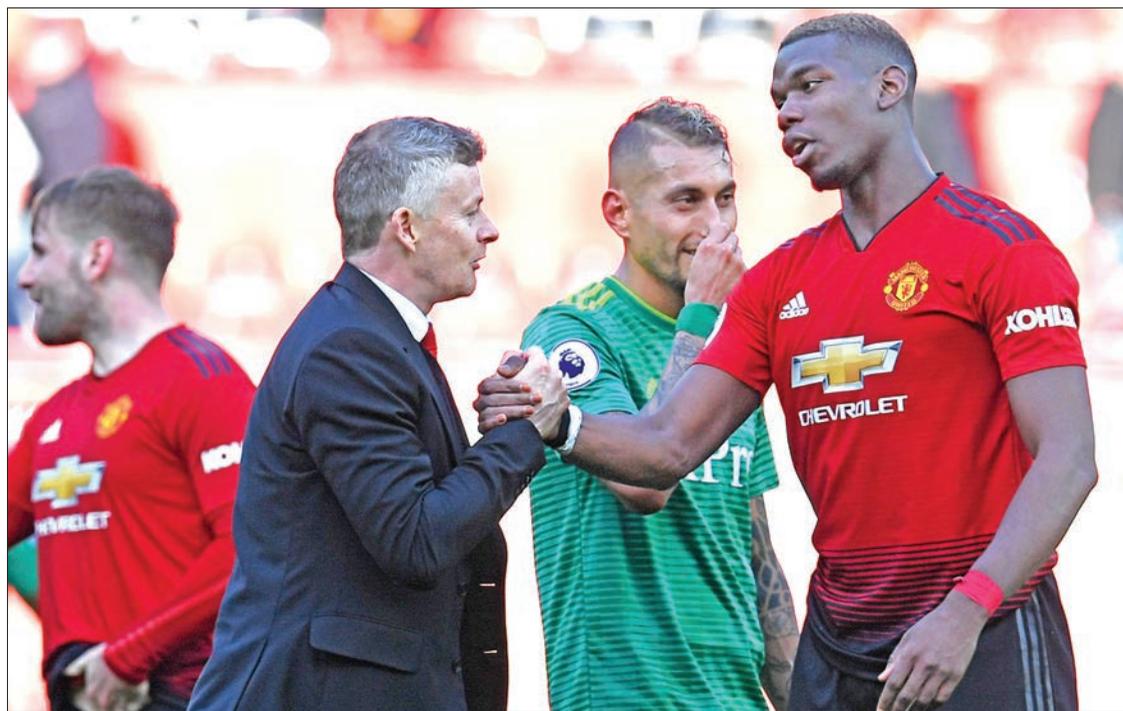
“Players are available all the time and it’s a different environment and it’s more of a general talk. “Paul is a very nice and polite man and he answered a general question. Of course, Zidane is an icon in France. Zidane is a fantastic manager and he used to be a fantastic player and I played against him.

“So Paul has politely answered that question. But he is happy here. He is going to be a big, big part of things here.

“I have always said that you would like to build your team around him and that has not changed at all.”

Director of football?

Solskjaer, appointed as permanent manager last week after an impressive spell as interim boss, said he would be comfortable with the appointment of a director of football to sit between himself and executive vice-chair-



Manchester United’s Norwegian manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer (L) shakes hands with Manchester United’s French midfielder Paul Pogba (R) after the final whistle of the English Premier League football match between Manchester United and Watford at Old Trafford in Manchester, north west England, on 30 March 2019. PHOTO: AFP

man Ed Woodward. “Football has changed and the structure at clubs has changed,” he said. “Ed and (co-chairman) Joel (Glazer) and me are looking at how

this club can be run as smoothly as possible. “We will see what we end up with but I am happy talking football with knowledgeable people in the right positions

anyway. “A manager can’t do as much as he used to do anyway. The demands of modern football mean that you have to split responsibilities.” —AFP ■

Federer goes fourth in rankings after Miami triumph

PARIS — Roger Federer jumped up one spot to fourth in the ATP rankings released on Monday after capturing his 101st career title with his victory over John Isner in Miami.

The Swiss great switched places with Austria’s Dominic Thiem, who had briefly climbed to fourth after defeating Federer in the final at Indian Wells two weeks ago.

Rising Greek star Stefanos Tsitsipas moved up to a career best of eighth, while Canadian teenager Denis Shapovalov cracked the top 20 for the first time following his run to the Miami semi-finals. Felix Auger-Aliassime, 18, soared 24 places to 33rd after matching compatriot Shapovalov’s run to the last four in Florida before losing to defending champion Isner. Novak Djokovic remains comfortably clear at the top despite crashing out in the last 16 in Miami, with Rafael Nadal still well ahead of third-ranked Alexander Zverev as the Spaniard targets a return from injury for the clay-court season. —AFP ■



Switzerland’s Roger Federer celebrates after winning the final match at the ATP Dubai Tennis Championship in the Gulf emirate of Dubai on 2 March 2019. Roger Federer won his 100th career title when he defeated Greece’s Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-4 in the final of the Dubai Championships. PHOTO: AFP

Pochettino admits ‘reality’ check for struggling Spurs

LONDON — Tottenham’s alarming loss of form threatens to take the gloss off the long-anticipated opening of their flashy new stadium as they contemplate a season without Champions League football.

Mauricio Pochettino’s side stayed in touch with Liverpool and Manchester City for two-thirds of the season — as recently as February 2, Spurs were in second place in the Premier League.

But they are now 16 points adrift of City and 18 behind Liverpool and a single point separates them from Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea in the race for the final two Champions League qualification spots.

“It’s a little bit of a shame that we’re not there fighting as well,” admitted Pochettino after Tottenham’s defeat at Liverpool on Sunday, courtesy of an own goal from Toby Alderweireld.

“We were but in the last few weeks we have started to find our reality, our place.”

Despite their recent run of bad results, Spurs under Pochet-

tino have punched above their weight, without a single signing in the past 15 months and a wage bill that amounts to a fraction of their top-six rivals.

Pochettino was keen to stress that point, calling his players “heroes” for coping with the demands of a stretched squad, which has had to cope with the impact of fatigue on eight World Cup semi-finalists, and the disruption of playing at Wembley while waiting for their new stadium to be ready.

“When someone wants to give an opinion about the team or the club, always you need to put in the circumstances. Not only to judge Tottenham because you see them play or their position in the table,” added Pochettino.

“After nearly two years of playing at Wembley. Moving from one stadium to another, now moving again. I think my players are heroes and deserve a lot of credit.”

Spurs will finally play their first match at their new 62,000-capacity ground against Crystal Palace on Wednesday. —AFP ■