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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Press Release

6<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Kason 1381 ME  
(9 May, 2019)

1. The Presidential Pardon was given after systematic scrutiny. It is given to prisoners under the policy to provide clemency to prisoners who are aged, in poor health, women, youth and disabled.
2. However, citing dissatisfaction with the Presidential Pardon as an excuse, there were riots on 8<sup>th</sup> May in the prisons at the Kalay and Hpa-an townships. These were followed by riots in the prisons of Shwebo, Myitkyina, Dawei, Tharyarwaddy and Patheingyi townships on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019.
3. During these riots, the prisoners made demands that are of the same vein and in some cases identical. In some prisons, the prisoners used mobile phones to stream live on social media. It is evident that there are linkages and incitement behind these prison riots.
4. Therefore, effective investigations will be made to bring out the truth behind these riots.

# State Counsellor visits Mann Shwe Settaw Pagoda, elephant camp, wildlife sanctuary

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races, visited the Mann Shwe Settaw Pagoda, and the nearby elephant camp and wildlife sanctuary in Minbu Township yesterday.

Accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, Dr. Aung Thu, U Ohn Win and Dr. Myint Htwe and officials, the State Counsellor left Nay Pyi Taw by a special flight and arrived to Magway Region, Magway Town yesterday morning.

From there the State Counsellor and party left by helicopters and arrived to Minbu Township Mann Shwe Settaw Pagoda where she paid homage to the pagoda with flower, water, oil lamp and scented water and donated K 500,000 for the pagoda to the pagoda trustee.



**SEE PAGE-3** State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi feeds the elephant at Shwe Settaw Mann Chaung elephant camp in Minbu yesterday. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

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## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 12<sup>th</sup> regular session holds fifth-day meeting

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

THE fifth-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 12<sup>th</sup> regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning.

Appointment of Mon State minister put on record

The first agenda of the meeting was informing the Hluttaw about the appointment of U Hla

Tun as Mon State Minister for Electricity, Energy and Industry sent by the President and the Hluttaw announced the matter being put on record.

Hluttaw decide duty and tax exemption of Red Cross vehicles

In the next agenda of the meeting Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Re-

settlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win explained on the reasoning behind granting Custom duty and commercial tax exemption for import of five Red Cross office vehicles.

When the matter was put to the vote there were 364 for, 169 against and 2 abstentions and an announcement was made of the Hluttaw approving the Custom duty and commercial tax exemption on the import of five Red Cross office vehicles.

Hluttaw decide on Yen 38.642 billion loan from JICA

Next, Union level officials consisting of Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing explained to the Hluttaw

about Yen 38.642 billion loan from JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).

When the Hluttaw voted on the matter there were 451 for, 13 against and 5 abstentions and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's agreement to the loan.

Hluttaw agree on acceding to Protocol of 1988

This was followed by U Mya Sein of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) constituency, U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5, U Tin Maung Win of Seikkan constituency and Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Maj. Chit Nyi Nyi discusses Myanmar acceding to Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of the Life at Sea 1974.

In response to the discussions Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications thanked the four Hluttaw representatives on their thorough discussion, pledges the ministry

placing emphasis on the discussions and suggestions made and requested the Hluttaw to agree on the matter.

After obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw on the matter, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's agreement to Myanmar acceding to Protocol of 1988 relating to the International Convention for the Safety of the Life at Sea 1974.

Hluttaw representatives discuss Thai Baht 1,458.248 million loan from NEDA

Following this Dr. Khun Win Thaug of Kachin State constituency 11, U Maung Maung Ohn of Ayeyawady Region constituency 5, U Khin Myo Win of Taninthay Region constituency 12 and U Aye Naing of Dagon Myothit (South) constituency discusses the matter of Thai Baht 1,458.248 million loan from Neighbouring Countries Development Cooperation Agency (NEDA) of Thailand.

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Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than meets with former Secretary-General of Hong Kong's Legislative Council Secretariat Ms. Pauline Ng in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

## Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives former Secretary General of Hong Kong Parliament

SPEAKER of the Amyotha Hluttaw, Mahn Win Khaing Than, received a delegation led by Ms. Pauline Ng, the former Secretary General of Hong Kong's Legislative Council Secretariat, at the Amyotha Hluttaw's guest hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The delegation came to report on the results of the workshops on Hluttaw task management programmes by

UNDP/IPU.

During their meeting, they openly discussed the emergence of a modern and developed Myanmar Hluttaw, the management processes of the Hluttaw, upgrading the skills of Hluttaw representatives and Hluttaw office staff, and continued support. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Joint Committee to amend 2008 Constitution holds meeting 13/2019

MEETING 13/2019 of the Joint Committee to amend 2008 Constitution was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Joint Committee and Deputy Speaker of both the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw, U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Joint

Committee Secretary Dr. Myat Nyana Soe, Joint Secretary U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho, and committee members consisting of Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representatives and officials from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein delivers the speech at the Joint Committee to amend the 2008 Constitution meeting at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

I will carry out the implementation of the priority goals of the Union Government which are as follows:

1. Rule of law and improvement of the socio-economic life of the people,
2. National Reconciliation and internal peace,
3. Amending the Constitution which is the foundation for building a Democratic Federal Republic.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2018)

We face various kinds of internal and external challenges while we endeavor for political, economic and social development of our country. As we are aware of the importance of our international responsibility, we have adopted a path consistent with the needs and situation of our country respecting at the same time the views and opinions of the international community.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of NLD Government on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018)

## State Counsellor visits Mann Shwe Settaw Pagoda, elephant camp...

### FROM PAGE-1

After touring the pagoda and vicinity, the State Counsellor signed the visitors' book and paid homage to Mann Shwe Settaw Ko Khan Gyi Buddha image with flower, water, oil lamp and scented water and cordially met with pilgrims and devotees.

Next the State Counsellor went to Shwe Settaw Mann Chaung elephant camp where Myanmar Timber Enterprise Managing Director U Saw John Shwe Ba explained about elephant conservation based travel business.

Afterwards the State Counsellor observed and fed the elephants in the camp and presented K 500,000 for the elephant camp. Following this the State Counsellor planted a Myintzuthaka tree at a designated place in front of the elephant camp.

Shwe Settaw Mann Chaung elephant camp had 15 elephants and also had 11 bungalows where visitors can stay overnight. Arrangements were made for visitors to participate in caring for the elephants as well as observe the elephants in its natural habitat. The camp was established on 110 acres of land beside the



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accepts the framed photo of Buddha footprints in Mann Shwe Settaw Pagoda presented by the pagoda's board of trustees in Minbu, Magway Region yesterday. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

8 miles long road to Mann Shwe Settaw Pagoda. Later the State Counsellor went to inspect the Golden Deer (Eld's deer) breeding camp in Shwe Settaw Wildlife Sanctuary.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi observes Star Tortoises in Shwe Settaw Wildlife Sanctuary, Magway Region yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The wildlife sanctuary covers an area of 114,678.71 acres, and the golden deer are the main species conserved in it. As of April, 2019, there were 952 golden deer in the sanctuary.

The State Counsellor then went on to Shwe Settaw Wildlife Sanctuary office where Forest Department Deputy Director General U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin explained about the wildlife sanctuary and breeding of Star Tortoise.

After inspecting the breeding and raising of Star Tortoise, the State Counsellor and party left for Magway by helicopters.

The Shwe Settaw Wildlife Sanctuary was situated in Magway Region Minbu, Ngaphe, Pwintbyu and Sedoktara townships and was established in 1940. It contains 118 plant species, 14 mammal species, 146 bird

species, 43 amphibian species, 39 species of butterflies and 22 species of fresh water fishes. The wildlife sanctuary covers an area of 114,678.71 acres, and the golden deer are the main species conserved in it. As of April, 2019, there were 952 golden deer in the sanctuary.

The wildlife sanctuary was also breeding Star Tortoises and releasing back into the wild since 1996. In 2016, 2018 and 2019 a total of 150, 950 and 650 were released back into the wild and at the moment 330 were being bred. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

# State Counsellor meets people of Magway

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the Chairperson of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races together with Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Min Thu, Dr. Aung Thu, U Ohn Win and Dr. Myint Htwe and officials met with people of Magway at Magway Town Hall yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting the State Counsellor said that in her tour of the country she saw people from Magway working everywhere because there wasn't sufficient work in Magway. On one hand it shows that people from Magway didn't shy away from jobs, were capable of taking up any works and had the courage to seek out jobs anywhere. On the other hand it was sad to see that they had to leave their place of birth to seek out jobs elsewhere. No one would want to leave their place of birth and will want to stay there.

That was why we said creating jobs was a very important matter ever since our government took over responsibility. Economically or socially, job creation was important. Only through jobs can we earn income. Only with income can we survive. However, only with work or job where they were can people live with their family, relatives and society. If not they'll have to seek out works or jobs elsewhere and part with their family which was not good.

We prioritize job creation all over the country. We designated job creation as our first priority when we took over the government responsibility. But after a few months we noticed that the main requirement for job creation was road communication in electricity. Where there was a good road communication with electricity, jobs and works were created. There were two ways in which this happens. One was where locals have the opportunity to create jobs and works. They set out to start small businesses. Sometime, due to good road communication, farmers were able to send their products to the market quickly without the products degrading from time. So, economically there'll be development. With electricity, they'll be creating their own businesses or increase whatever they're doing. Create more jobs and works.

Another one will be busi-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the meeting with local people in Magway yesterday. **PHOTO: THET AUNG**

nesses coming in to invest. Once the road communication became good and electricity became available, business persons come in to invest in businesses. Road communication was noticeably good in Magway Region. It was quite developed. However, we were unable to provide as much electricity as we want to. Electricity was required all over the country. We have to decide on where to prioritize. We can't provide to the entire country at

tant for the whole country. We emphasize on education because the future of our country will be good only when our people were educated. Only when children were taught with what they need to learn can they benefit the country when they grow up. When civic rights and responsibilities were taught to the children at the primary schools they'll understand and learn quickly. It would be hard to teach the parents as once the mindsets

as they first reach there if they couldn't leave it in a better condition. The least they should do was to leave a place as how it was before they were there. If possible, they were to leave a place in a better situation than they were there first.

I would like to urge both young and old to have a spirit of leaving a place they went through in a better condition once they left. This would be the individual duty and responsibility of each and every citizen. Only when this duty and responsibility was taken up can the country develop. Our country was a developing country. What this was like was like a youngster growing up in harsh neighborhood. We need to have the quality of putting in more efforts than others. I trust that people of Magway had this ability. They can endure hardship. They stay simple but aim high. They were simple and straight forward. All must have this aim. All can improve themselves. It was possible to become an honorable and qualified person. People of Magway should be exemplary in this. People of Magway were seen all over the country working in all sorts of works. I believe such people had the ability to advance the country in a big way.

We would want to make the education system as practical as possible. We want to establish an education system that was in line

with the time. In other word, we want to establish an education system that was unique from other countries. We want to be on par in all technologies. This we have to teach. But we need to raise not only the education but also the moral and ethics too.

For this, we need to teach civic duties and responsibilities that'll change and develop the morality of youngsters. We want to teach subjects that changes the moral characters and provide physical development.

For most, higher education means university education. But this was now becoming an outdated thought. Even in the world's most developed countries, there were many unemployed university graduates. It was important for youngsters and parents to know the value of vocational education. University education was not the only education. Vocational education was also an education. They are two different types of education. Vocational education was practical and there were many good opportunities for people who had completed vocational education to go straight into the work forces.

That was why we want to promote vocational education. People need to support and strive toward understanding the value of it said the State Counsellor.

We hope to fulfill 50% of the country's electricity requirement before the end of this year. We'll strive toward providing this to the entire country in the coming two to three years.

one time. This depends a lot on technology, work situation and financial situation.

We hope to fulfill 50% of the country's electricity requirement before the end of this year. We'll strive toward providing this to the entire country in the coming two to three years. As we want 100%, we were not satisfied with 50%. But let me say that there was progress. Two years ago, we were only providing about 30% and reaching 50% means the progress was close to double. This was indeed quite acceptable.

Education was most impor-

were established it would be difficult to change their attitudes and practices. The children were easier to teach and change.

An example is trash. Trash is becoming a habit for our people. The trash we throw away were something like not related to us but even when we left a place, the trash we throw away remains. We were taught not to throw away our trash since we were in school. We were taught since young to handle this.

Ever since we started our political party movement in 1988, we told youths to leave a place at least in the same condition

## State Counsellor meets people of Magway

### FROM PAGE-4

Afterwards, local people in the meeting raised matters consisting of land and construction of Obo Ward administrator office, taking action against misuse of fund in a cooperative, releasing of confiscated lands, issuing identity card quickly to children born of parents who were citizen, loan to construct Magway Town Pyidawtha Ward administrator office, beautifying Kanthaya Ward pond in Magway Town, upgrading Aung Cetana Ward sub middle school, providing land and supporting fund to construct Aung Zeya Ward library, designating an additional land plot as part of Magway Town Aungzeya Ward, constructing a school in Magway Town Aung Myitta Ward, releasing of lands confiscated from Magway Town Mae Hla Village, laying of a pebble surfaced road, expanding land area of Magway Town Kanpya Village, provision of quality rice seedlings, agriculture loan, compensation for confiscated lands, issuing of form 7 for lands, issuing of land grants to houses in Mann Oilfield Ward, construction of an embankment to protect bank erosion in Minbu Township, brick lining canals distributing irrigation water from Mann embankment and Einma dam.

Six out of 16 who had drawn a lot to raise matters in the hall also raised questions on compensation for land con-

fiscated in constructing Magway-Taungdwingyi railway line, upgrading a school, obtaining agriculture loan and form 7, resolving corruption issues related to Magway car compound, re-electing Htonepauktaw village administrator, plotting of lands in Myothit Town. Three out of 33 outside the hall who had drawn lots to raise matters also raised matters covering preventing flooding in Magway Town, Aungzeya Ward, changing teaching method in Magway University and issuing of village land grant.

The State Counsellor, Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu, Region Chief Minister, region ministers and official then responded to matters that can be resolved immediately while explaining of resolving some matters requiring more time and to conduct matters that requires doing things in the long run.

At the end the State Counsellor asked the people to raise matters in which they were facing difficulties with full confidence and trust to the Region Government, spoke of the requirement for the Region Government to consistently keep in touch with the local populace, possibility of overcoming any problem if the people and the government have good relation and the government having full confidence in the capacity of the people. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

## Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice Senior General Soe Win receives Ambassador of People's Republic of China



Vice Senior General Soe Win meets with Ambassador of People's Republic of China Mr. Hong Liang in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Deputy Commander in Chief of Defence Service Vice Senior General Soe Win received Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr. Hong Liang and entourage at Bay-

intnaung Guest Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed matters concerning bilateral friendship between two governments and two mili-

taries, declaration of unilateral cease fire for the dialogue with ethnic armed organizations and peace and development of border areas.—MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)

## Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe received Representatives of UNDP and UNHCR



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe holds talks with representatives from United Nations Development Programme and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe received Mr. Peter Batchelor, Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme, and Mr. Johan Cels, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at 10:30 hrs today at his office in Nay Pyi Taw.

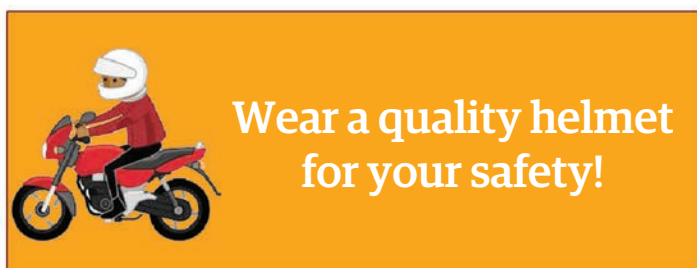
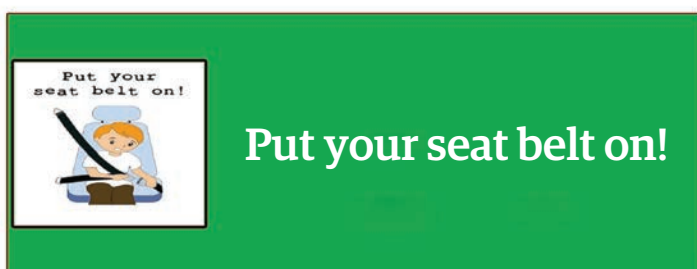
During the meeting, the UNDP and the UNHCR discussed the extension of MOU signed between the Ministry of

Labour, Immigration and Population, United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 6 June 2018 to assist the efforts of Government of Myanmar in undertaking the repatriation process for the displaced persons from Rakhine.

The Tripartite Agreement will expire on 6 June 2019. UNDP and UNHCR on 7 March 2019 wrote to Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population their

willingness in principle to extend the MOU. The concerned Ministry had on 9 March 2019 also informed the UN Agencies its readiness to renew the MOU. At today's meeting, the Union Minister reaffirmed the readiness to extend the MOU for another one year.

U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other Officials also attended the meeting. — MNA



## Union Minister for Transport and Communications receives Ambassador of People's Republic of China Mr. Hong Liang

Union Minister for Transport and Communications, U Thant Zin Maung received outgoing Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr. Hong Liang at Ministry of Transport and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed the matters concerning signing

of Initial Implementation of Cross border Transport Agreement, Construction of Entry/Exit Check points, feasibility of Muse - Mandalay rail road construction, collaboration between two countries regarding transportation and future mutual cooperation.—MNA ■ (Translated by Alphonsus)



Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung meets with outgoing PRC Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

## Union Minister for Commerce visits Competition Commission in PHL

DR. THAN MYINT, Chairperson of Myanmar Competition Commission and Union Minister for Commerce, led a delegation to Manila, Philippines, on 7 May to observe the implementation processes of the Philippines Competition Commission (PCC).

The Union Minister and delegation received a welcoming speech from PCC Chairperson Mr. Arsenio Balisacan on 8 May.

They were then given explanations by Mr. David Fruitman, the Legal Consultant, on the objectives of competition policies and laws, general restrictions, the nature of compe-

tion, competing organizations, and the competition policies and laws of ASEAN.

They also received explanations by Shila Dorai Raj, former CEO of PCC, on setting strategic plans during the first phase of implementation of The Competition Law, managing human resources, organizing awareness programmes on competitiveness, and preliminary things to consider.

The two sides then engaged in detailed discussion on competitiveness. In the afternoon, the PCC Chairperson explained about the organization and tasks of the commission, experiences in establish-



Union Minister Dr. Than Myint poses for the photo with Philippines Competition Commission (PCC) members in Manila, Philippines on 7 May. PHOTO: MNA

ment practices and strategic tasks. PCC members Amabelle Asuncion and Macario De Claro Jr. explained about the PCC's rules and regulations.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Planning & Finance Minister separately receives UK, Chinese ambassadors



Union Minister U Soe Win meets Chinese Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

U SOE WIN, Union Minister for Planning and Finance, received UK Ambassador Mr. Daniel Chugg at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning where

they discussed bilateral relations.

Later in the same morning, the Union Minister received outgoing Chinese Ambassador Mr.

Hong Liang at his office where they discussed the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor and bilateral cooperation.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 12<sup>th</sup> regular session holds fifth-day meeting

### FROM PAGE-2

Hluttaw representatives discuss Anti-Corruption Commission Annual Report

As a final agenda of the day U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency, Daw Aye Mya Mya Moe of Kyauktan constituency, Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Latt of Bago Region constituency 3, Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, Daw Khin Hnin Thit of Padaung

constituency, U Nyan Hein of Thanbyuzayat constituency, Naw Chris Tun @ Dr. Arr Kar Moe of Kayin State constituency 7, U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5, Dr. Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11, U Saw Victor Clyde of Thandaunggyi constituency, Dr. Than Win of Mandalay Region constituency 1, U Kyaw Thaung of Sagaing Region constituency 1, U Kyaw Tin of Saw constituency,

U Ye Htut of Sagaing Region constituency 5, U Nay Kyaw of Dagon Myothit (East) constituency and U Thant Zin Htun of Dekhinathiri constituency discussed the Anti-Corruption Commission Annual Report.

The sixth-day meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was scheduled to be held on 13 May it is learnt.—Aung Ye Thwin, Lu Maw (MNA) (Translated by Zaw Min)

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## Ensuring loans can help MSMEs overcome financial challenges

**M**ICRO, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises, or MSMEs, make up 99 per cent of Myanmar's businesses. Therefore, only when MSMEs are developed can the country achieve economic progress.

To oversee MSME development, an MSME development policy was adopted in December, 2015, a law was enacted in April the same year, and a by-law was enacted in October, 2016.

In accordance with the policy, national MSME products trade fairs and contests have been held in different states and regions since February, 2018 with a view to support the market expansion of MSMEs; promote import substitution across various sectors; encourage linkages between the manufacturing and trade sectors; improve MSME competitiveness, technology, and economic know-how, with the cooperation of local and international businesses; increase import substitution products; and promote innovative products and MSMEs.

To oversee MSME development, an MSME development policy was adopted in December, 2015, a law was enacted in April the same year, and a by-law was enacted in October, 2016.

There are more than 67,000 registered SMEs in Myanmar along with many un-registered businesses, according to the SME Development Department. SMEs constitute 90 per cent of Myanmar's businesses. Most of them are facing barriers and challenges in terms of capital, technology, and market access.

To ensure the MSMEs overcome their financial challenges, the Union Government has been providing loans to businesses in need of capital by collaborating with domestic private banks.

Awareness talks have been held through Credit Guarantee Insurance (CGI) to help businesses get credit from banks for investment. The Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and private banks such as CB, KBZ Bank, and SMIDB have provided CGI loans of K4,105.9 million to 406 businesses and JICA two-step loans of K8,348.5 million to 47 businesses.

Till January, 2019, the Ministry had inspected 51,171 registered workshops at industrial establishments, in line with the private industrial enterprise law.

All SMEs engaged in manufacturing, labor-based projects, retail and wholesale, service and other businesses are eligible for the JICA SME two-step loans.

The Myanmar Economic Bank has been providing two-step loans, funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency, since September, 2018 to help develop Myanmar's small and medium enterprises.

The relevant ministries, government organizations, and the public sector have been urged to step up collaboration to help MSMEs obtain loans and technology so they can produce innovative and quality products, expand their reach in local and foreign markets, improve technology and economic knowledge, cooperate with local and foreign organizations related to the sector, produce more import substitution products, consistently update technology, strategies, news and information, and develop human resources.



# Magnificent Indawgyi Lake aspiring to be inscribed as Geopark

By Than Htun (Myanmar Geosciences Society)

(From previous article covered on 9 May)

The gold bearing gravel beds are observed in the western part of Indawgyi Lake and around Maing Naung Village. Since 1987 local people are exploiting gold and platinum surrounding area of Maing Naung and Nam Yin Hka stream (Htun Win, 1991),

### Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary Asian Heritage Park

Forest Department established Wildlife Sanctuary 5 forest areas surrounding the biggest freshwater inland lake, Indawgyi Lake in 2004. Asian Heritage Park in 2003, Indawgyi Ramsar Site in 2003, Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve in 2017 with the following objectives:-

- To protect one of the largest freshwater inland lake.
- To protect water fowls, forest birds and migratory birds.
- To conserve rare animals.
- To carry out research works.
- To develop nature-base tourism or geotourism.
- To develop well-being of the local people.

The wetlands of Indawgyi are globally important for conservation: the lake its resting and feeding ducks, geese and pelicans; the floating vegetation with jacas balancing over leaves; lakeshore reeds providing shelter for the purple swamphens and crakes; and flooded grasslands with feeding cranes and storks. One of the most residents is the rare Sarus Crane with its prominent red head sticking out from grasslands and paddy fields (FFI)

Indawgyi Lake basin is surrounded by forested hills, home of amazing birds such as the Rufous-necked and Great Hornbill, with Gibbons calling and shy coloured Leopards searching for prey (FFI).

Indawgyi Worldlife Scactuary is famous for its birds, especially the reed, seasonally flooded grassland, the floating vegetation which are responsible for high biodiversity including bird's species. Every October more than 20,000 water birds start arriving from their summer breeding grounds in China and Siberia. Most birds come to stay over winter, but others only stop to rest and feed, preparing for a much longer journey to

Australia. In the Indawgyi Lake area 10 endangered species can be observed. Of these species, greylag geese, Oriental darter and purple swamphen are prominent during the month of January. A tour of the lake by motor canoe allows one to view a large array of wetland species. It appears that the lake and surrounding wetlands provide an important winter feeding habitat.

On the other hand Indawgyi Lake is threatened by over-fishing and pollution at the moment. Illegal logging and firewood extraction is degrading surrounding forests. Everyone need to collaborate with each other for conservation of invaluable nature and environment of Indawgyi lake for our young generation to come (FFI).

### Geotourism Vs Ecotourism

Geotourism adds to ecotourism's principal focus on plants (flora) and animals (fauna) by adding a third dimension of the abiotic environment. Thus it is growing around the world through the growth of geoparks as well as independently in many natural and urban areas where tourism's focus in on the geological environment. Most of the world defines geotourism as purely the study of geological and geomorphological features.

"Looking at the environment in a simplistic manner, we see that it is made up of Abiotic, Biotic and Cultural (ABC) attributes. Starting with the 'C' or cultural component first, we note that of three features it is this one which is generally the most known and interpreted, that is, through information about the built or cultural environment either in the past (historical accounts) or present (community customs and culture). The 'B' or biotic features of fauna (animals) and flora (plants) has seen a large focus of interpretation and understanding through ecotourism. But it is the first attribute of the 'A' or abiotic features



Natural causeway to the Pagoda on the island in the middle of the lake. PHOTO: HTAY AUNG

including rocks, landforms and processes that has received the least attention in tourism, and consequently is the least known and understood. This then is the real power of geotourism, in that it puts the tourist spotlight firmly on geology, and brings it to the forefront of our understanding through tourism".

### Accommodations

The licensed accommodation at Indawgyi Lake can only be found in Lonton village, on



A survey indicated that Indawgyi lake is home to 41 species of more than 17,000 Asian Water birds. PHOTO: HTAY AUNG

Indawgyi Worldlife Scactuary is famous for its birds, especially the reed, seasonally flooded grassland, the floating vegetation which are responsible for high biodiversity including bird's species.

the west bank of Indawgyi Lake. Indaw MaHar guest house has fairly basic facility with simple rooms and a shared bathroom. There are also homestay system and a military-owned guest house in Lonton.

### Geosites in Indawgyi Aspiring Geopark Shwe Myitzu Pagoda

The most famous and beautiful landmark at Indawgyi Lake is Shwe Myitzu Pagoda which is shining in the middle of the lake. The annual Pagoda festival held end of February and early-March. It is end of dry season and water level is low enough to walk along the wooden trail from mainland to the Pagoda in the lake.

### Shwe Taung (Golden Mountain)

Shwe Taung is situated at the north bank of Indawgyi Lake

and has a pagoda and monastery on top of the hill and provide with panoramic views of the lake. It will take about 30 minute walk to the hill top and some local generous people will offer you refreshment on the way.

### Lwemun Village

Lwemun Village is located on the western bank of the lake and the most picturesque village. There are two monasteries, a nat (spirit) shrine and a shrine which tells the story of Indawgyi Lake. The story is that there was a village right below the current Lwemun before Indawgyi Lake was appeared. A widow had dreamt that the area would be filled with water soon and so she left the village for the hill with some animals. The other villagers didn't believe her, but then the village was flooded and the lake had been appeared. One of the monasteries at the

southern end of the village has a nat shrine for celebrating the widow's dream. Her footprint seems to be there as well, but it can only be seen during the dry season.

### Hepa Village

The lake front of the village on the southeast of Indawgyi Lake has a scenic beauty. Further to the east there is a main north-south road and after a short walk or ride some lovely scenery of rolling fields can be seen.

### Namde Village

Namde Village is most notable as the turn-off point to Shwe Myitzu Pagoda and there is a house for two elephants. The elephants (male and female) are kept in the second house south of the turn-off to Shwe Myitzu Pagoda.

### Nammilaung Village

Nammilaung Village is famous for its interesting architecture with high wooden fences around all the houses. Nammilaung also has a cane Buddha image, which was collaborative effort by local people. On the fourth street south of the cane Buddha complex there is another house for elephants.

### Indawgyi Environmental Education Centre

Indawgyi Environmental Education Centre was established by Inn Chit Thu and Fauna & Flora International with support from The Helmsley Charitable Trust and Hla Day. Indawgyi Lake occupied various natural, cultural, biodiversity, wildlife and geological and archaeological heritages and those are internationally significant values for an UNESCO Global Geopark in Myanmar.

Indawgyi Lake in Kachin State occupied international significance sites of landscape, biodiversity, biosphere, wetland ecology, geology and mineral deposits, archaeology, traditional culture, ecotourism and geotourism, those are the basic requirements and characteristics for Geopark. Therefore, Geopark Development Committee of Myanmar Geosciences Society congratulate and welcome magnificent Indawgyi Lake of beautiful Kachin State as Aspiring National Geopark as well as UNESCO Global Geopark and decided to collaborate with Forest Department, local authorities, Inn Chit Thu, Flora Fauna International and local people. Indawgyi Lake is more than a lake.

### Bird watching

Indawgyi Lake is a major stop for migratory birds and attracts thousands of birds especially during winter months from December to March on the East Asia-Australian Flyway. During that period thousands of birds on the lake and flying in flocks over it are wonder to behold.

Inn Chit Thu Ecotourism: is an organization based at the lake that is supported by Flora and Fauna International that provides a range of services,

goods, and opportunities for visitors. They have been working at the lake since 2013.

Kayaking: Kayaks are available for hire at Inn Chit Thu and Indawgyi Motel. The lake is too wide to cover by kayak in a single day, but the southern half and the western shore, including Shwe Myitzu Pagoda, can conveniently be visited by kayak.

Cycling: Bicycles are available at Inn Chit Thu for hire and allows to explore the villages along the western and southern shores of the lake.

Trekking: Single day treks are available for the mountains around the lake through Inn Chit Thu or Face of Indawgyi. Due to security reason trekking in the mountains on the west side of the lake is not allowed at the present.

Recreational fishing: Basic recreational fishing trips can also be done at Indawgyi Lake.

Boat tour: You can hire a boat and go around the lake at reasonable price.

Festival: Every year during the ten days before the full moon in March people from all over Kachin state celebrate Shwe Myitzu Pagoda festival. During festival there are boat races, concerts and various recreation in the area. The water level is low and you can walk over dry land to the pagoda.

Souvenir: Kachin bags, tissue holders, and handmade jewellery at the ecotourism spot. A local weaver is situated about 30 minutes by boat from Lonton where homemade Kachin woven fabric are available.

Indawgyi Lake in Kachin State occupied international significance sites of landscape, biodiversity, biosphere, wetland ecology, geology and mineral deposits, archaeology, traditional culture, ecotourism and geotourism, those are the basic requirements and characteristics for Geopark. Therefore, Geopark Development Committee of Myanmar Geosciences Society congratulate and welcome magnificent Indawgyi Lake of beautiful Kachin State as Aspiring National Geopark as well as UNESCO Global Geopark and decided to collaborate with Forest Department, local authorities, Inn Chit Thu, Flora Fauna International and local people. Indawgyi Lake is more than a lake.





# Three ministries jointly hold press conference on achievements in third year in office

THE Office of the Union Auditor-General, Ministry of Border Affairs and Ministry of Electricity and Energy jointly held a press conference on their undertakings in third one-year period of the government at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The press conference began with an opening address by Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint.

## Office of the Union Auditor-General

Afterwards, Union Auditor-General U Maw Than said there are 15,434 specific areas of auditing of 388 offices in total to have their accounts audited by the Office of the Union Auditor General and its auditing teams.

A report on findings of the Office of the Auditor General for 2017-2018 fiscal year was submitted to the President and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30 January 2019 and the report is currently reviewed by the Public Joint Account Committee of the Hluttaw before submitting it to the Hluttaw.

In the third one-year period, the Office of the Auditor General gave its remarks over the issues sent by 213 letters from the governmental entities.

Systematic development of regional development works were supported by submitting annual reports up to fiscal year 2017-2018.

Strategic Work Program (2018-2022) was drawn up to implement the aims of Union Auditor General Office. 2018 and 2019 yearly action plans of Strategic Work Program were being drawn up and implemented.

To complying with the international auditing norms, the Office of the Auditor General signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cooperation with Norway Office of the Auditor General as well as cooperating with ADB (Asian Development Bank), World Bank, German development agency GIZ and EU (European Union) towards the emergence of international norms based handbooks and guidelines, to conduct effective auditing, according to enactments in the Union Auditor General Law and to raise the capacity of staffs.

To implement the aims of



The Office of the Union Auditor-General, Ministry of Border Affairs and Ministry of Electricity and Energy hold press conference on their performance in third one-year period in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Auditor General Office, the office also drew the Action Plan for 2018-2019. As per the Action Plan handbook on IS-SAI based norms followed by international audit offices were drawn up, workshops held, Pilot Audit conducted and attended workshops and meetings conducted by ASEANSAI, ASOSAI and INTOSAI.

The office also conducted basic account and office work courses in Nay Pyi Taw and four state/region audit offices to provide account knowledge service for personnel in other ministries and organisations. Mid and higher level accounting course was held in Nay Pyi Taw. Accountancy Diploma Grade 1 and Grade 2 courses were conducted by Myanmar Accountancy Council in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon and were producing more than a thousand personnel every year. Certified Public Accountant Part 1 and Part 2 courses were conducted in Yangon producing more than 300 personnel every year.

One of the achievement of the Office of the Auditor General is that the law amending the Myanmar Accountancy Council Law-2015 was enacted on 30 January 2019.

## Ministry of Border Affairs

Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Border Affairs U Sai Tun Nyo said the Ministry of Border Affairs was established to ensure there was no lapse in the border and ethnic development of the various regions of Myanmar.

The policies include (a) stability of border areas (b) de-

velopment of border areas (c) development of socioeconomic life of people living in border areas and (d) development of human-resources of ethnic people residing in border areas.

These include projects such as: building infrastructures and roads/bridges, improving access to safe and clean water, increase access and quality of healthcare available in the area, provide electricity through power line, solar power and engines. The ministry also brings food and other resources such as affordable low-cost housing to IDPs, and armed groups who signed ceasefire with the government.

## Achievements in road construction

The ministry has completed up to 608 miles of roads, 191 bridges (including 11 big bridges), 183 box culvert, 29 basic education schools, 4 health centers, 30 drinkable water stations, 99 miles of clean water distribution pipes, 2 transformers, 1735 solar lights, 31 miles of electric cables and 8 hydro stations.

There is one for instance in Kachin State, Putao Khaunglanphu area which took 12 days of trekking to reach. Food often doesn't reach there by ground transport and the ministry has to support food supply with airlifts.

## Collaboration with foreign countries

Regarding the cooperation with foreign organizations, he said there are two bilateral cooperation projects, 11 projects with INGOs, and of the, the Education for Peace and Development-EPD is jointly implement-

ed by the Nippon Foundation of Japan.

## Education and Training

The Education and Training Department was founded on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1999, with two main aims: to educate ethnic people residing in border areas through basic and tertiary education along with vocational training and improve human resources of people in the area. There is the Education and Training Department headquarters, University for Development of National Races in Sagaing, two degree colleges for ethnic youth in Yangon and Sagaing, one central training school, 45 border youth development training centers, 9 mechanical schools and 5- women's vocational training schools.

The Ministry of Education have employed more than 10000 students as high school teachers after they have graduated from the degree school. They are employed at 15 relevant ministries along with State/Regional development councils as government employees. The vocational training centers have also produced 1378 graduates that are now working in car repair shops, bike service centers, welding shops and electricity companies. For women, up to 21955 graduates were surveyed to have found jobs and are now working at private garment factories. Certificates are also given along with help in finding employment in Yangon. For instance, 29 garment factories have signed graduates from these schools to work for them. The Patheingyi and Pakokku training centers for hospitality and tourism also opened December

2017 and has trained up to 387 students.

The Education and Training Department has taken recommendations from the Ministry to keep working on capacity building in the ethnic youth community to help develop the resources of the state and benefit the region as a whole.

## Ministry of Electricity and Energy

Regarding the accomplishments of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy in its third-year term, Permanent Secretary of the ministry U Tin Maung Oo said only 44 percent of the whole of Myanmar have access to a power grid. MOEE aims to increase this number to 55 percent in 2020-2021, up to 75 percent for 2025-2026 and 100 percent by the year 2030-2031.

The ministry has increased the output by 12 percent from the previous year. During the current administration's first year in office, the ministry also increased output by 13 percent compared to the previous.

The permanent secretary is working under the National Electrification Plan-NEP, and about 55 per cent of the country's total households are targeted to get access to electricity in 2021, 75 per cent in 2026 and 100 per cent in 2030.

Within a year, the administration was able to provide nine towns including 2440 villages (0.52 million of households) with electricity.

The electrification coverage rate has reached 54% with 34146 of 63277 villages, he said.

## Achievements in oil and gas sector

The ministry's Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise has been able to explore to 23 wells within a year on-shore and joint venture companies 17 wells totalling 49 wells.

The wells drilled in the third year period produced 2.31 million barrels of crude oil and 19.019 million of cubic feet of natural gas. The MOGE produced 3.32 million barrels of crude oil and 623,838 cubic ft million of natural gas in the past year.

After the statements of the three ministries, journalists raised questions and the officials replied. —MNA ■

# Price of long grain rice falls by K7,000 to K19,000 per bag

By Nyein Nyein

LONG grain rice of 90-day yield is currently priced at K19,000 per bag in the domestic market, a decline of K7,000 compared with a year ago, according to rice depots.

“Last year, the price of 90-day rice had went up a high of K26,000 per bag, but this year, it is fetching around K18,000-19,000 per bag,” said U Aung Than Oo, the chair of the Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association.

“The price of 90-day rice is not that low. It is stable at K18,500-19,000 per bag. Compared with last year, the price is lower this year, but the market is witnessing regular buying,” said U Aung Than Oo.

Last month, the Myanmar



Workers unloading sacks of rice from a cargo ship at Botahtaung Jetty in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Rice Federation announced it would purchase long grain rice with 90-day yield, which had no demand in the market, at a basic price of K19,500 per bag from 8

April.

At present, 90-day rice is cultivated in the Ayeyawady and Bago regions. Rice from the Ayeyawady Region has been sup-

plied to the Wadan rice depot, according to the depot.

“The basic rate of 90-day rice will ensure growers do not face losses. They will just make a lower profit compared with the previous year,” according to rice traders.

“Long grain rice of 90-day yield is primarily meant for domestic consumption, and it is also exported to China. However, rice has piled up in the domestic market due to lack of demand from China,” said U Zaw Khaing, joint secretary, Wadan rice depot.

“At present, rice cannot flow out of the Muse border gate to China. We have only the Yangon market to rely on,” said U Zaw Khaing.

Myanmar exported 2.3 million tons of rice to foreign trade

partners between April, 2018 and March, 2019. “Due to a drastic plunge in rice exports through the border, about 2 million tons of rice has been stockpiled in the market,” said U Aung Than Oo, the chair of the Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association.

Myanmar exports rice through maritime trade and border gates. Rice trade to China through the Sino-Myanmar border trade channels has been halted as China has been cracking down on entry of illegal goods since October, 2018. This has led to a steep drop in rice exports to China.

Myanmar shipped 3.68 million tons of rice to foreign countries in the 2017-2018 fiscal year. ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Nearly \$500 mln earned from cattle exports since 2017: officials

By Aye Yamone

MYANMAR has earned around US\$500 million from the export of more than 400,000 head of cattle since 2017, said Dr. Ye Tun Win, Director-General, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

The Ministry of Commerce began issuing permits for export of live cattle in 2017. Since then, Myanmar has earned \$480 million from cattle exports, he said. “The livestock sector faces both challenges and opportunities. Myanmar has been conducting trade with China since 2017, enabling locals to earn a livelihood through livestock

breeding, which in turn, has contributed in part to rural development,” said Dr. Ye Tun Win.

“At present, China is applying strict controls in border trade, allowing only legal trade through Muse. Therefore, local traders have been exporting cattle to meat factories and slaughter houses in Longtang Town, China through Goteik, Man Waing Gyi Road, Namhkam in Shan State (North) and Man Waing Gyi area close to the border of Kachin State,” he said.

Negotiations are currently on as one Chinese company has offered to import cattle through the Lwejel border gate as the Muse route is long and the

cost of transportation is high, he said.

“While negotiations are on, we are seeking ways to ensure the stability of the market. We need to adopt a long-term plan for sustainable production of livestock products,” he added.

Between the 2017-2018FY and 28 March, 2018-2019FY, the authorities have permitted traders to export 50,264 buffaloes and 413,781 cows. The Ministry of Commerce decided to permit entrepreneurs to export live cattle on 9 October, 2017, with the aim of discouraging illegal trade and create job opportunities for local livestock breeders.

■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

## 150 foreign enterprises pull investments of \$1.68 bln in nearly seven months this FY

By Nyein Nyein

FROM 1 October, 2018 to 26 April, 2019, a total of 150 foreign enterprises received permits and endorsements, bringing in capital of \$1.68 billion.

During that seven-month period, overall foreign direct investments of \$2.54 billion flowed into the country, including expansion of capitals by existing business companies and investments of over \$134 million in Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

In the comperable period, 89 domestic enterprises made investments of \$240.86 million and K677.9 billion. Total domestic investment flow exceeded \$306.16 million and K893.9 billion, includ-

ing expansion of capital.

Three foreign projects and one domestic investment projects obtained permits and endorsements at the recent meeting of Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). The enterprises will invest in manufacturing and transportation sectors.

According to the Myanmar Investment Law, the Regions and States Investment Committees are allowed to grant permissions to local and foreign proposals, where the initial investment does not exceed Ks6 billion, or \$5 million with an aim to facilitate the verification process of investment projects. ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

## Over 1,000 new companies registering with MyCO every month:

By Nyein Nyein

OVER 1,000 new companies are registering on the online registry system MyCO every month, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

Registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August, 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017. More than 14,000 new companies and 46,000 existing companies have registered and re-registered on MyCO in the last nine months (August-April), which brings the

total number of registered companies to 62,000. Over 90 per cent of companies have used online applications for registration, while the rest have filed their applications manually, according to data from the DICA.

MyCO is receiving more than 1,000 applications from new companies every month. When the online registry was launched in August, 2018, 1,816 new companies registered on MyCO. The figure stood at 2,218 in September, 1,671 in October, 1,437 in November, 1,364 in December, 1,733 in January, 1,419 in February, 1,108 in March, and over 1,300 in April,

data from the DICA shows.

The DICA had set a six-month period from 1 August, 2018 to 31 January, 2019 for registration and re-registration. It had said those companies which failed to re-register would be struck off from the register list.

Over 60,000 companies were previously registered in Myanmar and all of them were notified to re-register on MyCO. When the deadline closed, 46,377 old companies had re-registered on MyCO and over 10,000 companies had failed to do so.

“Those companies which want to restore their corporate

status will have to shell out a fee and provide sufficient reasons,” said U Myo Min, director, DICA.

“The companies must not think they can register by paying a penalty after the lapse of the six-month deadline. According to regulations, companies will have to provide sufficient reasons why they failed to register before the deadline,” he said.

As per Chapter III of the notification (66/2018) issued by the Ministry of Planning and Finance on 23 July, 2018, if an existing company fails to re-register on the electronic registry system within the deadline, the

registrar can strike its name off the register and publish a notice in the Gazette. Once the notice is published, the company will be dissolved, while the liability of the directors and the members of the company shall continue to be enforced. Under Section (d) of Chapter III, a registrar may restore an existing company or corporate entity which has failed to re-register, if it provides sufficient cause before its name is struck off the register. Such companies will be restored after they shell out a fee, which will be prescribed by the Union Minister. ■ (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

# Rakhine peace committee meets political parties, associations, experts

THE Committee for Supporting Peace and Stability in Rakhine State held its second round of separate meetings with political parties and communities from Rakhine, and experts at the Yangon Region Government Office yesterday.

The committee met with representatives of the Arakan League for Democracy and the Arakan National Party (Yangon) at 9 a.m., representatives of the Rakhine Thahaya Association and the Arakan National League at 11 a.m., and experts on Rakhine State at 1 p.m. to discuss measures for dealing with conflicts and displaced people in Rakhine, along with short-term and long-term plans for peace, stability, and development in the state.



Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung meets political parties and communities from Rakhine, and experts at the Yangon Region Government Office yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

At the meetings, the chairman of the committee, U Aye Tha Aung, said the committee arranged to meet political parties, Rakhine communities, and experts separately to allow more free and open discussions. He said the suggestions and views shared in the previous meeting were submitted to the President

in an interim report.

During its upcoming trip to Rakhine, the commission will gather suggestions on easing the conflicts in the state and submit them to the President, said U Aye Tha Aung. The commission chairman requested the attendees at the meetings to openly discuss and suggest ways

for resolving the conflicts in the state. At the meetings, invited guests, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun and Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement U Soe Aung discussed the measures being taken in the state and future plans.

Afterwards, the mem-

bers of the commission, Deputy Minister for the Office of the Union Government U Tin Myint, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, Deputy Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Aung Naing Thu, Yangon Region Minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs U Zaw Aye Maung, Rakhine State Hluttaw Representative U Maung Maung Ohn, and retired deputy minister U Nyi Hla Nge discussed the short-term and long-term plans for peace and development in Rakhine State. In his concluding remarks, U Aye Tha Aung said the commission will review the suggestions at the meetings, adding that it is the duty of the commission to submit a report to the Union Government

on short-term and long-term plans, based on the suggestions.

He warned of food insufficiency being likely in the coming year as people have been displaced and forced to abandon farmland, and are sheltering at monasteries, pagodas, and religious buildings. He said the commission has also considered providing humanitarian aid to the displaced people. During the trip to Rakhine, the commission will distribute humanitarian aid to the displaced people of Minbya, Kyauktaw, Punnagyn, and Yathedaung, said U Aye Tha Aung. The commission plans to meet with political parties in Rakhine State during its trip on 10 May.—MNA ■ (Translated by GNLM)

# KNPLF celebrates 25 years of ceasefire in Loikaw

THE 25th anniversary of the Karenni National People's Liberation Front's ceasefire agreement was commemorated at their headquarters in Pankan village, Loikaw, yesterday morning.

Firstly, dance troupes from nine different ethnic races performed combined dances to honour the 25th anniversary, and KNPLF Chairman U Tun Kyaw delivered the opening address.

Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho then delivered a speech. He said we need to take the

21st Century Panlong, Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement route towards peace and ensure it is strengthened. He said he has heard leaders of ethnic armed organizations wishing for an end to armed conflicts. He said the people genuinely wish for peace and only then will there be socioeconomic development.

The Chief Minister said there must be cooperation between every relevant organization, the Union Government and the people to truly establish peace. He said we must honour those

who have strived for peace and expressed his joy at this commemoration. He urged everyone to work hand-in-hand to establish a democratic federal Union.

Next, Kayah State Democratic Party Chairman U Poe Ye gave an honorary speech. Following this, three peace co-ordinators; Catholic Bishop Sotay Rofama, Baptist Pastor Reverend Elisha, and U Myat San from Meisei Township conducted the honouring proceedings and explained the reason for it.

Afterwards, the three



Dance troupe entertaining at the celebration to mark the 25th anniversary of the Karenni National People's Liberation Front's ceasefire agreement in Loikaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

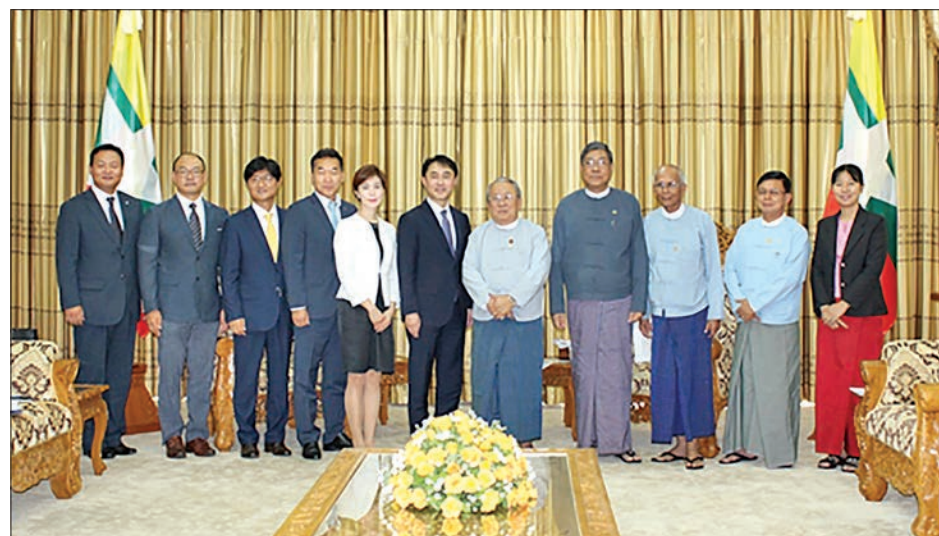
peace co-ordinators spoke words of gratitude and a civilian representative attendee gave suggestions

concerning peace after which Central Committee member Comrade Rosina delivered the closing

speech of gratitude.—Loikaw Thar ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

# CBM governor meets with Korean Ambassador to Myanmar



U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, the Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM), poses for the photo with Korean Ambassador Mr. Lee Sang Hwa yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar met with a delegation led by the Korean Ambassador to Myanmar, H.E Mr. Lee Sang Hwa, at 11 a.m. yesterday at the Kankaw Hall of the CBM. They discussed the promotion of bilateral economic opportunities, cooperation in finance and banking sectors, Myanmar's micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and assistance for building human capacity to support the financial sector.—MNA (Translated by EMM)

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (014 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (014 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING  
LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

## Famine on rise in Near East and North Africa: FAO

CAIRO — Famine is on the rise in the Near East and North Africa with more than 52 million people undernourished, most of them in conflict zones, the UN food agency said Wednesday.

“Conflicts and protracted crises have spread and worsened since 2011, threatening the region’s efforts” to eliminate hunger, said the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

“Fifty-two million people in the region are suffering from chronic undernourishment” with two-thirds of them in conflict zones, the FAO said in a statement.

These included Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Syria and Yemen, whose ongoing four-year war has killed tens of thousands of people, including many civilians, according to humanitarian organisations.

The fighting in Yemen has triggered what the United Nations describes as the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, with 3.3 million people still displaced and 24.1 million in need of aid. Conflicts in the Near East and North Africa also had “long-lasting impacts on the food and nutrition security” of surrounding countries, said Abdessalam Ould Ahmed, the FAO’s Cairo-based regional representative.

“The impact of conflict has been disrupting food and livestock production in some countries and consequently affecting the availability of food across the region,” he said.

Beyond conflicts, the FAO said rising hunger was also made worse in the region by rapid population growth, scarce and fragile natural resources and the growing threat of climate change.

In response to the crisis, the UN agency called for the sustainable transformation of agriculture.—AFP ■

## 81 pct sample of ice, juices from street vendors in Mumbai found contaminated

MUMBAI — At least 81 per cent of the samples of ice, lemon juice and sugarcane juice collected from local street-side vendors by the health officials of Mumbai Municipal Corporation was found unfit

for consumption.

The samples included lemon juice from 280 vendors, sugarcane juice from 303 vendors, crushed ice from 385 vendors. Of these, 218 lemon juices, 268 sugarcane juic-

es, and 300 ice samples were found to be contaminated.

E Coli bacteria was found in the majority of the samples, the health officer of the Municipal Corporation said.

Some types of E. Coli can cause illness in humans, including diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, and sometimes vomiting.

In India, water pollution is a major challenge with nearly 70 per cent

of the country’s water contaminated, impacting three in four Indians and contributing to 20 per cent of the country’s disease burden, said a government report in June last year.—Xinhua ■



GERMAN MYANMAR  
BUSINESS CHAMBER

German Myanmar Business Chamber  
Registration Number: 110154003 (Association)

### NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Association will be held as follows:

Place : Rose Garden Hotel  
Time : 4:00PM  
Date : 10 June 2019

#### AGENDA

The purpose of this meeting is to consider the following resolution(s):

1. To receive the Executive Committee’s Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.
2. To appoint Kyaw & Kyaw Certified Public Accountants as auditors and to authorise the Executive Committee to fix their remuneration
3. To approve the proposed amendments of the constitutional documents of the German Myanmar Business Chamber
4. To elect the Executive Committee
5. To give an update on planned GMBC activities and discuss with the members
6. To give an update on membership development
7. To transact any other business that may be properly transacted at a General Meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, SHENZHEN NOPOSION AGROCHEMICALS CO., LTD, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from MYAY LATT YAR ZAR CO., LTD to MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon form here to next (2) weeks.

No	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration Number	Registration Type	Change To New Distributor
1	MYAY LATT YAR ZAR CO., LTD	Shwe Yan Kinn	Emamectin Benzoate 0.6%+ Lambda-cyhalothrin 2% ME	P2018-1930	Provisional	MYANMAR WAI FUNG AGRICULTURE CO., LTD
2		Ywet Nu Hla	Dimethomorph 9%+ Mancozeb 60% WP	P2018-1927	Provisional	
3		Linn Yone	Lambda Cyhalothrin 5% ME	2014-1920	Provisional	
4		Poe That Sayar	Emamectin Benzoate 5% ME	2014-1934	Provisional	
5		Ah Hmyauk	Chlorpyrifos 50%+ Cypermethrin 5% EC	2014-1933	Provisional	
6		Blue Fire	Glyphosate 41% SL	2014-1935	Provisional	

Address : MYAY LATT YAR ZAR CO., LTD.  
661-, The Cor of 39<sup>th</sup> & 40<sup>th</sup> and 79<sup>th</sup> street, MHAM Township, Mandalay, Myanmar  
Tel : 09-978071268

### Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

Distribution of following pesticides registered by Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Singapore) is transferring from Agro Tech Co Ltd to Farm Link Co Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein within 2 weeks.

Sr	Trade Name	A. I	Reg No
1.	Promote 55C	Hexaconazole 50g/l	2014-2163

Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch).  
Rangoun Business Center, Room 209, No. 97, West Shwe Gon Daing Road.  
Tele: 01-8603042, 09-5145328

HAPPY 43<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY TO  
SAYARMA MAYFLORA  
(10<sup>th</sup> May 2019)

U.S.A (Ko Ko)

### TRADEMARK CAUTION

T. HASEGAWA CO., LTD., a company incorporated and existing under the laws of Japan, and having its registered office at 4-4-14, Nihonbashi-honcho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan, hereby declares that the Company is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following Trademarks:

T.HASEGAWA

長谷川香料

Reg. No. IV/16929/2019

Reg. No. IV/16926/2019



Reg. No. IV/16928/2019

Reg. No. IV/16927/2019

The above Trademarks are used in respect of “Chemicals; tea extracts for the food industry; tea extracts for use in the manufacture of cosmetics; tea extracts for use in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals; tea extracts for industrial purposes” in **Class 1**; “Fragrances; perfumery; incense; aromatics [essential oils]; aromatic preparations for personal use; flavorings for beverages or foods (essential oils); essential oils; oils for perfumes and scents” in **Class 3**; and “Food or beverage flavorings (other than essential oils); flavor enhancers for food (other than essential oils); aromatic preparations for food; flavorings, other than essential oils; coffee flavorings [flavourings]; flavourings of tea; seasonings; condiments; essences for foodstuffs, except etheric essences and essential oils; spice extracts” in **Class 30**.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the above Trademarks or other infringements whatsoever thereto will be dealt with according to law.

Daw Yee Mon Aung, Advocate

For T. HASEGAWA CO., LTD.,

c/o Baker & McKenzie Limited

Level 18, Unit 18-03, Sule Square,

221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019

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

## Norwegian Constitution Day held in Nay Pyi Taw

NORWEGIAN Embassy celebrated the Norwegian Constitution Day at Hilton Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Chairman of Union Election Commission U Hla Thein and wife, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and wife, Hluttaw representatives and invited honorable guest attended.

At the celebration, Salutation to the Nation flag and anthem of each country followed



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein, Union Ministers Dr. Pe Myint, U Win Khaing, Dr. Win Myat Aye and U Kyaw Tin, Norwegian Ambassador and attendees pose for a photo at the celebration in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

the viewing of a video on clean and plastic free ocean and the work of Clean Ocean Organi-

zation. Then, Norwegian Ambassador and Union Minister U Win Khaing delivered key

note speeches. Dinner followed group photo session.—MNA ■ (Translated by Alphonsus)



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye shakes hands with British Ambassador Mr. Daniel Patrick Chugg yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye receives British Ambassador to Myanmar

THE Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Dr. Win Myat Aye received British Ambassador Mr. Daniel Patrick Chugg at the ministry's guest hall yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed current undertakings and efforts made on social development, rule of law and social cohesion in Rakhine state, readiness since January 2018 to welcome back displaced persons on their plight in Bangladesh, and confirmation of the National Grand Strategy to be close IDP camps in the states of Rakhine,

Kachin, Shan and Kayin.

They also talk over the prioritization of social and economic development in the area as the finding of analytical report made by ASEANs Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT) suggested that diverse racial groups are living peacefully in harmony.

Then, the Ambassador discussed current state of IDPs in Cox's Bazar and their hope regarding them and approach to social cohesion in the area.—MNA ■ (Translated by Alphonsus)

## Myanmar, Mekong Region countries discuss M&E on resistance to antibiotics



Prof. Dr. Daw Htay Htay Tin delivers the opening speech at the workshop on Monitoring the Resistance to Antibiotics and Performing Research in the Mekong Region in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

ORGANIZED by the National Health Laboratory Department under the Department of Medi-

cal Services, Ministry of Health and Sports, Myanmar is hosting the Workshop on Monitoring the

Resistance to Antibiotics and Performing Research in the Mekong Region.

Held at Summit Park View Hotel in Yangon, the two-day workshop began yesterday and will conclude today.

Firstly, Prof. Dr. Daw Htay Htay Tin, Deputy Director-General of the NHL Department, delivered the opening speech followed by greetings from heads of delegations from Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam.

Attending the workshop were officials from the 12 townships of Myanmar included in the Mekong Region health security project, officials from township-level departments of

agriculture, livestock and irrigation, representatives from Mekong Region countries including Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam, China and Thailand, and representatives from domestic and foreign partner organizations.

In the two days of the workshop participants will discuss tasks for monitoring resistance to antibiotics and discovering new technologies to reduce resistance to antibiotics in the region. The countries of the Mekong Region will collaborate on researching resistance to antibiotics and setting implementation tasks.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## Union Minister U Min Thu meets GAD staff of Magway Region

U MIN THU, the Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, met with staff of the Magway Region General Administration Department at the meeting hall of the regional combined office yesterday.

Firstly, the head of the Magway Region GAD, U Wai Zin Tun, 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.

### Four vision and mission statements, three tasks

The Union Minister said it has been four months since the GAD was transferred to the Ministry of the Office of Union Government. He said the GAD has successfully laid down four vision and mission statements and three tasks for reform in order to change itself into a department that is in line with the President's guidelines, the Union Government's policy, and the political system desired by the people.

The Union Minister said the first three months were given to physical reforms and the second three months will be geared towards reforming the essence of the GAD. He said the related tasks have been submitted to the President and the State Counsellor.



Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, U Min Thu, greets staff of Magway Region General Administration Department in Magway yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

He said the State Counsellor has pointed out the need for GAD staff to be familiar with the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) when implementing the One State-One Township project. The One State-One Township Project need to be in line with MSDP as well as being a project truly required by the country and the people and thus our GAD personnel need to understand the MSDP project.

Arrangements to form a Regulatory Review Unit consisting of two ministry advisor,

ministry and GAD personnel to draw up personnel hand book and personnel ethic and to review enactments and work processes were made.

As our ministry was among the ministries that were to establish Corruption Prevention Unit (CPU), preparations were made to reorganize the setup of ministry office and once this was available, preparations were made to draw up prevention and preventive programs.

In the same way in the re-organized ministerial organiza-

tion, expansion of GAD training school was included with the aims of changing curriculum to be in line with the time and era, changing the lessons, connecting with international level university to conduct administrative courses. Arrangements were also made to have the human resources management system transparent, systematic and just to promote and transfer GAD personnel.

Reassessment committees at Nay Pyi Taw, state/region, district, township, ward/village

levels were reformed to resolve cases pertaining to land confiscation according to the guidelines established by the President and the State Counsellor.

The main duty and responsibility in the committees were assigned to GAD personnel who serves as secretaries in Nay Pyi Taw, state/region land assessment committee while GAD personnel serves as chairmen and secretaries in district land assessment committee. GAD personnel serves as chairman and secretaries in township land assessment committees.

Therefore, our GAD personnel were to perform their departmental works as well as duties and responsibilities in the land assessment committees and were urged to perform their works quickly, according to prevailing laws and rules. Magway Region land assessment committee was seen to be lagging behind in its works and thus was urged to speed up their works.

Next, matters raised by Magway region, district and township GAD personnel were coordinated by the Union Minister and the Union Minister remarked on following and complying with ministry's policy and work processes.—MNA  
■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo/ Zaw Min)

## CB, Telenor, Visa Launch co-branded Visa Credit Card

IN order to boost financial service penetration in the country and to expand member privileges for Telenor Star Platinum customers, Telenor Myanmar joined hand with CB Bank and Visa to launch CB-Telenor Co-branded Visa Credit Cards for the first time in Myanmar. The launch event was held in Lotte Hotel in Yangon today where CEO of Telenor Myanmar Mr Sharad Mehrotra, CEO of CB Bank U Kyaw Lynn and Country Manager of VISA, Ms Lillian Wang, signed the partnership agreement with the presence of media.

With the partnership, eligible Telenor Platinum Star members will be able to enjoy special privileges such as no annual fees for the first 5 years and 50% discount



CB, Telenor and Visa join together for launching the co-branded card in Yangon. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

on issuing fees when they apply for CB-Telenor Co-branded Visa Credit Cards. The growth of middle class and technology in Myanmar where consumer

credits are largely absent, the partnership will bring more opportunities to the people in Myanmar to access to financial services.—GNLM ■

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Influencer Awards 2018 to be held in Yangon

THE 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Influencer Awards 2018 will be held on 22 May at the National Theatre in Yangon. The leading social influencers will meet the newest influencers at the ceremony. The awards ceremony will be attended by 250 social influencers from across the country. Fifteen outstanding influencers among them will be awarded under different categories such as beauty and fashion, food, travel, film-making, lifestyle, and general. The selection will be made based on online votes and a panel of judges.

At the ceremony, there will also be an Micro Influencer Award for an influencer with 70,000 followers, along with the People's Choice Award, Celebrity Influencer Award, and Outstanding Influencer of the Year Award. "Followers can vote for the influencers they like using the messenger service on the

Myanmar Influencer Awards 2018 Facebook page. We will combine the scores given by the judges, online voting, and take the influencer's performance throughout the year into account while making the selection for each category," said Ma Chan Myae Khaing, head of operations, Amara Digital Marketing.

"Followers can vote free of charge and with technical support from EXP.AI technology company. They can vote via the Messenger Bot by clicking on a photo from the Facebook album.

This would make the process a lot easier and accessible for followers," said Ko Swan Htet Aung, the CEO of EXP.AI. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Influencer Awards 2018 will be streamed live on Facebook. Some customers will be receive an invite for the ceremony by lucky draw.—GNLM ■

MFF FUTSAL OPEN CUP 2019 GROUP STAGE			
<b>GROUP (A)</b> 1. MIU FC 2. 14/15 FC 3. STRATEGY FIRST UNI 4. RDZ FC	<b>GROUP (B)</b> 1. VUC FC 2. UNITEAM FC 3. FIVE TIGER FC 4. OLD MAN FC 5. MFF U-19 TEAM	<b>GROUP (C)</b> 1. ON DOCTOR FC 2. LATT WAL THANDRA 3. WINNER FC 4. UM TEAM	<b>GROUP (D)</b> 1. ENNOBLE FC 2. 41 EXT AGAIN 3. JYS FC 4. RED GHOST 5. WINNER FUTSAL FC
<b>GROUP (E)</b> 1. MYOMA YTD FC 2. BROTHERHOOD FC 3. DO DO KO KO FC 4. AUTHENTIC FC	<b>GROUP (F)</b> 1. GV ATHLETIC FC 2. SHWE PYI THAR FC 3. FUTSAL CHITTHU FC 4. KAMAYUT FUTSAL	<b>GROUP (G)</b> 1. AMM FC 2. TEAM TIGER FC 3. BTT FC 4. UNION STARS FC	<b>GROUP (H)</b> 1. SHWE MYAWADY FC 2. MYOMA YTD YOUTH 3. DREAM TEAM FC 4. WHITE COLOUR FC 5. MIU LEGEND

## Rising stars set for MFF Futsal Open Cup 2019

A drawing ceremony was held for teams participating in the Myanmar Football Federation's Futsal Open Cup 2019 at the MFF headquarters in Yangon yesterday.

A total of 35 teams are taking part in the tourney. They have been divided into eight groups of four or five teams each.

Group A has defending champions MIU F.C., 14/15 F.C., Strategy First UNI F.C., and RDZ F.C.

The VUC F.C., Uniteam F.C., Five Tiger F.C., Old Man F.C., and the MFF U-19 team have been placed in Group B.

Group C has On Doctor F.C., Latt Wal Thandra F.C., Winner

F.C., and UM Team.

The Ennoble F.C., 41 EXT Again F.C., JYS F.C., Red Ghost F.C., and Winner Futsal F.C. are in Group D.

Meanwhile, Myoma YTD F.C., Brotherhood F.C., Do Do Ko Ko F.C., and Authentic F.C. have been drawn in Group E.

Group F has GV Athletic F.C., Shwe Pyi Thar F.C., Futsal Chitthu F.C., and Kamayut Futsal F.C.

Group E features AMM F.C., Team Tiger F.C., BTT F.C., and Union Stars F.C.

Shwe Myawady F.C., Myoma YTD Youth F.C., Dream Team F.C., White Colour F.C., and MIU Legend F.C. have been placed in Group H.

The tourney, which will be held at the National Indoor Stadium I, starts 11 May, according to the organizer of the tournament.

The group stage of the tourney will be held in the round-robin format. The two best teams from each group will be selected for the second, or knockout, stage.

The winning team will get K5 million and a chance to enter the AFF Futsal Clubs Championship 2020, the second placed team will be awarded K3 million, the third placed team will be given K2 million, and the fourth placed team will get K1 million according to the Myanmar Football Federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

## Hat-trick 'superhero' Lucas leads Tottenham to brink of promised land

LONDON—Lucas Moura came to Europe dreaming of winning the Champions League but few could imagine the Brazilian's chance to fulfil his ambition would arrive with Tottenham after he was discarded by Paris Saint-Germain.

Spurs will go to Madrid on June 1 to face Liverpool thanks to Lucas's second half hat-trick that turned around a 3-0 aggregate deficit against Ajax as the club reached the final for the first time in their history.

"The Champions League final is a dream for me. Since I was a child I dreamed of this moment and now I live this moment," said an emotional Lucas. "We need to enjoy it. Look at me — it's the best moment in my life, my career."

Ajax's wonder kids had wowed the continent with their dazzling talent in eliminating Real Madrid and Juventus and seemed set to add the scalp of a jaded Tottenham to that list after 135 minutes of the tie.

In different circumstances Lucas would likely not even have been on the pitch.

Harry Kane watched on from the sidelines due to ankle ligament damage, the latest injury to have ravaged Mauricio Pochettino's over-worked squad — Spurs have not signed a single player since Lucas's arrival in January 2018. Yet after a season of ups and downs, Spurs will travel to the Spanish capital knowing they could be on the brink of the greatest night in the club's history.—AFP ■

## National League derby matches to decide half season champions

THE Week 11 derby matches of the MPT Myanmar National League 2019 are scheduled to take place in Yangon and other major cities across Myanmar on 11 and 12 May, according to a statement from the national league.

The competition has intensified with big matches lined up for the week. Shan United F.C. will be playing a decisive match against Yangon United for selecting the national league's half season champions.

Currently, Yangon United is leading the table with 20 points and a goal difference with Yadanarbon F.C. and Hantharwady United F.C. Shan United is in the fourth place with a difference of just two points. Ayeyawady United is placed fifth with a difference of just one point from Shan United, which has earned 17 points.

On 11 May at 4 p.m., a decisive derby match will take place between the defending champions Yangon United and Shan United at the Yangon United Sports Complex in Yangon.

The derby match will be broadcast live on MRTV and MRTV-4 Channels, according to the MNL.

The same day, newcomers Dagon F.C. will face Chinland F.C. at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon to decide which team can jump up from the relegation zone. The match will be streamed live on MySports' Facebook page.

Meanwhile, another much-anticipated match is scheduled to take place between Rakhine United and Ayeyawady United at the Waitharli Stadium in Sit-tway. The match will be streamed live on MySports' Facebook page.

On 12 May, Zwegapin United will take on Magwe F.C. at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon. The match will be broadcast live on MRTV.

The same day, another important derby match has been scheduled between Mandalay-based Yadanarbon F.C. and Sagaing-based Sagaing F.C. at the Bahtoo Stadium in Mandalay. The match will be streamed live on MySports' Facebook page.

Another match on the same day will feature Southern Myanmar against Hantharwady United at the Mawlamyine Stadium in Mawlamyine. The match will be streamed live on MySports' Facebook page, according to the MNL.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■



Yangon United players (white) greet the Sagaing United (Red) team before their Week-10 MNL match at the Yangon United Sports Complex on 4 May. PHOTO: YUFC

## Nadal on the up again, Ferrer ends career in Madrid

MADRID — Rafael Nadal believes he is finding his rhythm again after beginning his bid for a sixth Madrid Open title on Wednesday by beating Canadian teenager Felix Auger-Aliassime in straight sets. The victory also came hours before Nadal's fellow Spaniard David Ferrer played the final match of his career, losing 6-4, 6-1 to Alexander Zverev in

his last tournament before retirement. Nadal has endured a turbulent few weeks after slipping to surprise defeats in both Monte Carlo and Barcelona last month before then being hit by a stomach bug on Sunday. But there was never much sign of an upset in the Spanish capital, where the world number two opened up with a 6-3, 6-3 victory.—AFP ■