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Monday, 13 November 2017

Visible progress is being made in ensuring a level playing field



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for group documentary photo together with dignitaries at ASEAN Business and Investment Summit-ABIS. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit-ABIS sponsored by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN BAC), the ASEAN 50th Anniversary dinner and

the East Asia Leaders' Retreat in the Philippines yesterday.

The State Counsellor delivered address at the ABIS held at Solaire Hotel in Manila at 3.30 pm local standard time.

In her address, State Coun-

sellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said, "Significant reforms can especially be seen in the investment sector, as visible progress is being made in ensuring a level playing field." "Despite the many challenges we remain commit-

ted to stay the course, to achieve inclusive and sustainable development together with all ASEAN countries, she assured." She also made it clear that well-being of a nation was not only a function of its wealth in natural resources

but also of the knowledge and skills of its people.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor posed for a documentary photo together with the leaders of the ASEAN BAC.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (sixth from the left) poses for a documentary photo with other ASEAN heads of states at the SMX Convention Center. **PHOTO: MNA**

Visible progress is being made in ensuring a level playing field

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In the evening, the State Counsellor attended the ceremony to welcome the heads of State and the heads of government of the ASEAN and the ASEAN 50th Anniversary dinner held at SMX Convention Centre in Manila.

At the ceremony President of the Philippines Mr Rodrigo Duterte cordially welcomed State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the heads of the State/Government of the ASEAN at the SMX Convention Centre and hosted dinner in their honour.

Before attending the dinner, the State Counsellor met with Prime Minister of Australia Mr Malcolm Turnbull at the Centre and exchanged views on bilateral cooperation.

Present on the occasions were heads of the State/Government of the ASEAN member states – Brunei, Cambodia,



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with the Philippines' President Duterte and first lady. **PHOTO: MNA**

Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam – ministers, senior officials, the ASEAN secretary-general, permanent representatives of the ASEAN,

business advisors, economists, entrepreneurs, invited guests and officials.

At 11.30 am local standard time yesterday, the State Counsellor met Myanmar Ambassa-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with families and embassy staff at the Myanmar Embassy in the Philippines. **PHOTO: MNA**

dor U Win Naing and embassy staff and families, and Military Attaché Col Win Myat and staff of the military attaché office and families at the ambassador's residence. She inquired

about the health and education matters and told them to abide by the diplomatic ethics. Later she attended the luncheon hosted by the ambassador. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin attends ASEAN Ministerial Meetings

MINISTER of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin a member of the Myanmar delegation led by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrived in the Philippines and attended 16th ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Meeting which was held at Marriott

Grand Ballroom D, Manila yesterday 10am. He also attended 20th ASEAN Coordination Council (ACC) Meeting which was held 11:30pm.

Foreign Affairs Minister of ASEAN nations and ASEAN General-Secretary were present at the meetings and

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and Myanmar Permanent representative to ASEAN Ambassador U Min Lwin, Director General of ASEAN Affairs Department U Myint Thu and officials also attended the meeting. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin at a meeting. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Message of Greetings sent by President U Htin Kyaw on the occasion of the 97th Anniversary of National Day Celebrations (13 November 2017)

Dear Esteemed Nationals of the Union,

On this auspicious occasion of the 97th Anniversary of National Day which falls on the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1397 (November 13), I wish to send my Message of Greetings and good wishes to all the ethnic national races and Union citizens for their auspiciousness, good health and happiness.

If we take a look back into history to understand why we have been celebrating our National Days annually, we may see that it originated from the fact that the university students from Rangoon University and Judson College began their strike on this day the 10th

Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1282 (5 December 1920), to protest the promulgation of the University Act which placed restrictions on the right of Myanmar citizens to pursue university education. From this strike to protest the unlawful University Act, the students strike spread and reverberated to all parts of the country. As a consequence of this strike, the nationalistic spirit of the Myanmar people matured and national schools sprouted up all over the country. This students strike was not only confined to university education but finally emerged as a huge revolution which natured and mobilized our nationalistic spirit. The nationalistic spirit which was given birth by this

revolution developed and grew stronger and finally became strong enough for us to gain our Independence.

The ninth GCBA meeting which was held in Mandalay from 21 to 24 October 1921 began discussions to designate the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, 1282, the day on which the first students strike began as National Day and the GCBA Special Meeting which began deliberations on 17 June 1922 decided and approved that this day should be designated as National Day. Starting from that day onwards to ensure that the spirit of nationalism would always be embedded in the hearts of the people, we have been celebrating National Day all over the

country with pomp and ceremony every year and this year marks the 97th year, moving closer towards our centenary year.

This is the time when all the people of the Union should show the strength of their unity and elevate it to the greatest height. At this time the Union Government, the people, the Tatmadaw, Hluttaw, political parties, community-based organizations, and ethnic armed groups are all on the path of national development in unity like never before. That is why all organizations should walk on this correct path steadfastly, together with the people, without wavering or losing balance while nurturing our unity to new levels of strength.

At the same time, today in Myanmar, we have been convening the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong to establish a genuine Democratic Federal Union.

With firm aspirations, on this our National Day, as we work for the emergence of a Union based on democracy and federalism, I earnestly urge all the people to hold in highest esteem the following National Day objectives and work with the strength of national unity: -

- Perpetuation and strengthening of Nationalism
- Work for Union Peace
- All round development of all ethnic national races
- Emergence of a Democratic Federal Union

IPD issuing NVC and conducting NID recording in Rakhine State

A media team led by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint was in northern Rakhine State where they are ensuring real time reporting of humanitarian aid distribution, rehabilitation and development undertakings in the area.

Accompanied by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, the team started its 50-nautical mile journey from Sittway to Buthidaung yesterday morning.

Hovercrafts with 100 passenger capacity are plying between on Mayu River between the two towns. The Union minister and the chief minister and party observed peace, stability and social progress in Buthidaung in a motorcade.

At a beach near Alethankyaw village in Maungtau Township, they inquired about the motive of some Bengalis of some villages in Yathedaung and Buthidaung townships preparing to leave for the other country.

Despite the food and security guarantee from the central government and the Rakhine State government assured by the Union minister and the chief minister, those Bengalis insisted on going to the other



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint presents aid to ethnic people. **PHOTO: MNA**

country.

At a meeting with villagers in Alethankyaw village, they looked into the requirements of restoring regional peace and stability.

They then inspected the temporary resettlement of Mro people of Kainggyi village who were terrorized out of the homes by extremist ARSA terrorist at a place near Thanda village and a new housing project near the village. The in-charge of the project, Daw Nilar Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transport, reported on

work progress.

Over 100 Mro households of Shwebaho, Seinpanmyaing and Kainggyi villages will be resettled at the new housing project which includes clean water and solar power supply system, one-storey brick houses and a village school.

At the briefing hall, they met the Mro people and gave words of encouragement. The Union minister presented K 2.3 million, K 5000 each for 46 households of the temporary residential area.

In the afternoon, they observed the electronic re-



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and Chief Minister U Nyi Pu meet people of Islamic faith. **PHOTO: MNA**

cording of the national verification process at Shwezar village-tract in Maungtau township.

Immigration and Population Department has issued NVCs for 132 Hindus of Kyaunggyilan Ward in Sittway on 28 and 30 October and 1 November, 213 Hindus in Dan-yawady stadium from 1 to 5 November, conducted NID recording of 280 persons, issued NVC for 64 in Ngayantchaung village, Buthidaung township, and conducted NID recording of 65 persons on 1 and 2 November, issued NVC for 699 of

Shwezar village-tract and conducted NID recording of 737 from 12 October up to this date. NVC holders and non-holders have been recorded through NID and bio metric methods.

The Union minister, the chief minister and party observed the site where Kanyinchaung special economic zone will be set up and border fencing.

They also inspected the re-opened border gate in Maungtau and met with Hindus taking shelter at a school in Maungtau. — Myanmar News Agency ■

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe,
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

EXPATRIATE CONSULTANT EDITOR

Mark Angeles,
markangeles@gmail.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS

Khin Maung Oo,
editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Khin Maung Win (Chief Proof Reader),
Zaw Min, zawmin.gnlm@gmail.com

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
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Sandar Soe
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTERS

May Thet Hnin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
mayreporter.mnm@gmail.com
Tun Aung Kyaw,
reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAM

Tun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team),
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin

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.com

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gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/
globalnewlightofmyanmar

More traditional hospitals to be opened nationwide

May Thet Hnin

PLANS are underway to extend more traditional hospitals in wide parts of the country, said U Myint Oo, a director from the Department of Traditional Medicine.

The Department of Traditional Medicine said it will officially open 19 hospitals and eight township departments of traditional medicine in the near future. These facilities have been constructed since 2014-15 fiscal year.

Arrangements are being made to soon open a 50-bed traditional medicine hospital in Bago Town; 25-bed hospitals in Bawlakhe, Kalay, NyaungU and Kengtung towns; and 16-bed hospitals in Yedashe, Gyobingauk, Pyu, Mawlamyine, Mansi, Kantbalu, YeU, Htigyaing, Dawei, Nyaunglaybin, Paungte, Pyawbwe, Kyauktaw and Kyethi townships.

The township departments of traditional medicine is scheduled to be launched in Shartaw, Htantalan, Wetlet, Tamu, Hopan, Dekkinathiri, Zabuthiri and Zeyathiri towns.



Traditional Medicine Hospital in Kalay is under construction. Photo was taken in 2015. **PHOTO: PON LUN-IPRD**

At present, the number of people who rely on traditional medicine for their primary healthcare needs has significantly increased. This is the main reason for extension of traditional medicine hospitals and health department, U Myint Oo said. “The health facilities have already been built in the project areas. Continuous efforts are being made to construct staff housings and install electricity

connection, water supply system and other necessities for the new buildings. Upon completion, these new hospitals will be opened as quickly as possible,” he added.

U Win Myint Oo, head of Yangon Region Traditional Medicine Department, said that healthcare services have been given to patients at the 100-bed hospitals through seven units, including general medicine unit,

outpatient unit, child health unit and paralysis unit.

“The majority of patients are suffering from paralysis, stroke and orthopedic,” he added. Traditional treatment of rehabilitation such as massage and fomentation are also available at outpatient department of traditional medicine hospitals.

For the time being, there are three 100-bed hospitals in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw. A total of 28 hospitals including nine 50-bed hospitals, 26-bed and 16-bed hospitals have been opened in other towns. The number of township department of traditional medicine has reached 210 nationwide.

Authorities conducted checks on drug stores as some unregistered mixed medicines are available in the market. Last fiscal year, 63 brands were found to be unregistered medicines. Traditional medical practitioners have urged the people to receive treatment at traditional medicine hospitals and clinics and take medicines after checking the registration and expiry dates of traditional medicines. ■

Winter birds start migrating to Paleik Lake

WINTER birds have started migrating to Palake Lake which is a Ramsar region in Singaing Township, Kyaukse District, Mandalay Region, since early November, according to the Myawady Daily.

Normally, these migratory birds came to the lake in early December. Wild swans and other rare birds can be found in the area.

The lake is home to 37 species of water bird, seven other bird species and eight fish species.

According to the surveys conducted in 2012-2013, 30 water bird species, 11 winter bird



Wild swans and other rare birds can be found in Paleik Lake. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

species and 19 regional bird species were also spotted in the lake. Located about 9.3 miles, southwest of Mandalay

and at 89 feet above the sea level, the Paleik Lake is the lake with the largest number of migratory birds in the region. It had an area of 323.76 hectares in the rainy season. The area shrinks to 40.47 hectares in the summer.

According to bird watchers, more than 30 species of migratory birds were at the lake last winter season.

The majority of the migratory birds come to the Paleik, Pyu and Taungthaman lakes.

For the time being, the lake is crowded with photographers, bird watchers and natural lovers.—GNLM ■

MyME project educates more than 3,000 out-of-school children in three years

THE Myanmar Mobile Education Project (MyME) has successfully provided non-formal education to over 3,000 out-of-school children over the past three years, according to project implementers.

With the aim of improving the lives of out-of-school children currently working at tea-

shops, restaurants, and other menial jobs, the MyME's teaching programme is classified into three levels — beginner level, level I and level II.

The syllabus includes basic literacy, mathematics and computer skills. The young learners will also be taught basic knowledge of life skills,

personal hygiene and social skills. Under the programme, each child is offered six hours of lessons per week.

The project has been implemented with the aid of Telenor, a Norwegian mobile company, since early 2015.

The partnership between MyME and the telecom oper-

ator help unlock the children's potential to achieve better career opportunities, one of the project's implementers said.

According to the latest available census figures, about 1.7 million children between 10 and 17 years of age are working in Myanmar.—GNLM ■

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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.



Photo shows sesame field in Ywar Mone Gyi village, Myittha Township. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN

Peanut, green gram, paddy and sesame to be granted GAP certificate this winter season

AGRICULTURE Department will grant a certificate of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for peanut, green gram, paddy and sesame, according to yesterday's report of Myawady Daily.

In a bid to receive GAP certificate, those winter crop plantations in Khayan and Thongwa townships in Yangon

Region are designated to be in line with GAP. Moreover, efforts are being made to disseminate GAP guidelines to the growers in other regions and states. Agriculture Department planned to issue GAP certificate for 15 agro items. In addition to GAP certificate, other certificates are also needed for agro products to

meet the criteria set by other buyers' countries. Last year, 27 mango farms and some tomato plantations were granted GAP certificate.

Some growers are still unknown how to apply for GAP certificate and some of them also want further services down to farm. —GNLM ■

Border trade with India down by \$20 million against similar period of last FY

BORDER trade between Myanmar and India as of 3rd November in current fiscal year fetched US\$39 million which is a decrease of \$21 million compared to that of last FY, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar's border trade with India flows in and out of these gates- Tamu and Reed.

Tamu checkpoint showed a decrease of \$22 million against similar period of last FY whereas Reed performed a million more than last FY. Myanmar's export to India surpassed its import through land points of entry. Consumer goods such as apparels and betel nuts are main export items to India through

border trade. Spices, cigarette, apple, mango, coconut, beverages, soap, canned fish, etc are also exported to India. The vast majority of Myanmar's pulses go to India's market mostly via sea route. Bilateral trade between India and Myanmar in first half of this FY amounted to \$844 million. —Ko Htet ■

JOTUN Company opens new paint plant in Bago Region

JOTUN Company, Norwegian chemicals company dealing mainly in decorative paints and performance coatings, opened a new paint plant in Phayathonesu, Bago Region with a capital of Ks14 billion last Saturday.

This plant will produce all kinds of paints such as decorative

paints for interior or exterior of the buildings and coatings.

As foreign enterprises invest in the country, job opportunities will emerge for young people, U Win Thein, Bago Region Chief Minister told Myawady Daily.

This plant is running with

90 per cent of local labour force, said Vo Chi Linh, the general manager of JOTUN Company.

JOTUN Company submitted its investment proposal to Myanmar Investment Commission in 2013 and MIC gave a green light to establish a plant in Myanmar in 2014. —GNLM ■

External trade hit US\$18.9 billion as of early November this FY

VALUES of international trade with its foreign partners over past seven months of current FY reached US\$18.9 billion, which increased by \$3 billion more than similar period of last FY. Between 1st April and 3rd November, there is a trade deficit of \$2.23 billion as export value estimated \$8.29 billion and import value was about \$10.6 billion.

Myanmar conducted foreign trade with via sea route and border gates. Trade value is up by \$3.26 billion via sea route whereas border trade shows a steep de-

cline of \$185 million. Myanmar's agro products, natural gas, livestock, forestry products, minerals, fishery products and finished industrial goods are exported to the foreign trade partners. Capital goods such as machinery, construction tools including steel, products used in telecommunication, vehicles and auto parts, raw industrial materials including petroleum products, plastic raw materials, fertilizers, chemicals, etc and pharmaceuticals, the largest consumer product, are imported in to the country.—GNLM ■

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● Market Place by City Mart (Junction City)	● City Mart (Sule Square)
● City Mart (Aung San Stadium)	● City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
● City Mart (47th street)	● 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)
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Myanmar will work together with all ASEAN family members to become more connected and integrated

The following is the address delivered by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit held in Manila, the Philippine, on 12 November.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Excellencies, ASEAN Economic Ministers, Speakers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon!

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN BAC) for hosting and organizing this ASEAN Business and Investment Summit under the theme "World Leaders' Roadmap Towards Prosperity for All".

ASEAN BAC was formed in 2002, and since then events such as this have been held annually to enhance the interaction and engagement between Public and Private Sectors. This regular engagement clearly demonstrates the commitment of ASEAN governments in acknowledging the critical role of the private sector in economic development and regional integration.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The ASEAN economy has grown tremendously in recent decades, becoming the 7th largest economy in the world. In terms of population, our 648 million people make us larger than either the EU or North America.

The ASEAN economy is invigorated by a significant proportion of young people in our labor force, which is the 3rd largest after China and India. Since 2004 ASEAN's annual GDP growth has averaged over 5 percent, out-

pace that of any other region.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Myanmar is a member of the ASEAN family, and our economy too has been growing rapidly as we roll out rigorous reforms and structural changes in every sector.

Significant reforms can especially be seen in the investment sector, as visible progress is being made in ensuring a level playing field, in strengthening competition, and in creating a favorable, predictable and friendly investment climate.

Central to all of this is the role of the private sector, which is being enabled through various mechanisms that include, but are not limited to, Private-Public-Partnership arrangements which ensure that the private sector plays an important role in developing major hard and soft infrastructure projects that will contribute in no small measure towards the economic development of our nation. Various steps such as establishing one stop service centers, adopting the concept of a single-window system, developing online electronic application systems, etc., are being taken to reduce bureaucratic red-tape, and to create an enabling business environment in which private entities can flourish.

For Myanmar, newly emerged from decades of economic and political isolation, and amid the recent global economic slowdown, there are many challenges. Yet, despite these, we remain committed to stay the

course, to achieve inclusive and sustainable development together with all ASEAN countries. As a responsible member of ASEAN, Myanmar will work together with all ASEAN family members to become more connected and integrated, economically and socially. In the process of such integration, human capital – our intellectual and creative resources – play a pivotal role in filling the gap between diverse ASEAN member countries at different stages of economic and social development.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Myanmar hosted the International Women's Forum in 2013 to acknowledge the important role women play in economic and social development, the vital role played by the creativity and resilience of women in our country's transformation, and the need for women's perspective in bringing about sustainable social change. More and more women entrepreneurs have emerged to participate vigorously in the transformation, demonstrating the increasing importance of women in the social but also in the economic sphere.

While I am delighted to witness the active participation of women entrepreneurs in the private sector, I am also inspired by the millions of women who toil each day, holding their heads high in the face of every adversity, saving and sacrificing so that our children can enjoy a better life. All these women should be empowered for themselves, for their families and for their contribution to the transformation of Myanmar. For their shared contributions across ASEAN, the lived experiences that cement the integration of our countries into a common family.

The majority of enterprises in Myanmar led by women entrepreneurs are small and medium sized. Being SMEs, challenges are everywhere – and range across access to finance, access to markets, access to land, access to information, and access to technology. And, as if these challenges were not enough, women have to cope with gender discrimination as

well. Measures need to be taken to empower them to overcome these social constraints, strengthen their potential, and unleash their economic power to contribute towards their nation's development.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Report after report by scholars and international organizations assert the importance of gender equality. It is sometimes said that the one unambiguous and non-trivial fact in economic development literature is the strong and statistically significant correlation between the empowerment of women and economic growth. A landmark study by the FAO demonstrated that closing the gender gap in agricultural decision-making would lead to a 20-30 percent increase in farm yield. In Myanmar, women account for approximately half of the agricultural workforce. However, women are too often confined to farm labour and not properly recognized as a major driver of farm decision making, from crop selection to planting times, and much too frequently excluded from entitlement.

To achieve positive change in women's rights, it is important to increase the number of girls enrolling in primary and secondary school, improve the participation of women in the labour force, ensure better maternal health outcomes, provide more solid social protection measures, and promote the role of women in decision making.

The participation of women in recent social, political and economic changes is remarkable in many countries. However, women are still missing out on opportunities in countless areas. The social norm that equates women with unskilled labour and perceived them as mere homemakers incapable of making decisions is one of our biggest challenges.

In recognition of the importance of women's role in the achievement of economic and social development, Myanmar has developed a ten year National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women. This

plan is based on the 12 Priority Areas of the Beijing Platform for Action and the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to which Myanmar became a signatory in 1997. Our Plan is ambitious but achievable and Myanmar is committed to creating an enabling environment for women that will allow them to realize their full potential.

It is said that women hold up half the sky. And, they nurture half – probably more – of the earth. The contribution of women towards economic and social development can be significant not only in Myanmar, but throughout our region. By recognizing this potential, let us create an environment where women can unleash their economic power – for our countries individually, for our integrated community that we call ASEAN... and for a better world.

Human Capital Development

Today, there is growing recognition that the well-being of a nation is not only a function of its wealth in natural resources but also of the knowledge and skills of its people. The experience of newly industrialized countries such as South Korea and Singapore serve to underscore that increased knowledge and skills can bring about better economic outcomes for both individuals and nations. The quality of human resources of a country has a bearing on its economic development.

Clearly, human capital development is key to social and economic development of countries.

Developing countries must strive to develop human capital. This can be done through education and training to produce qualified and trained workforce who can compete in the changing global economic environment. In today's world, human capital development is essential for attaining sustainable economic growth and development. Education has an important role to play in the development human capital of a nation. Investment in education can help promote faster economic growth.

Thank you.

Distance University Students studying peacefully in Rakhine State

DUE to increasing number of higher level education students in Rakhine State, new classrooms, student's dormitories and departmental housings will be implemented in upcoming budget year according to the Department of Higher Education.

Intensive course and final examination are being held at Sittway sub department of Yangon University of Distance Education and First batch exam will be held in October 2017 while second and third batches exam in October and November, 2017 respectively.

"The third batch of the distance studies are being studied in Sittway University and Taunggye University. The Major courses are prescribed as Myanmar, History, Economics and Business Management studies in there. The students there are from first year to fourth year. In the third batch, there are 9,525 students in Sittway University and 5,488 students in Taunggye University. The University students of people of Islamic faith from Northern Rakhine State in Taunggye University are studying peacefully at a Distance Education Sub Department in Thandwe and University students from Southern Rakhine State are also being lectured at Thetkel Pyin Basic Education High School (BEHS). The two Major courses; History and Myanmar have being lectured in ThetkelPyin BEHS. There are seven University students in History Major. There is a large number of students with sufficient courses in Sittway University. Some lecturers from Sittway University have sent to sub department in Thandwe while some lecturers from Yangon University also came and aided in Thetkel Pyin.

"I'm now here to observe



Dr Thein Win.



Dr Win Naing.



Daw Moe Moe Aung.



Documentary photo taken with Chief Administrator Dr. Thein Win. **PHOTO: KAN TUN**

the current condition of studying students in the Universities. All the conditions are convenient as State Government is also aiding to the Universities known by the rector of Sittway University. We have also arranged 4 buses for the transportation of the students and lecturers. For more convenient of people of Islamic faith Students, we have launched such sub-departments. As numbers of matriculation passing students increase, demands of the Universities is bigger too. We will implement further new classrooms, student's dormito-

ries and departmental housings in coming budget year", said Director General of Higher Education Department, Dr. Thein Win.

"I want to say many thanks for providing education for us like that. At first I thought I cannot learn such a University Studies but I'm very happy now as many lecturers are coming to teach us here. I would like to welcome freshly passed matriculation students to apply for the University and I want to say let's learn together", said Maung Zaw Htet Aung from Sittway Thel Chaung rescue camp who is studying

Myanmar Major in first year of Thetkel Pyin Distance Education sub department.

"Firstly I want to express my gratitude for having opportunities to learn the higher education in our own places. We have not learned our studies for a period of time. I was even not expected to having such kind of opportunity. After graduation, I will serve as a lecturer in a University. I would like to urge other postponed students to join our University for our graduations as we can learn our higher studies independently", said Ma Htay

Htay Myint from Ohn Taw Gyi rescue camp who is studying Myanmar Major in first year of Thetkel Pyin Distance Education sub department.

"As I am the only one who taking History Major and I can learn directly with my teachers. As all my teachers consider me as their son, I believe I can pass my final examination. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the officials for arranging such opportunity for us", said Maung Maung Hla from ThetkelPyin Village who is studying History Major in first year of ThetkelPyin Distance Education sub department.

Daw Moe Moe Aung, a lecturer from English Department from Dagon University who is teaching at ThetkelPyin Distance Education sub department said, "there are a total of eight students including seven Myanmar major students and one History Major student. We are teaching them by normal school schedule, 50 minutes for a period, ranging from 8 am to 1pm a day. We have no difficulty and we are teaching them as our former ordinary students".

Head Professor of Sittway University Dr. Win Naing said, "There is a Arts and Science university and degree college in Rakhine State. There are courses and exams held in Sittway-ThakelPyin Village for people of Islamic faith students who are unable to attend the university this year due to some difficulties.

There is another exam in Thandwe city as well. The Union Government has sent seven teachers from universities in Yangon to teach at these classes in ThakelPyin. I think if there are more educated people in the region then regional stability will follow." —Tin Tun (IPRD) ■



A class in session in Basic Education High School in Thetkel Pyin village. **PHOTO: MNA**



Chief Administrator Dr. Thein Win observes a class in session. **PHOTO: MNA**



Htay Htay Myint



Zaw Htet Aung

Together with the people

Khin Maung Oo

ACCORDING to the notification issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Irrigation, implementation of the farming service program is underway in co-operation between the State and the private sector. Shortage of laborers is a major problem in the national farming sector. As the season changes timely farming and harvest is a challenge for farmers.

It has been learnt that the ministry has intended for farmers to get agricultural machineries of great value and high quality on hire purchase

just by paying a little amount of money initially, to be able to use in their agricultural farming. The MALBI will form farming service associations in cooperation with the private sector; it was learnt. Yet, the information seems to be unclear as to which arrangements are being made for effective utilization of agricultural machineries among the Ministry, private economic enterprises and farmers.

In the invitation of the Ministry it was described that detailed facts are available at the Ministry, for the benefit of entrepreneurs from the private sector desirous of joining the above-said

farming service program. Accordingly, it is clear that the Ministry has laid down procedures, rules and regulations on agricultural farming service associations.

Here, we would like to suggest that not only private business persons but farmers also should know the procedures, rules and regulations on agricultural farming service associations. Likewise, the state-owned mechanized agricultural department's stations should have made arrangements for the public including farmers to be well convinced of its efforts being carried out for the benefit of farmers

with small-scale farming plots. To be honest, we would like our people to join the efforts of the people's Government for socio-economic development, with full knowledge.

The major political need for national development is the mobilization of the entire population for their enthusiastic participation.

To sum it up, we humbly urge the respective ministries to launch campaigns for sharing knowledge and education more broadly among the people, keeping in their minds that in politics, "to win the hearts and minds of the people" is the ultimate key to success. ■

EVERY country in the world has its own significant and honourable days in connection with the national affairs.

As for Myanmar, the National Day is one of its significant national occasions. The colonialist waged three aggressive wars against Myanmar and in the end annexed it. Under the Yandabo Agreement in 1824, Myanmar had to give Rakhine State and Taninthayi Region to the colonialists. After the Second Anglo-Myanmar War in 1852, the lower Myanmar up to Bago and Pyay townships fell under British colonization. After the third Anglo-Myanmar in 1885, the whole country fell under colonialists' subjugation.

During the colonial subjugation, Myanmar people launched struggles to regain independence through various armed struggles and through gatherings and rallies. In addition Myanmar representatives went to Britain to meet with their counterparts to demand independence. But all the efforts were

The National Day

Padaung Than Kywe

not so much effective then. The most effective struggle was the National Movement that occurred on the 10th waning Day of Myanmar month Tazaungmone in 1282 ME.

The colonialist education system up to 1920 was just to produce servants for the British empire. It was a slave education system. There was no university then. There were only the Yangon college and Justin college in Yangon and they were just the institution under the control of Calcutta University in India. The curriculum was laid down by the Calcutta University. Although the examinations were held in Yangon questions were issued by the Calcutta University. The higher education was out of the reach of the majority of Myanmar student youths. It was an education system created just for children of the rich and high level officials. It aims at benefitting the colonialists and their cohorts.

Time and again the YMBA launched campaigns demanding the establishment of a university in Myanmar. The then colonial government in Myanmar formed the experts committee to draw the Universities Act in June 1918. The committee drew and submitted the Universities Act which included only the academic lessons and no practical lesson in September 1920. The bill stated that there must be a university in Myanmar; that only the boardering students could attend it; that those who passed the government-held high school final (there was no matriculation examination) could attend it; that those who passed English and one other subject with flying colours could attend it; that only one attempt for honours

and arts courses; that there must be an intermediate course before entering the university; that those who failed to meet the set standard would not be allowed to enter the university although he/she passed the intermediate course. So the Act was collectively opposed by students, the dailies, GCBA and Madatha. Despite the broader opposition, the then governor general of Myanmar ignored all the demands, saying that Myanmar people had no knowledge of the education. He declared that the Act came into effective on 1 December that year. The next day students leaders held meeting where they decided the opposition of the Act by both colleges. The colonialist government announced 7th December as the opening date of the university. The students of both universities quit classes and declared their opposition of the ACT on 5th December 1920 (the 10th waning Day of Myanmar month Tazaungmone in 1282 ME). Basic education students in support of their seniors also stayed away from attending classes and joined in the rally against the Act in Bahan. Later, it spread to other parts of Myanmar as the education revolution. The people were firmly behind the students. But the authorities of Yangon college did not pay attention to the aspirations of the student, instead released an announcement saying that all students who failed to come back to the classes on 23 December would be dismissed from the respective colleges or schools. The spirited students show that they were not afraid of being dismissed the schools. On 29 December GCBA held a meeting and declared the opening of national schools, colleges and universi-

ties in Myanmar, the turning of schools under the YMBA into national schools and the leaving of government schools for good. Thanks to enthusiasm and support of the people, the national schools appeared. The National University emerged, and eminent persons like Thakin Ko Daw Hmaing, Sayadaw U Nyana, Deedo U Ba Cho served as volunteer faculty members. On August 1921, the National University was successfully opened at Bahan Shwekyin monastery. Later the National Education Council emerged and could organize the opening of national schools in the length and breadth of the country.

The movement led by students to oppose the colonial education was a vitally important step in the anti-colonialist struggle of that time. The support of the GCBA was also much helpful to the revitalization of patriotic spirit. The movement brought forward the national schools as well as the modern education concepts. It also aroused the political awareness, national unity and nationalistic fervor. It was the proof and success of the Myanmar spirit. The ninth GCBA conference held in Mandalay on 24 October 1921 unanimously agreed the 10th waning Day of Myanmar month Tazaungmone in 1282 ME on which the students started their movement as the National Day. It was approved at the GCBA conference held at the Jubilee Hall in Yangon in June 1922. The day has been marked as the National Day or the National Victory and observed annually. This year is the 97th National Day. The national torch erected and ignited by our forefathers has fostered patriotism and nationalistic fervor of Myanmar people. It also served as the vital step in restoring independence and sovereignty. It is the inborn duty of the entire Myanmar people to relay the essence of the National Day to the posterity. ■

Translated by Tin Maung Than

The movement led by students to oppose the colonial education was a vitally important step in the anti-colonialist struggle.

Union minister for Planning and Finance U Kyaw Win attends ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting

UNION Minister for Planning and Finance U Kyaw Win and party who arrived in Manila, the Philippine to attend 31st ASEAN Summit and related summits which will be held on 13 and 14 November attended the pre-coordination Meeting of ASEAN Economic Ministers, 15th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Meeting, ASEAN-Japan Business Meeting and ministerial meeting for regional all sector economic cooperation which are held at Marriott Hotel yesterday.

ASEAN's economic ministers and representatives from China, Japan, Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand involved at regional all sector economic cooperation and ASEAN's Deputy General Secretary and repre-

sentatives attended the meetings.

To be able to sign the final draft agreement for ASEAN-Japan all sector economic cooperation in 2018, the businesses development which are carried out in priority during the term of the chairmanship of Philippine, the development processes of ASEAN Business Community in 2017, to finalize the coordination for regional all sector cooperation and upcoming works were discussed.

The report of ASEAN Business Community Council which submits to the national leaders during the ASEAN summit and the report which related to regional all sector economic development that included at the statement of 31st ASEAN Sum-



Union Minister U Kyaw Win poses with other representatives at the 15th ASEAN Economic Community Council Meeting in Manila, Philippines. **PHOTO: MNA**

mit were also confirmed.

In the evening, the union minister attended the Forum on

Unleashing Women Economic Power and Human Capital Development which was held during

the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit at Solaire Hotel. — Myanmar news Agency ■

Foreign media interviews Muslims heading to Bangladesh

REPORTS say that many Muslims are leaving their villages in Rakhine State and heading to Bangladesh after the attacks by ARSA terrorists in the region.

Foreign media agencies in Yangon have travelled to Rakhine State to gather information on the reason for Muslims leaving for Bangladesh. Media representatives travelled to Alelthan Kyaw Village and met the 2,000 Muslims temporarily taking shelter along the coast and the media also met with the 70 Muslims currently living along the coast between Mhowin Creek and Gawdutharra Creek.

Afterwards, the Office of the Commander-in-Chief reports that the media representatives asked questions on regional security measures to Brig-Gen Aye Lwin, the Deputy Administrator of the Office for Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Operations under the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), and Deputy Police Commander Myint Kyaw, who is currently on duty as part of the security force in Rakhine. —MNA ■



Journalists from foreign media agencies interview Muslims planning to flee to Bangladesh from Rakhine. **PHOTO: MNA**



Many Muslims are taking temporary shelter near coastal areas before their planned departure to Bangladesh. **PHOTO: MNA**

Youth's day introduction ceremony in Rakhine State

YOUTH volunteers from all over Myanmar have volunteered to help in Maungdaw District in Rakhine State and a ceremony to introduce the volunteers and their work, titled "Youth for the people", was held in the regional government's office on 11 November.

At the ceremony, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, gave the opening address. Next, U Min Aung, Minister for Rakhine State Development Committee, explained the challenges that young volunteers may encounter and he also explained plans for supporting the volunteers.

Afterwards, Deputy Admin-

istrator U Aung Kyaw Moe, from Department of Social Welfare, explained the work plans and future plans for the 20 days of Youth for the people. A representative of the volunteers, Ma Yin Moe thanked the officials on behalf of the volunteers.

Ma Yin Moe said, "I am honored that we can work on this large scale philanthropic work hand in hand with support from government departments. We will help the people with no racial, religious discrimination from us and give it our all with a humanistic approach."

The Deputy Minister, U Soe Aung, then gave the closing speech. —Tin Htun (IPRD) ■



Youth volunteers and officials from Rakhine State meet at the "Youth for the people" ceremony held on 11 November. **PHOTO: MNA**

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the Global New Light of Myanmar at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.). — Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

Ava ancient city attracts more visitors in early peak season

INTERNATIONAL tourists are visiting Ava ancient city, one of popular destinations in central Myanmar, at the beginning of high season, residents say. There are numerous ancient structures throughout the region. The groups of Buddhist pagodas and temples built in Nyaungyan Dynasty can be found behind the Bagaya Monastery, the teak wood Buddhist monastery situated in the southwest of Inwa Palace. The area hosts flocks of visitors at home and abroad on a daily basis.

Visitors say that they enjoy the beautiful landscapes with old buildings decorated with ancient architecture de-

signs, the cool breeze and mist at sunrise in the area.

The famous pagodas built in Nyaungyan Dynasty include Kyaunglain Pagoda, Myintmotaung Pagoda, Sulamani Pagoda, Wingaba Pagoda and Lawkaduthamanaung Pagoda. The Inwa area is a popular day-trip tourist destination from Mandalay. At the present time, horse wagons especially for visitors are popular among tourists. There are about 200 local women operating horse-cart in the area. Horse-cart drivers typically make two trips per day. Most of the rides feature four famous tourist sites in the ancient city.

—Than Zaw Min (IPRD) ■



PHOTO: THAN ZAW MIN (IPRD)

Yangon Region creates over 5,000 jobs for locals

YANGON Region Investment Committee said it has created over 5,000 employment opportunities for local job seekers since August, according to a report of the Myawady Daily's Saturday edition.

The committee has approved 13 foreign investment projects during the past three months, which are believed to have created nearly 5,460 job opportunities for locals, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Between August and early

November, the committee has given the green light to 13 foreign investment projects requested by investors from China, Singapore, Korea, China (Taipei) and Hong Kong with an investment of US\$18.412 million in total. The investments went to industrial and service sectors. On 8 November, the Yangon Region Investment Committee approved a new full foreign investment project, with a total investment of \$300,000. Thanks to the new project, 174 locals are believed to have received jobs.—GNLM ■

Yangon Children Hospital plans to provide kidney transplant service next year

YANGON Children Hospital will offer kidney transplants to children beginning in next January, according to a report of the MWD daily on Sunday.

Dr Cho Cho San, associated professor from the YCH, said that acute renal failures and chronic kidney diseases are found among child patients. Acute renal failure (ARF) is an

important cause of morbidity and mortality in snake bite patients.

The number of child patients suffering from kidney failures is increasing day by day. The hospital continues to provide effective treatment with potent drugs. The hospital welcomes donations and well-wishers may dial 01 222808.—GNLM ■

Myanmar to host Exhibition on Indigenous Medicine, Greater Mekong

May Thet Hnin

MYANMAR, one of six countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion, will host for the first time the 8th Indigenous Medicine and Related Products Greater Mekong Basin Exhibition in conjunction with a seminar on traditional medicine.

Dr. Myint Myint Than, director of Department of Traditional Medicine, said that the seminar is scheduled to take place on 20-21 November at the Summit Parkview Hotel in Yangon. Around 100 medical practitioners, researchers and representatives from Myanmar, China, Thailand, Laos, Viet Nam and Cambodia are expected to attend the seminar to exchange their views on traditional medicine.

"During the biannual event, traditional medicine doctors in the Mekong subregion discuss and exchange their views on the development of traditional medicine as well as the appropriate use of medicines and treatment. The seminar is an opportunity

to introduce a diverse range of traditional methods of therapy by countries," she added.

"Plans are underway to conduct traditional medicine courses in the future for the purpose of strengthening the traditional ways of treatment. It is difficult to show scientific evidence for some traditional therapies. Myanmar scholars will present some unusual treatments with the use of brick and iron as well as some magical methods of therapy of ethnic people," said Dr. Myint Myint Than.

Event organisers say that the exhibition is set to take place from 21 through 24 November at Yangon's Tatmadaw Convention Hall, inviting enthusiasts to come to the free event.

U Kyaw Soe, deputy director-general of the department of traditional medicine, said that a wide range of traditional medicines and herbal products will be showcased by exhibitors from six countries in over 100 booths. Visitors may observe 14 famous Myanmar tradition-

al medical practitioners, treatment processes, laboratory testing processes and ancient medical treatments recorded on palm leaves.

Rare herbal plants, medical products manufactured from the aforesaid department, medicinal herb gardens, locally-produced herbal products, supplements from 34 factories, laboratory equipment and related materials will also be displayed at the expo for sale, he continued.

In addition, visitors may undergo a free medical examination, especially for diabetes and low bone density, which will be arranged by Yangon Traditional Medicine Hospital. Health seminars will also be held during the four-day event, with a focus on raising knowledge on traditional methods of treatments using egg and fulgurite, the lightning stone.

Literary talks will also be conducted during the event. Popular writers will share their knowledge and experiences to the audiences. ■

Paddy harvesting in Maungtaw region in progress

THE Department of Mechanized Farming, Ministry of Agriculture, livestock and Irrigation has been harvesting in Maungtaw region the ripened monsoon paddy which are now lacking ownership with the help of Union Government, State Government, related departments and administrative organizations. In 7 village groups of Maungtaw such as Myothugyi, ondaw, Alethangyaw, Kyaungtaung, Kanphu, Nwayontaung and Thandar rain rice paddies are reaped with the force of 32 machinery and it is learnt from the Department of Mechanized Farming that estimated 1261.29 acres have been finished and attained 49000 baskets of paddy. This year the paddy was grown over 70,000 acres in Maungtaw area.

News team interviewed the responsible personnel of State Government and the departments concerned who are taking care the harvesting of the rice paddy without much wastage.

U Kyaw Lwin
Rakhine State Minister
for Agriculture, Livestock, Forest and Mine

Question: : How would you manage accepting the harvested paddy?

Answer: : We are divided into groups. DMF is harvesting the rice paddy while the Agricultural Department is collecting the rice paddy and then we will sell them to the businessmen. The selling program has been already set during the Maungtaw visit of State chief minister.

Q: : Who will be included in the paddy-collecting team.

A: : There are also 7 groups to collect the harvested grains. Agriculture Department, Mechanized Farming Department and administrative and management teams are the main organizations in the collecting groups. Besides, persons from local administrative organization and other related departments will be consisted of.

Q: : In which way the paddy of no ownership will be sold.

A: : These are not ownerless paddy. These actually are ripened paddy without any harvester. Therefore, we are harvesting using harvesters procured by Rakhine State Government Fund and also by Union Government fund. Frankly speaking we have some difficulties in storing the harvested paddy. Therefore the harvested paddy will be sold and the earnings will be deposited at a bank opening an account number.



U Kyaw Lwin.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



U Khin Zaw Ohn.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



U Thein Wai.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



U Maung Maung Kyaw.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



Laborers hard at work carrying rice paddy and sorting out the grain in a farm in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

We are just helping by harvesting the ripe paddy which are going to become overripe and damaged.

U Khin Zaw Ohn
(Department Manager)
Department of
Mechanized Farming

Q: : With which departments are you cooperating in harvesting the paddy?

A: : The ripe rice paddies are reaped by harvester and the harvested rice are transported to the drying sites. The Agriculture Department collected the harvested rice and dry them and store them. Settlement and Land Record Department takes the detail statistics of the owner's name and number of acres. The Department of Agriculture advises on which field of paddy be given the priority of harvesting depending on the ripeness of the rice grains.

Q: : I would like to know the main intent of the harvesting the ownerless rice paddy.

A: : The rice paddies grown reach their mature stage and some fields show over ma-

ture stage. They are going to be damaged. In some places rice were damaged. Some fields were destroyed by strayed cows and buffaloes. We will harvest at the most of our capacity in man power and machine power under the guidance of Union Minister.

Q: : Let us know the difficulties you have faced in harvesting the rice.

A: : Untimely rain is a hindrance in harvesting process. The rice cannot be reaped immediately after it becomes wet by rain. The harvesters cannot drive well on the field wet with rain. So, it can't be finished in time. Though a machine can normally finish 5 acres, it cannot do it when the field is soaked by rain.

Q: : What do you have anything to say more.

A: : Here, workers are scarce. As a consequence the field cannot be reaped in time and the ripe rice fall on ground as wastage. That is the loss for individual owner and also for the country. That is why our department is helping in harvesting as



PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

hard as possible.

U Thein Wai
Township Agriculture
Department

Q: : In harvesting the rice paddy how your department is cooperating?

A: : Our department is taking part in drying the rice paddy under the sun in the area where the spacious land is available like foot ball ground of Alethangyaw. The dried rice are put in heap in the nearest suitable places. For the time being rice paddies are still in the drying stage.

Q: : At what time the rice should be reaped and at what condition rice grains can encounter damaging?

A: : Every year most of the

rice fields have already been harvested in November. The rice in this area are late growers and they are still in good condition to be reaped. They can be reaped till December. During the time of terrorist attack, paddy fields were destroyed by the cattle.

Q: : In what way are you cooperating with?

A: : We are transporting the rice paddy harvested by Department of Mechanized Farming to the drying land. Then we managed to store the dried rice at the nearest places. For the time being closed schools are managed to store the dried rice paddy. The main place for storage now is Alethangyaw school.

SEE PAGE-12

Music concert for centennial Myanmar Scout anniversary

The music concert celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Myanmar Scouts Association was held in Thuwanna indoor stadium (1) in Yangon yesterday.

The concert was done with the purpose of promoting interest and encouragement from the public on the actions of the Myanmar scouts.

Attending the festival were Dr. Tin Myo Win, Chairman of the Union Peace Commission, U Phyo Min Thein, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, Dr. Tin Nyo, the Chairman of Myanmar Scouts Association and Chief of the Boy Scouts, Dr. Daw Tin Hla Kyi, Chief of the Girl Scouts, and other invited guests.

At the concert, scouts from basic education schools played their bugles and recited the three oaths for scouts. Some of



Left, officials observe the music festival for Myanmar Scouts while scout members and the audience, right, watch from below. **PHOTO: MNA**

the songs played at the concert include "Scout's Honor", "Ready for the people", "Messenger of Peace", "World Song" by the scouts. Artists performing at the concert include R-Zarni, Wai La,

Tha O, Phyo Pyae Sone, Htay Lin, Bo Bo Htut, Thar Nge, G Latt, Han Htun, Ni Ni Khin Zaw, Lhwan Yati Zaw, Sophia, Phyu Phyu Han, and Billy La Min Aye.

Afterwards, guests were

allowed to visit the exhibitions for boy scouts and girl scouts. The exhibitions showcased the scouts' objectives and their skills including tying knots, signaling, and sign language. The exhibi-

tion also showed photos of the world's scouts movements and books concerning them. Guests also bought souvenirs from small stores near the exhibition. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Fallen Commonwealth soldiers of world wars remembered

A memorial service for soldiers of Britain and Commonwealth countries who died in the line of duty during the world wars was held at a Commonwealth Cemetery near Hanthawady roundabout in Yangon.

The memorial service was attended by ambassadors and embassy staff and military attachés of the embassies in Yangon, officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, families of Commonwealth soldiers who

fell during the WWII, families of Myanmar citizens and invited guests. The British Ambassador delivered address at the service and a two-minute silence was observed in honour of the soldiers who died in the line of duty during the WWI and WWII.

Then the ambassador, officials and families laid wreath at the war memorial. The ceremony was sponsored by the British Embassy in Myanmar. —Zaw Gyi ■



A foreign ambassador and military officer pay respect to commonwealth soldiers who died in the line of duty during the work wars. **PHOTO: THURA**

Paddy harvesting ...

FROM PAGE-11

Q: : There are some damaged paddy fields. Why they are damaged?

A: : We also find those damaged fields. The damage is due to late harvesting. They could not be reaped in time when they are ripe. The heaps of rice are covered by tarpaulin cloth as a measure of protecting from untimely rain. Bringing the rice to the shelter in time is our priority. U Maung Maung Kyaw Win (head of department) Land Management and land Record Department

Q: : How your department has cooperated in harvesting the

ripe rice?

A: : Our department has differentiated between rice paddy fields of ethnic people and those of no harvester. After harvesting the statistics regarding production amount of each field and number of field and the name of owner of respective fields are treated by our department. We have. As we levied the tax regularly we have the statistics who owns how much of the fields in the area.

Q: : How do you record the damaged fields and the rice field which cannot be reaped in time?

A: : If we list the harvested rice field, we can know the re-



Numerous piles of rice paddy are left to dry in the Sun after they've been reaped before they are spoiled. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

maining are damaged and unable to be harvested.

Q: : Have you harvested the

rice fields of ethnic people?

A: : Now we are prioritizing the fields of no harvester.

We don't harvest the rice paddy fields which have their owners.

—Phoe Htaung ■

Trump probably can't be swayed to stay in climate pact—Gore

BONN, (Germany) — Germany, Japan and other US allies are unlikely ever to persuade President Donald Trump to drop his plan to quit the Paris climate agreement, former US vice president Al Gore predicted on Saturday.

Gore, speaking on the sidelines of a 200-nation meeting on global warming in Germany, dismissed Trump's stated willingness to re-engage in the 2015 pact if he won better terms for US taxpayers and

businesses as a "smoke-screen". "It's a classic political effort to have things both ways. He's made his decision but he wants to give the other side a faint hope that ... that he might yet change his mind," he told Reuters. "It's pointless for me to continue trying to persuade him to change his mind," he said. "Can somebody else? (German) Chancellor Angela Merkel? (Japanese) Prime Minister (Shinzo) Abe? Somebody else? I don't know. I doubt

it." Gore, who served as vice president for Democratic President Bill Clinton, won a share of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize and his film, "An Inconvenient Truth," a documentary on climate change, won an Academy Award.

Trump said in June that he would quit the Paris Agreement and instead focus on creating jobs in the coal and oil industries. No other nation has followed his lead.

Syria, the last nation

outside the accord, said last week it would sign up.

Under the rules, a US pullout will not take effect until just after the 2020 US presidential election. Gore noted that any future president could re-join simply by giving 30 days' notice to the United Nations. Gore said no nations in Bonn were trying to sweeten the terms of the Paris Agreement for Trump. "Nobody here is trying to offer them anything," he said.

—Reuters ■



Al Gore, chairman of Generation Investment Management, speaks during the Web Summit, Europe's biggest tech conference, in Lisbon, Portugal, on 9 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

US to promote 'universal access' to fossil fuels at climate talks

WASHINGTON — The United States hopes to promote wider use of fossil fuels at a global meeting on climate change next week, a White House official said, reflecting the gaping divide between Washington and the rest of the world on the issue of global warming.

President Donald Trump's administration has envoys at the UN-sponsored talks in Bonn, Germany, even though the United States has derided the Paris Agreement climate accord and has begun a years-long process to withdraw from it.

The meeting, the Conference of Parties 23, is intended to hammer out the details of the Paris Agreement's efforts to fight climate change.

While a small State Department team has been on the ground for technical negotiations since the talks opened last



Activists of the environmental organisation Greenpeace project a slogan that reads "No Future in Fossil Fuels" on the cooling tower of RWE coal power plant, one of Europe's biggest electricity companies in Neurath, north-west of Cologne, Germany, on 10 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

week, the administration is sending another delegation for the second week that will include senior White House advisers.

One of the three main priorities for the administration will be promotion of "universal access to affordable, reliable energy, including highly efficient fossil fuels," the official

told reporters in a briefing.

The other two priorities include raising "support for open and competitive energy markets that enhance energy security and innovation and technology, and decoupling emissions growth from economic development," the official said.

The official, who asked not to be named, defended the US focus on fossil fuels at the summit, saying that other countries were just "burying their heads in the sand" if they did not engage in a conversation about coal, which continues to be used heavily in populous places like south-east Asia. —Reuters ■

Online shopping spree sees 331 mln packages on Singles' Day

BEIJING — At least 331 million packages were handled by Chinese postal and courier companies on Saturday's Singles' Day, 31.5 per cent more than the same day last year, the State Post Bureau (SPB) said. The number represents only some of the 850

million orders placed on Saturday, 29.4 per cent more than last year, according to the SPB.

China's Singles' Day, 11 November, became an online shopping event in 2009 when Alibaba's TMall began promotions. Alibaba's sales this year hit

168.3 billion yuan (about 25.4 billion US dollars), up from 120 billion yuan from 2016. JD.com, who started promotions at the beginning of this month, reported 127.1 billion yuan of orders. Singles' Day is a challenge for the logistics sector in both order vol-

ume and service quality, said Liu Jun, SPB deputy director. The SPB expects the number of packages handled between 11 November and 16 to hit 1.5 billion, up 35 per cent. Daily volume could be as much as three times the usual level.—Xinhua ■

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ENTERPRISE REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Assignment Title:

Preparation of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the New Ywama Power Plant in Yangon

Reference No. EPGE-G02/2017

The Government of Myanmar is processing to apply financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the New Ywama Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The World Bank is also now No Objection for the selection of this consultant service during loan application process.

The consulting services ("the Services") include the preparation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the new Ywama Power Plant in Yangon, the planned commencement of the assignment is March 2018. The assignment period is 6 months.

The Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- The interested consulting firms should have at least 10 years of experience in the area of environmental and social advisory services to the power sector, relevant references for gas fired power stations are advantageous;
- A strong record in environmental and social impact assessments; environmental due diligence audits; development and supporting accreditation of environmental, health and safety management systems;
- At least 3 contracts of similar nature and complexity, or more complex and relevant, that the firm has successfully completed in the past 8 years; and
- Experience of working in the Clients country or similar country environment.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants \[under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants\] by World Bank Borrowers](#) revised version January 2011 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection Based on Consultants' Qualifications set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by December 14, 2017.

Attn:

U Khin Maung Win, Managing Director
Electric Power Generation Enterprise
Building-27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Nay Pyi Taw,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: +95-67-8104282
Fax: +95-67-8104280
E-mail: ywamaproject@gmail.com

Xi, Duterte meet on strengthening China-Philippines ties

DA NANG, (Viet Nam) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met here Saturday with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on strengthening bilateral ties on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders' Meeting.

Xi said that since Duterte's visit to China in October last year, bilateral ties have opened a new chapter.

With the two countries' cooperation enhanced, China-Philippines relations have seen healthy and stable development, bringing tangible benefits to both peoples and contributing to the region's peace and stability, he added.

Xi said good-neighbourliness and friendliness is the right direction guiding China-Philippines relations, and China, together with the Philippines, is willing to continue considering the bilateral ties from a strategic and long-term perspective, enhancing political mutual trust, deepening cooperation and bringing more benefits to the two peoples.

Xi said the 19th National Congress of the Communist Par-



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in Da Nang, Viet Nam, on 11 November 2017. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ty of China (CPC) concluded last month set the goal for China for a period in the future.

China's development needs an environment of lasting peace and stability, he added, noting that China will continue the road

of peaceful development, as well as opening up and win-win cooperation.

China will treat neighbouring countries with amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness, pushing forward the

building of a community with a shared future for mankind, said Xi.

He said relations between the two countries stand on a new starting point, adding that they should enhance high-level

exchanges, so as to ensure the development of bilateral relations on a right track.

He said the two sides should align the Belt and Road Initiative with the Philippines' development strategy, and deepen practical cooperation in infrastructure, agriculture, investment and other areas.

Xi said China is willing to offer assistance to the Philippines on poverty reduction, and continue support for the Philippine government's effort to safeguard national security.

Xi also said China is to work with ASEAN countries to maintain peace and stability, as well as development and prosperity in the South China Sea region.

Noting the great importance of bilateral ties, Duterte said the Philippines regards China as a sincere friend and is grateful for China's assistance on economy, anti-terrorism and maintaining stability.

He said the Philippines is willing to properly handle maritime issues through bilateral channels in accordance with consensus reached by the two sides.—Xinhua ■

Australia to discuss North Korea, Islamist terrorism at Manila talks

SYDNEY — Australia's Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull on Sunday said he would discuss North Korea and Islamist terrorism as threats to regional stability, ahead of his arrival at an East Asia leaders' summit in the Philippines.

North Korea was a criminal regime and the single largest threat to the region, Turnbull told a televised news conference in Hong Kong.

"They are very cunning operators," he said, urging a tightening of economic sanctions.

Islamist terrorism in the southern Philippines is the other key security issue Turnbull aims to discuss with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in Manila.

Australia said in September it would send troops to train Philippines armed forces engaged in a 154-day battle with Islamic State fighters in the southern city of Marawi, in the country's biggest security crisis



Australia's Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull attends the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Danang, Viet Nam, on 11 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

in decades.

Turnbull stressed the importance of help by Indonesian President Joko Widodo in defusing Islamist extremism as

the leader of the world's largest Muslim-majority country, which is also a democracy.

"He speaks with great authority when he says Islam is

compatible with democracy and moderation," Turnbull added. "He's a powerful voice for moderation in the region."

Australia's embattled prime minister will attend the high-powered regional summit at the same time as a citizenship crisis at home has destroyed the parliamentary majority of his ruling centre-right coalition.

The constitution bars dual nationals from parliament, and Turnbull's government was thrown into disarray last month by a High Court ruling that five parliamentarians, including his deputy, Barnaby Joyce, were ineligible to be lawmakers.

The resignation of another MP on Saturday has left Turnbull as the head of a minority government, with his position guaranteed only by the votes of two independents.

Turnbull said he expects Joyce to be returned to Parliament following a 2 December by-election.—Reuters ■

Two shot dead during attack by suspected jihadis on police in Sumatra

JAKARTA — Indonesian police shot dead two men who attacked officers early Sunday on the island of Sumatra, a police spokesman said.

Written material in support of jihad was found on the men, national police spokesman Rikwanto said.

The two dead men tried to kill policemen with arrows fired from bows after a fire broke at a police station in Dharmasraya Regency in West Sumatra Province that the two assailants are suspected of setting, Rikwanto said.—Kyodo News ■

Peace Music Festival starts 2nd round of level 3 in Yangon



Contestants performing music at 2nd round of level-3 competition at peace music festival in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE second round of Level (3) stage of peace music festival was held yesterday night at the national theatre in Yangon and delegation led by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Yangon region Deputy Hluttaw Speaker U Lin Naing Myint, Attorney General U Han Htoo and delegation led by Director General of Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) U Myint Htwe

attended.

At the ceremony, Wha Wha Win Construction Co. Ltd donated Ks 10 million, Myanmar Timber Merchant Association donated 1 million kyat and Director General of MRTV, U Myint Htwe accepted the donations.

The festival is being held across the nation with the aim of arousing public awareness and support of, and cooperation in the national reconciliation, the national unity, the internal peace

and the democratic federal state.

Level 1 was held at Taunggyi, Myitkyina, Mawlamyine, Lashio, Patheingyi, Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sittway, Pha Ahn and Kalay. At the end of level 2, judges selected 11 contestants for the Level 3 stage.

The code numbers for SMS voting are (7676) for MPT network, (6600) for Telenor network and (6031) for Ooredoo network. The SMS votes shall be sent within 48 hours of the

contest. The number of votes for each contestant will be announced on Myanmar Television Programmes and Music Festival official Facebook Page.

Nine contestants out of eleven were selected in event 2 of Level 3 of the peace music festival. Event 3 of Level 3 of the peace music festival will be held on 19 November. The Level 3 event will be held in Yangon and the ten contestants will have to

take part in the Grand Final for first, second and third and seven consolation prizes.

The first prize winner will get K 30 million, the second prize winner K 20 million, the third prize winner K 10 million and each consolation prize winner K 3 million.

MRTV is broadcasting live program of the Music Festival at 8 pm on TV and Facebook page www.facebook.com/peacemusicfestival.—MNA ■

Yangon Weekend Book Street displays various kinds of books

Ko Ko Zaw

The second Yangon Weekend Book Street where nearly 170 shops and stalls are selling books and souvenirs is busy with the bookworms, writers, publishers and book sellers.

“Thanks to the officials who organize such a fair where books of various fields are found at a single place.

So books that may be hard to find in other places are now available here,” said U Maung Maung a book buyer.

Normally, we could sell few books as we were doing business on roadside platforms. I have a stock of old books which I sold at a unit price of Ks 200, Ks500 or Ks 1000. Now business is good as more book lovers come, said a book seller.

At the Yangon book street, various subjects of books, fic-

tion, non-fiction, novel, novella, world leaders’ historic books and photo albums, religious, social, education, health and culture books, medical books, English-Myanmar dictionaries, story books, astrology books and old notes and coins, Myanmar handicrafts, paintings, Myanmar symbols texted shirts and bags are displayed.

The fair is also a place where writers and readers meet and caricature drawings by cartoonists are available. Author Daw Than Myint Aung was also present at the fair to sign her book and give literacy talk.

The Yangon Weekend Book Street organized by the Ministry of Information and Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) was opened in front of the Directorate of Printing and Publishing on Thein Phyu road. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Bookworms are seen at the book stall. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Good understanding between coach and team leads road to AFC Futsal Championship 2018

AS Myanmar secured the AFC Futsal Championship 2018 for the first time ever in their history when they emerged as one of the top four teams at this year's AFF Futsal Championship that ended in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam recently, the Myanmar futsal team can have their worthy dream.

Not only that, but Myanmar also created another mark in history when they beat host Vietnam in the classification match to win third spot.

"For me, I think what holds the key is the familiarity I have with the players. I know most of these players well as I have been the national assistant coach at one time or another," said Htay Myint.

"I have known most of

these players for at least the last three or four years. That made the difference as I know the abilities of each and every one of them and I know what they can deliver for us."

U Htay Myint, who was the head coach of the Myanmar women's Futsal team at the recent SEA Games in Kuala Lumpur, has been active in Futsal in various positions for the last six years.

And he has also upgraded his coaching license from Level One to Level Two recently.

Myanmar national Futsal head coach U Htay Myint said that understanding the team was the key to Myanmar's qualification for the AFC Futsal Championship 2018 in Chinese Taipei.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Yangon United FC recruited former national team footballer in team

AS a preparation for the Myanmar National League (MNL) upcoming season, Yangon United recruited former Myanmar national player Swan Lam Mang under 2 year contract according to MNL official webpage.

Swan lam Mang, 23 who can play well in both attack and middle fields has started his player life in Chin United FC in 2011 and he was selected as a national team's player from 2015 to earlier 2017.

"I'm very proud of being here. The reason why I'm here is to shape my future as a best player. I will cooperate with the team with my utmost efforts to get the MNL cup of upcoming season", Swan Lam Mang promised in front of the team's fans.



Swan Lam Mang (left), football player, transfers to Yangon United from Chin United. **PHOTO: MNL**

The Yangon United has begun their player recruiting for transfer window period from 1 November to 13 January.

The 2018 Myanmar National League (1) will be scheduled

to start in the second week of coming January and its league (2) will start in the third week of the same month according to the statement of the MNL.

—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Randolph frustrates Denmark as Ireland grab goalless draw

COPENHAGEN — Goalkeeper Darren Randolph pulled off a string of fine first-half saves as Ireland held Denmark to a scoreless draw in the first leg of their World Cup playoff on Saturday, with the two sides due to meet again in Dublin on Tuesday.

The Irish defended deeply from the first whistle, denying playmaker Christian Eriksen space, but the Danes still managed to fashion half a dozen scoring chances in the first half.

With his side barely venturing forward in attack, Randolph was called into action early, parrying a stinging volley from Jens Stryger Larsen and smothering an attempt from Andreas Cornelius to hammer home the rebound.

Eriksen and Pione Sisto also went close for Denmark in quick succession, and Randolph tipped over a late header from Yussuf Poulsen to ensure his side escaped from the Danish capital with a draw.

Aimlessly firing long balls forward, Ireland barely threatened the Danish goal and a solo raid by Cyrus Christie at the end of the first half was the closest they came to breaking the deadlock.

Nicklas Bendtner's arrival



Ireland's Callum O'Dowda in action with Denmark's Thomas Delaney at Telia Parken, Copenhagen, Denmark, on 11 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

as a second-half substitute for Sisto was greeted with roars of approval from the vast majority of the 36,189 fans at the Parken

Stadium, but the popular striker did little during his 17 minutes on the field.

Poulsen's late header on

target gave the Danes hope of a late winner, but the Irish slowed the tempo even further to close out the game and

set up a decisive 90 minutes in Dublin with a place at next year's finals in Russia at stake. —Reuters ■