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Workers unload family bags donated by India for the displaced people in Rakhine on 24 November. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)**

Aid from India to Rakhine

By Zaw Gyi (Panita)

A cargo carrying humanitarian aid from India for the displaced people in Rakhine State arrived at the Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon.

Ambassador to India to Myanmar Mr. Vikram Misri handed over the relief consignment of 3,000 family bags for Rakhine State to Dr. Ko Ko Naing, Director-General of the Relief and Resettlement Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare,

Relief and Resettlement.

"We will transfer the aid to Rakhine State Government as soon as possible and they will deliver the aid to the people without discrimination," said Dr Ko Ko Naing.

The 3,000 family bags worth

of Indian Rupee 4 million (Ks 80 million) includes rice, cooking oil, salt, dried noodles, biscuits, peas, mosquito nets and soaps.

The people from India donated aid to the people in Rakhine in 2015, 2016 and on 6th June 2017. ■

Three deaths are not connected with encephalitis vaccination: Health Ministry

THE Ministry of Health and Sports announced yesterday that three deaths that occurred after Japanese encephalitis vaccination were administered were not connected with the vaccination.

A 13-year-old child in Pinlaung Township, Shan State died on 16th November after being vaccinated and officials from the ministry and child specialists conducted a technical enquiry and examination.

"A post mortem did not reveal any signs of adverse reaction to the vaccine. The child's lungs shows signs of chronic Bronchopneumonia with haemorrhagic pneumonitis," said the statement released by the ministry.

The investigation committee determined that the child had a respiratory tract inflammation when he was young.

A close observation for post-vaccination problems was conducted and two more children in Patheingyi Township and Thabaung Township, Ayeyawady Region, were found to have died two and three days after being vaccinated. According to an investigation, the causes of death were found to be acute viral infection and damage to gastrointestinal tract, heart and kidney.—GNLM

(Full text of the statement released by Ministry of Health and Sports is on Page-3)



BEST BANK IN MYANMAR

Awarded by EUROMONEY 2017

2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 6th regular session concludes

THE 2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 6th regular session 12th day meeting was held yesterday morning at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall in Hluttaw building, Nay Pyi Taw.

Newly appointed members of union-level organisations Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Anti-Corruption Commission chairman U Aung Kyi, secretary U San Win, members U Soe Tint, U Aung Lwin, U Han Nyunt, Daw Myat Myat Soe, U Aung Than Myint, U Khin Maung Myint, U Myo Myint, Daw Aye Aye Mu, U Zaw Win and Daw Lei Lei Thwin took the oath of office in the presence of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then submitted the sub-

wood are planned to be extracted. The first six months is a period during which the trees are only marked and no felling and extraction conducted. The extraction figures for this six month period declined, as only 3,332 tons of teak and 59,724 of hardwood were taken out. Felling and extraction works will be conducted in the coming open season and will be conducted to meet the target.

In order to keep the amount of the country covered by forest at above 42.92 per cent and for the redevelopment of forests, the Myanmar forest redevelopment plan was drawn up from 2017-2018 to 2026-2027 and, with the consent and permission of the government, is being implemented starting from 2017-2018.

Extraction, distribution and sales programmes of wood for FY



U Hla Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.



U Kyaw Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction.

stitute assignment of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representative assessment committee and after obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw, announced the confirmation of the assignment.

The public account joint committee comments and findings report 13/2017 on FY 2017-2018 first six month report of conducting the national plan sent by the government and the discussion of the Hluttaw representatives were then explained and discussed by union-level organisations.

Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win said there was no logging during FY 2016-2017, but extracted woods remaining in the forest were taken out during the first six months, bringing the wood extraction figures to 22,128 tons of teak and 157,742 tons of hardwood.

For FY 2017-2018, 15,000 tons of teak and 350,000 tons of hard-

wood 2017-2018 have been submitted to the President's Office. For the country as a whole, 10,620 teak and 179,498 hardwood trees, for Magway Region, 1,350 teak and 23,645 hardwood trees, for Mindon Township 300 teak and 6,868 hardwood trees were planned to be extracted. In Mindon Township, 300 teak and 5,342 trees were marked and the logging operations are conducted in stages to ensure that it is done according to the contract terms and there is no illegal logging explained the Union Minister.

The reports and discussions of the Hluttaw representatives were then further explained by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw on behalf of Union Minister for Industry, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win and Deputy Minister U Set Aung.

Next, the public account joint committee vice chairman tabled



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

a motion for the Hluttaw to accept and agree the report 13/2017. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker obtained the decision of the Hluttaw and announced the report being put on record, accepted and agreed by the Hluttaw.

Similarly, the public account joint committee comments and findings report 14/2017 on union budget report for the first six months of FY 2017-2018 sent by the government and the discussion of the Hluttaw representatives were explained and discussed by members of union level organisations.

U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance clarified, "Concerning the statement that the Ministry of Planning and Finance which received most income including revenues and taxes managed to implement only 43.86 percent of the annual income target, the facts and figures presented were actually the ones calculated based on actual amounts for 5 months plus estimated amount for one month. According to the preliminary data, the actual amount for first 6 months was K 3096.109 billion. Compared to the amount received in the FY 2015-2016, it exceeded K 812.031 billion and K 719.209 billion more than FY 2016-2017. So, the received amount for the first six months of the FY 2017-2018 is the greatest amounts within three fiscal years."

Then, Deputy Minister added, "Economic reforms of State-owned economic enterprises were initiated starting from FY 2012-2013. Finding out advantages and disadvantages from them led to effective success. Assessment on expenditures which will cause great burden for the country and financial effects over national incomes from the assessment and conclusion

boards formed, compilation of the manual on monitoring capacities of State-owned economic enterprises, inclusion of study on reforms of State-owned economic enterprises as a subject in Public Expenditure Review (PER-2) cooperated by linking with the World Bank are underway. Concerning the report on the Union Budget for the first six months, the Ministry of Planning and Fi-



U Sai Thiha Kyaw, member of the Public Account Combined Committee.

nance will implement after assessing on suggestions and conclusion of Public Accounts Joint Committee, and suggestions of Hluttaw representatives."

Over the reports and suggestions made by Hluttaw representatives, Union Auditor-General U Maw Than and U Kyaw Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction replied respectively.

U Sai Thiha Kyaw, member of the Public Account Joint Committee put forward the report 14/2017 to Hluttaw, followed by the announcement of the approval from the Hluttaw.

Mahn Win Khaing Than, Patron of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw explained concerning Hluttaw Performances in 2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 6th regular session, "During the period when the 6th Regular Session was held, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the law on additional budget allotment for the FY 2017-2018, with the Amendment of Union

Attorney General Law (Bill), 2017, Statistics Law (Bill) and Myanmar Companies Law (Bill) were sent to the President to sign for enactment. And, extension of two more Union Ministries, assignment of the newly appointed two ministers and formation of new anti-corruption commission were performed in accord with rules and laws. 9 Matters for Myanmar to take part in signing in the international treaties and agreements including BIMSTED Convention and two internal loans were discussed in Hluttaw for the approval. In administration sector, report on implementation of monetary policy for FY 2015-2016 of the Central Bank of Myanmar and stability of monetary system, report of work accomplishment in the first six months period of Myanmar National Education Policy Commission, report of performances in one year period of Myanmar Investment Commission, Union Budget Report were discussed and put on record. "

"Myanmar financial year will commence to be changed starting from FY 2018-2019. 8 Matters including putting the Message of the President on record were accomplished. For the current year, a total of K 32499.998 million from the regional development fund on Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for 325 townships were permitted. Union Government will change from October 1 to September 30 starting the FY 2018-2019. In managing budget for projects for 6 months period from 1st April 2018—the end of the current financial year to 30th September, regional development fund on Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be excluded. Instead it will be targeted to be included just at the time of drawing FY 2018-2019 one-year budget," said Mahn Win Khaing Than.—Myanmar News Agency

UEHRD Rakhine performance is evaluated

TO implement the description included in the recommendation paragraph 60 of the advisory commission on Rakhine State, the delegation led by the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and Deputy Minister for the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor Office U Khin Maung Tin met with responsible officials of implementation committee over recommendations on Rakhine State, local national representatives in Rakhine State and representatives from civil societies at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement in the evening yesterday.

In making an address, Union Minister said, "By noting different management systems across the world, experiences and lessons conducted in Diversity Management in the Age of Globalization Symposium they should be applied in your regions. It is auspicious for different races and organizations in Rakhine State to meet in a

same place. Every individual is not similar. These differences will be assembled to become a unique power. Without segregation in race development will be made by uniting with each other. Now UEHRD is implementing the tasks of regional development with great momentum. Now voluntary youths from different associations are invited to provide humanitarian assistances in Rakhine State.

Development and peace are closely related, hence need to develop transport, health, education and socio-economic development. Nine Economic teams had been formed, to implement after studying necessities in the region."

And those present at the ceremony -Thet, Daingnet, Mro, Khami, Maramagyi, Hindu, Kaman, Islam representatives and Rakhine representatives presented their needs and the Union Minister and committee members fulfilled their needs, it was learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accepts the credentials of UNICEF representative to Myanmar, Ms June Kunugi, in Nay Pyi Taw on 24 November 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNICEF representative to Myanmar presents her credentials to State Counsellor

UNICEF representative to Myanmar, Ms June Kunugi paid a courtesy call on and presented her credentials to State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, on 24 November 2017 at 11:30 am at the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters pertaining to Myanmar-UNICEF cooperation including its current and new 2018-2022 country programmes, as well as assistance to children in need for their

health, education, social wellbeing and protection. Also present at the meeting were the Union Minister for the Ministry of International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and officials concerned of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Ministry of Health and Sports second notification on Japanese encephalitis vaccination

MYANMAR is among the 24 countries in the world where the Japanese Encephalitis virus occurs. There is no cure for Japanese encephalitis, and vaccination is the only way to prevent it. Therefore, it has been arranged for children between the age of 9 months and 15 years to be vaccinated. A regular vaccination programme for 9-month-old children will be conducted starting from 1-1-2018. This is being conducted in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), together with the technical support of an advisory committee on national level immunisation work.

Preparations have been made for the vaccination of the estimated 14 million children to ensure the highest safety standards. The Japanese Encephalitis Live (SA 14-14-2) vaccine that will be used in the countrywide Japanese Encephalitis mass vaccination programme is recognised by the World Health Organization. It has been applied to more

than 400 million people in 11 countries. The Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety had classified it as a very safe vaccine in WHO, Weekly Epidemiological Record No. 28,2005,80,241-248.

Starting from 15-11-2017, the school-based vaccination programme was started and, as of 23-11-2017, 8,142,190 out of the target of about 8.6 million were vaccinated, covering 93.9 per cent.

On 16-11-2017 a 13-year-old child in Pinlaung Township, Shan State died after being vaccinated and officials from Ministry of Health and Sports, child specialists, officials from WHO and UNICEF went on 19-11-2017 to conduct a technical enquiry and examination. It was found that the quality of the vaccine was good and the administering of the vaccine was also systematic and correct.

After the vaccine was administered, the child showed symptom of dizziness and made abnormal sounds when he breathed while his lips turned blue and blood pressure dropped. Despite provid-

ing the necessary treatment, the child died seven hours after being vaccinated.

A post mortem did not reveal any signs of adverse reaction to the vaccine. The child's lungs shows signs of chronic Bronchopneumonia with haemorrhagic pneumonitis.

The investigation committee determined that the child had a respiratory tract inflammation when he was young. After the vaccine was administered, there was an acute contraction of the respiratory tract which resulted in his death despite being properly treated.

A close observation for post-vaccination problems was conducted and two more children in Ayeyawady Region Patheingyi Township and Thabaung Township were found to have died two and three days after being vaccinated. According to an investigation, the causes of death were found to be acute viral infection and damage to gastrointestinal tract, heart and kidney.

The Ministry of Health and Sports

will start the people-based vaccination programme on 11-12-2017 and for the vaccination programme to be safer, informational posters depicting symptoms and conditions in which the vaccine is not to be administered will be posted for parents to know while Q&A sessions will be conducted more widely. The child will be put under observation for an hour after being vaccinated and all will be reminded to inform the doctors as soon as any symptom appears. The notification said additional safety functions were put in place for the vaccination work to be safe.

Enquiries on Japanese encephalitis vaccination work can be made to

- (1) Dr. Than Tun Aung, Deputy Director General, Phone 067-431467, 095408973
 - (2) Dr. Htar Htar Lin, Project Manager, Phone 067-420925, 09428188188 and
 - (3) Dr. Aung Kyaw Moe, Deputy Director, Phone 09420099780 it is learnt.
- Myanmar News Agency

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Authorities destroy 40 acres of opium fields in Shan State

ABOUT 40 acres of opium poppy fields in the Loilem District of southern Shan State were destroyed by an anti-drug squad starting in the second week of this month.

In collaboration with residents in opium poppy-growing villages, a combined team comprised of local police, members of the Myanmar armed forces and departmental staff actively destroyed opium crops cultivated along mountains across Hantbin Village-tract in Namhsan Township between 11 and 18 November of this year.

This was part of the government's efforts to eradicate opium production in the country.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Myanmar is Southeast Asia's largest opium and poppy-growing country. The



Authorities destroy the opium field in Shan State. **PHOTO: THURA AUNG (IPRD)**

vast majority of opium poppy cultivation has been reported in the eastern, northern and southern parts of Shan State, followed by Kachin, Kayah and Chin states.

According to the annual Southeast Asia Opium Survey conducted by the UNODC, the total opium poppy production of Myanmar in 2015 was estimated at more than 55,000 hec-

tares, a decrease of 4 per cent when compared with 2014.

Authorities continue eradication campaigns in the opium poppy-growing areas.—Thura Aung (IPRD) ■

Qatar Airways Cargo starts Doha-Yangon freighter service

QATAR Airways Cargo, the world's third-largest international airline, says it has started providing freighter service from Doha to Yangon, the commercial city of Myanmar, according to a report of the Myawady Daily's Friday edition.

This is the eighth new freighter route the airline has added within this year.

Qatar Airways Cargo, which is a branch of Qatar Airways, operates the Doha-Yangon-Doha route with Airbus A330 freighters every week. It can transport more than 60 tonnes of cargo each way. The weekly service is expected to provide a boost to the country's garment sector and other export sectors.

Since the country's liberal-

isation, Myanmar has had the fastest-growing economy in the ASEAN region, and foreign investment in domestic trade has seen tremendous growth. Since 2014, Myanmar's freight imports and exports have seen progress.

According to the air cargo service provider, Qatar Airways Cargo currently offers belly capacity on the airline's daily pas-

senger flights to Yangon. The new freighter service is also expected to transport pharmaceutical imports, fresh produce and other food products.

Qatar Airways Cargo serves more than 60 exclusive freighter destinations worldwide. It delivers freight to over 150 business and leisure destinations globally with 200 aircrafts.—GNLM ■

Prices of Areca nut high in domestic market

THE prices of Areca nut, a tropical crop, have been increasing in the domestic market due to low production this season, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Friday.

Betel nut wholesalers in Taninthayi Region said: "Poor weather conditions have led to an acute shortage of Areca

or betel nut, which resulted in stronger prices compared to last season. This has directly affected the local market as the betel quid chewing habit is gradually increasing in the country and Areca nut is one of key components of betel quid."

One of the Areca nut retailers in Kaleinaung Town said

that current prices of sun-dried Areca nut is Ks5,000 per viss (3.6 pounds). In the past, a viss of sun-dried betel nut was sold for Ks3,000. Merchants normally send Areca nut to Yangon and Dawei towns. Areca nut is commercially produced in Hnankye, 60 Miles, Yepone, Kyaukshut, Migyaungthlaung and Lauthaing

villages in Kaleinaung Town.

There are around 150,000 acres of betel nut plantations in Myanmar. Taninthayi and Ayeyawady regions as well as Mon State. According to statistics issued by border trade camp, Myanmar exported 21,492 tons of betel nuts to India in FY2016-2017.—GNLM ■

Black opium weighing over 2,000 grams seized in Indaw Township

A 33-year-old motorcyclist was arrested on Thursday by Katha Township police after he was found in a possession of a cache of black opium, police reported on Friday.

Acting on a tip-off, the No.6 anti-drug squad led by sub-in-

spector Kyaw Min Tun searched a Chinese motorbike without a number plate being driven by U Than Zaw Oo, who was driving near mile post No. 234 on Indaw-Mohnyin Road. Police found approximately Ks6.4 million worth of black opium

weighing 2,143.3 grams.

According to the investigators, the suspect disclosed that he had recently bought black opium from a 40-year-old unknown Shan ethnic man with a fair complexion in Gananhnokehtu Village in Banmawk Town-

ship, paying Ks900,000 per viss of black opium.

Action has been taken against the suspect under Section 15/19 (a) of the existing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin) ■

No more permits for wood-based industrial enterprises

THE Myanmar Investment Commission will no longer grant endorsements for new wood-based industrial businesses utilising raw materials extracted from Myanmar's forests.

Wood production is being scaled down by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. There will be a great deal of uncertainty about getting raw materials if new wood-based finished product factories emerge. It might hurt the market, as there will be an imbalance between supply and demand. To tackle with this problem, the MIC suspended approvals to new businesses of this type.

This suspension is only on those businesses which utilise raw materials from natural forests, but not on businesses which use wood produced by private



A woman works in a parquet factory in Yangon. PHOTO: REUTERS

farms and imported raw materials.

This action will impact new businesses but will not affect existing businesses which have already received approval.

Between 1st April and the end of October, 89 foreign investment projects with an estimated capital of US\$1.48 billion were permitted by the MIC for operation in the manufacturing sector.—GNLM ■

More than 140 foreign projects permitted by MIC with capital of US\$4.2 billion

A total of 146 foreign investment enterprises were permitted by the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) as of end of October, with an estimated capital of US\$4.2 billion.

The manufacturing sector absorbed investments of over \$1.48 billion with 89 projects, while the real estate sector attracted foreign direct investments of \$1.06 billion with nine enterprises. Nearly \$780 million of FDI flows into other services. There are six enterprises which sought approval to invest in the transportation and communication sector with approximate

FDI of \$489 million.

The hotel and tourism sector stood at fifth place in the amount of foreign investment with three enterprises investing \$154 million.

The agriculture and power sectors follow with estimated capitals of \$130 million and \$120 million, respectively. The livestock and fisheries sector also attracted four enterprises with FDI of \$16 million, while the industrial estate sector attained investments of \$5 million.

Singapore is major investor, with China and the Netherlands following.

The new Myanmar Investment Law offers tax exemption and relief to investors depending on developments of the regions and states. Investors in far-flung areas can enjoy tax breaks of up to seven years, depending on the zones.

According to the new Myanmar Investment Law, region and state DICA offices are authorised to approve investment proposals with capital of not more than US\$5 million (Ks6,000 million), with an aim to facilitate the verification process of investment projects.—Mon Mon ■

Expo to be held next month to select pedigree avocado varieties

WITH a view to selecting pedigree avocado varieties, an expo will be held in December by the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFVP), according to a report of Myawady Daily.

In a bid to penetrate the

export market, local growers are facing with difficulties to select one good variety out of many that are locally cultivated.

"We set a plan to widely distribute avocados in the international market, especially avocados produced from Chin and Shan states. We find difficulties

to choose which variety is good for the market. However, we are exerting concerted efforts to make avocado an export item", U Soe Than Min Din, the chair of MFVP, told Myawady Daily.

After having selected a good variety, they will be distributed to the growers.—GNLM ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း: "Sunday Special" အချက်အလက် (၈)
မျက်နှာပေါ်သော The Global New Light of Myanmar
နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို အောက်ပါမြို့များတွင် ဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ



Three dead, one hurt in IED explosion in Maungdaw Tsp

"Sunday Special" အချက်အလက် (၈) မျက်နှာပေါ်

နေပြည်တော်
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ် (၇) နေပြည်တော်၊
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊
စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇ ၄၁၂၁၁၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)
ဇေယျာသိမ်မြို့နယ်၊ ခရိုင်လမ်းမ၊ နေပြည်တော်၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇ ၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇ ၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကုန်
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊
မိုးတပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၁၀ ၆၀၅၅၃၂၊ ၀၉၅၇၄၄၄၂၄၁၁၄

မန္တလေး
လမ်း (၂၁ x ၂၁) ကြား၊ (၁၂ x ၈၃) လမ်းကြား၊ ပုလဲဇွေ
ရောင်ရမ်းမန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂၃၂၇၅၀

တောင်ကြီး
ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၈၁၂၁၁၆၄၊ ၀၉၅၂၁၄၃၅၇

မကွေး
နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈) တပ်နယ်ချေးအနီး၊
မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂

ကချင်ပြည်
မြို့သစ် (၃-၈)၊ အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊ မြို့ပတ်လမ်း၊
ကချင်တိုင်း၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၄၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်ဇေယျာရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊
ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြန်မာပြည်
အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ရေစက်ကွက်၊ အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊
မြန်မာပြည်၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၄၆၂

စစ်တွေ
ရမ္မာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊
မိမိစက်ကြီးအနီး၊ မန်ကျည်းမြိုင်ရပ်ကွက်၊ စစ်တွေမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈

လားရှိုး
ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း၊
(၃၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ဆူဘုရားရွာ၊ အဝေရာလမ်း၊
လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၂၄၀၆၇

ခြောက်
မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းချောင်းရပ်၊ ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊
ခြောက်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၁၈၃

မော်လမြိုင်
ကြာအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၂၆

ပဲခူး
နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတဝါတိုင်အနီး၊
ပဲခူးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၅၊ ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၃

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Vice President U Myint Swe attends 12th regular meeting with Myanmar entrepreneurs

PRIVATE Sector Development Committee (PSDC) and Myanmar entrepreneurs held their 12th regular meeting at the meeting hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon yesterday morning. Vice President U Myint Swe, Chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee attended the meeting and delivered a speech.

Also present at the meeting were Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun and U Aung Htoo, Yangon Region minister for planning and finance, officials from the five work committees, UMFCCI President and members, Kawthoung border trade merchants association, Mon State chamber of commerce and industry, electrical and energy sector development work committee, Myanmar pulps and papers association, Myanmar Rubber Producer's Association, Myanmar Mercantile Marine Development Association and officials.

In his opening speech, Vice President U Myint Swe said the PSDC was formed by President Office notification 79/2016 dated 24 October 2016 for the effective implementation of matters included in private sector development framework. PSDC has 20 members and set five main components for five work committees to implement.

PSDC first met with Myanmar entrepreneurs on 1 December 2016 with an aim to ease the difficulties and fulfill the needs of Myanmar entrepreneurs and by October 2017, there were 11 meetings where 181 points were raised. All the 181 matters raised were replied back to the relevant business persons. Some were not fully replied yet as it involves



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the regular meeting between Private Sector Development Committee and Myanmar entrepreneurs at the meeting hall of UMFCCI in Lanmadaw, Yangon on 24 November 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

two to three ministries but were being coordinated in order to reply fully.

Private sector is the main engine that drives a country's economy in all countries that practices market economy and that is why every country is setting up the best policy and work towards Private Sector Development (PSD). Private sector development increases income and job opportunities of a country, increases the quality of the skill sets and reduces poverty. It is important for both the government and private sector to reduce difficulties and obstacles for private sector development.

Establishing One Stop Service Centers, setting up online application system and systems such as single-window system to simplify and ease trade were conducted in order to create an economic community in which private sector can develop. Myanmar had many programs to connect and link economically and socially with all ASEAN

member countries. In conducting such connecting/linking processes, human resources such as learned experts play an important role in reducing economic and social gap between the countries.

Myanmar Investment Law which plays the major role for

works the country ought to do in accordance with the country's economic policy. The laws, rules, procedures and notifications of the ministries need to meet the present requirement as well as future expectations.

Instead of take actions against businesses for not con-

Minister U Phyo Min Thein explained about the status of work done to ease the flow of commodities, acquiring electricity and matters related to tax law.

Afterwards, officials from Kawthoung border trade merchants association, Mon State chamber of commerce and industry, electrical and energy sector development work committee (UMFCCI) (energy sector), electrical and energy sector development work committee (UMFCCI) (electrical sector), Myanmar pulps and papers association, Myanmar Rubber Producer's Association, Myanmar Mercantile Marine Development Association explained and discussed matters related to their sectors and the Vice President, Yangon Region Chief Minister, deputy ministers and officials coordinated and resolved the matters.

The Vice President then delivered a concluding speech after which the meeting came to a close.—Myanmar News Agency

Myanmar Investment Law which plays the major role for the country's economy has been amended in order to be in line with the age.

the country's economy has been amended in order to be in line with the age.

Currently ministries who are responsible for each economic sector are drawing up short, middle and long term strategies based on immediate requirement of the country, world situation, regional situation and future

ducting according to the laws, rules, procedures and notifications, support and assistance should be provided for the development of the respective sector and ease of doing business. All are invited to openly discuss difficulties faced in respective sectors said the Vice President.

Next, Yangon Region Chief

Correction

Please read "U Aung Than Myint, Director (Retired)" instead of "Director-General". The error was in the announcement of "Anti-corruption Commission reformed" on Page-12, 24th November Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar.—GNLM

CCDAC discusses alternative development implementation work

THE Alternative Development Implementation Board of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control-CCDAC held its coordination meeting 3/2017 yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Border Affairs.

In his opening remarks, board chairman and Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-

Gen Than Htut said the Alternative Development Implementation Board is implementing an Alternative Development Pilot project in Pinlaung Township, Southern Shan State, Naung-taya region Paw In, Hmay-pyin, Pin Khin and Loimaw village-tracts.

For the effective implementation of the pilot project, a pilot

project assessment board and pilot project work continuous assessment board were also formed. Departments included in the Alternative Development Implementation Board are also seen to be implementing the pilot project works in fiscal year 2017-2018.

The works are to be completed in the assigned period.

As the pilot project is to be conducted over a 3-year period, relevant departments also need to submit their planned works and funds for FY 2018-2019. Pilot project work continuous assessment board is also conducting field visit to project sites and all need to work together with this board.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Rice harvest gains speed in Rakhine



Workers dry rice in Maungtaw. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

AGRICULTURAL Mechanization Department has harvested more than 2,800 acres of rice in Rakhine State from 26th October to 23th November so that the ripened monsoon paddy can not go to waste.

Agricultural Mechanization Department did the harvest in

17 villagers with modern harvesters.

The harvested paddy will be threshed and this monsoon paddy will be sold and the money obtained will be put in a government bank account.

This money will be not used for development projects in

Maungtaw region but arrangements are being made to return this money to those who have fled their villagers upon their return, according to the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine-UEHR-DA.—Myanmar News Agency ■

National Verification Cards issued in Maungtaw

STAFF from the Rakhine State Immigration and Population department led by the state head of the department issued National Verification Cards (NVCs) to residents in Shwezar Village in Maungtaw Township, northern Rakhine yesterday.

The issuing process of the NVC took place at the post-primary school of Shwezar Village. The staff from the department issued the NV Card to local residents and also provided mosquito nets and food.

This work was already being conducted earlier in the year, but was delayed due to the ARSA extremist terrorist attack of 25 August. The work was restarted in Maungtaw Township, Shwezar village tract on 12 October. For



A Hindu family wait to get the national verification card. **PHOTO: MNA**

the national ID, so far, after scrutiny using a biometric system, 993 people, including 603 men and 390 women, were issued National Verification Cards and 46 people, including 25 men and 21 women, were recorded and will be issued cards.

The issuing process of the NVC and recording process using Biometric system for National ID will continuously be carried out and a project being drawn for the National Verification Process in momentum is also underway.—Myanmar News Agency ■

MRTV to broadcast Sunday Talk on Rakhine issue

Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) will broadcast Sunday Talk titled “Local and international assessment on Rakhine issue” at 10am on 26 November.

U Thaung Tun Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government and Dr Aung Tun Thet Chief Coordinator of Union Enterprise for Humanitar-

ian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State-UEHRD will discuss at the Sunday Talk.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Suspicious boat in Maungtaw Township detained

A suspicious boat was found anchored near a beach facing Thawunchang police post, Maungtaw Township on the evening of 22 November. Secu-

rity personnel went to check the 24 ft. long boat with 7 ft. beam and 7 ft draft and found a Chinese engine, 4 police uniforms without arm badges and 2 police

sweaters onboard.

The boat was detained in Thawunchang police post it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Sunday Talk on “Local and international assessment on Rakhine State situation”

MYANMA Radio & Television (MRTV) has been telecasting Sunday Talk programs every Sunday at 10 a.m. and on November 26 (Sunday) Union Minister for the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government U Thaung Tun and Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) Chief Coordinator Dr. Aung Tun Thet will discuss under the title of “Local and international assessment on Rakhine issue” it is learnt.

Presenter of Sunday Talk U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Institute of Technology) said “Sunday Talk program is a program telecast by MRTV every Sunday at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. November 26 program is a unique program. It is a topic that is of interest to the people. The title of the program is – Local and international assessment on Rakhine State situation. Together with me in the program are Union Minister for the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government U Thaung Tun and UEHCR Chief Coordinator Dr. Aung Tun Thet.”

U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Institute of Technology) continued and

said the events in Rakhine States are drawing the attention of the world and officials are systematically handling the situation. Despite this there are many international pressures. In the forthcoming program, Union Minister U Thaung Tun and UEHRD Chief Coordinator Dr. Aung Tun Thet will inform the public of the conduct of the present government, how it is conducting it, the view on Rakhine State affair and their assessment.

It is a program that will be beneficial for the country and is glad to inform the people through this program said U Ko Ko. “It is a major accomplishment for Sunday Talk to present this important issue in Sunday Talk. I hope the people will view the telecast program and learn the true situation. If the telecast is broadcast by other TV channels, the world will know whether the accusations made against Myanmar are true or false” said U Ko Ko. Sunday Talk had been telecast for more than year presented social, economic and political matters that are of interest to the people.—Yi Yi Myint ■

New village project in Maungtaw 50 per cent complete

A new housing project for local people at the Village of Kyaukpantu in Maungtaw Township is 50 per cent complete, according to the Border Area and National Races Development Department.

The project that consists of 100 houses started in March last year and is targeted to be completed by March next year.

The department is spending Ks65 million on the project on more than 20 acres. Each house costs around Ks6.5 million.

“While the houses were under construction last year, they were damaged by Cyclone Mora. Then the construction work was again suspended due to terrorist attacks on 25 August,” said U Soe Lwin, Deputy Director of the Maungtaw District Development Department.

The work resumed on 31st October, and the new village includes a school, solar power plant, a monastery, a police station, a lake, an administrative office, a rural clinic and a sports ground.—News Team ■



PHOTO: MIN HTET

Fulfillment of educational requirement is of great nobility

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Census of 2014, it was found that the change in the population pyramid of the country for school-age children—5 to 9, 10 to 14 and 15 to 19 age groups occupied the most in terms of numbers as compared to the whole population. Among them primary-school-age group—5 to 9 stood second.

At present, basic primary schools have been opened in wards and village-tracts in townships depending upon the budget allotment on a nationwide scale. But the Union Government still needs to appoint teachers in compatible ratios of schools to teachers and students to teachers. To our great delight we have learnt that the Ministry of Education is fulfilling the requirement as much as possible and we have in our environment many youths who wish to share their knowledge to other children who have a thirst for academic learning.

Accordingly, it is urgently needed to make arrangements for requirements of basic education sector and youths to fulfill the needs. The Ministry of Education has been supplying basic education schools with B.Ed., graduates and teachers who have received teacher training course certificates annually.

It is urgently needed to make arrangements for requirements of basic education sector and youths to fulfill the needs. Through being supplied with such-and-such amounts of teachers, more and more teachers are still being needed, with the increasing amounts of primary-school-age children and extension of schools. Since previous years, primary assistant teachers were appointed on a daily wage basis (but paid monthly) in respective regions. They became teachers after undergoing a 30 days PAT training course during the summer vacation. The successful candidates were selected in accord with designated standards under the arrangement of the respective Region and State Governments.

These teachers are now serving their duties of sharing academic knowledge to children in local regions by devoting themselves to a teaching career depending upon about K 100,000. Practical efforts need to be made for them to be appointed as permanent teachers so that sustainable development of basic education will be achieved in the region.

The Ministry of Education is annually spending more and more budgets by increasing the number of teaching staff, with the increasing amounts of newly-opened basic education schools. Simultaneously, it is hoped that management arrangements have been made to increase the number of teaching staff so that teachers filling the vacancies for the basic education sector as well as youths who will choose the teaching career will increase more and more.

We firmly believe that it is of great importance to nurture primary school-age children, seeds of good quality for the future to develop well, with the emergence of teachers who are paid on a daily wage basis (but paid monthly).

Evil Soul and a Grave Error

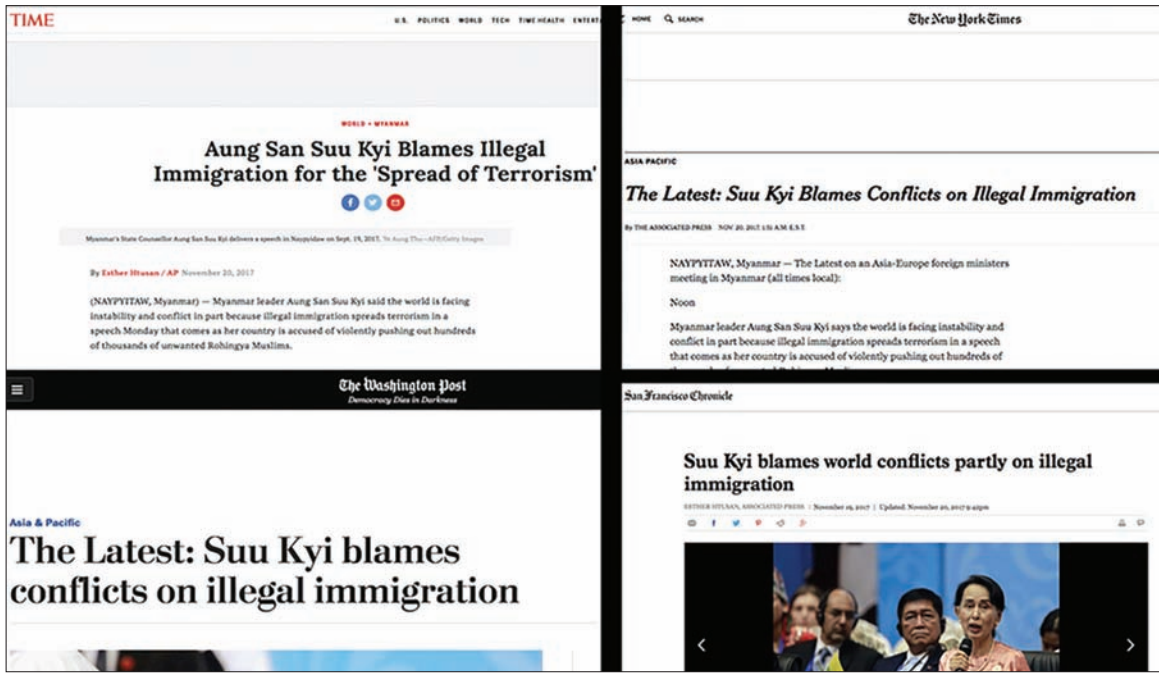
EACH and every one of journalists must define news and information, collect and contribute with solemnity, truthfulness and bravery.

1/ It requires for a journalist to make every news regardless of any status accurate and free from errors, especially he must take care not to ruin its original image.

2/ A journalist is required to meet with individuals, news sources and their feelings, desires and opinions are to be allowed to be shown, that is to say, they are to be given right to explain.

The above-said statements are the essence of the first two excerpts from 25 US journalistic ethics issued on November 1996. Though there were amendments of journalistic ethics with changing times, it is assumed that the above-said two's essences will always exist without changes. Moreover, accuracy and freedom from errors will occupy the top posts.

In the era of electronic media, time limit is becoming narrower. News agencies are vying with each other in reporting breaking news just in a second period. Much as they are making efforts to post news hurriedly as soon as possible, news must be truthful and accurate in accord with news media ethics. If asked why truthfulness and accuracy is prioritized, our stock reply will be—"Effectiveness of news



The original story was appeared on internal media including The New York Times, The Washington Post, The San Francisco Chronicle and Time. PHOTO: IRRRAWADDY

coincides with people's trust in accuracy and truthfulness of the news." In case news media's news coverage is extremely large in the international sphere and those who take the news and information true were leaders of nations, policy makers and international organizations, its influences will be in depth. At that time, depending upon the volume of falsity some will become a prey to false news.

If a news item is falsely mentioned carelessly or intentionally, it is a disgrace for a news media of great power; said by U Kyaw Zeya, Myanmar ambassador over the statement which was based on their one-sided views and free from actualities concerning northern Rakhine State Affair. AP News Agency misrepresented the opening speech addressed in English by State Counsellor, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at 13th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

AP's false news was quoted by other news agencies, such as Times, The New York Times, The Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle and other news agencies, thus false continued to spread about, causing sequences of bad effects over our country.

U Aung Hla Htun, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Press Council said, "It can make serious impacts on the State Counsellor as well as on the entire nation and the people. Actually, the impacts are already there. Based in the US, AP is one of the most influen-

tial international news agencies in the world. The international communities including the nations of the world and the UN usually tend to heavily rely on the reports by the international media when laying down their policies. As a result of their pursuing wrongful policies based on the untrue reports by the international media

period. Even though AP made the correction one day later, we demand that the AP, one of the world's largest news agencies, take responsibility for the damage done and apologize to the people of Myanmar for its erroneous and irresponsible mistake."

The incident reminds me of an event which took places in

Myanmar Journalists Union strongly condemned regarding distorted news of AP, "Such distorted reporting has an immense negative impact of the country and could lead to further misunderstanding and discord between Myanmar and the international community at such a delicate period. Even though AP made the correction one day later, we demand that the AP, one of the world's largest news agencies, take responsibility for the damage done and apologize to the people of Myanmar for its erroneous and irresponsible mistake."

for a long time, the image of our country has been badly ruined, causing mounting pressure and various intimidations."

Myanmar Journalists Union strongly condemned regarding distorted news of AP, "Such distorted reporting has an immense negative impact of the country and could lead to further misunderstanding and discord between Myanmar and the international community at such a delicate

January, 2014. At that time, Union Government, Rakhine State Government and responsible officials at different levels were making concerted efforts to gain peace, stability and rule of law in the region when AP News Agency had opened its branch office in Yangon. At the time when situations in northern Rakhine State could turn up into a worse situation at any time the AP News Agency reported an unconfirmed news



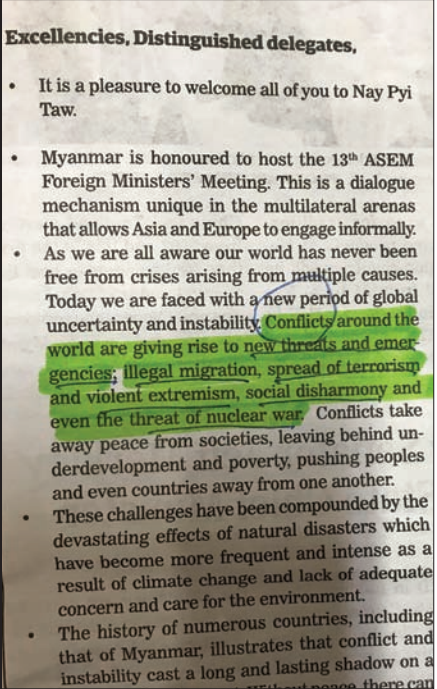
The original story of AP is seen on the screen. PHOTO: IRRRAWADDY

item, saying "An unruly crowd of Myanmar people killed Muslim women and children amounting to more than one dozen with swords." As a matter of fact the news was unconfirmed, and the amounts said to have been killed were differently by the news. Authorities concerned as well denied that news were not actual. A lo-

countries such as United States of America and the Britain pushed pressure on the then Myanmar Government to investigate the event which did not actually happen. In actuality, a security force patrolling for the regional security was attacked by a mob, in which a police sergeant had missed, who was assumed to have been killed. The true news was hidden by the false one, thus the truth disappeared under lies.

The current AP's error was committed in the presence of foreign ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials from 51 Asia-Europe continental countries, ASEAN Secretariat and European Union. It is a disgrace for an influential news media to have distorted the opening speech full of constructive meanings by the State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Minister, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Media men from home and abroad attended 13th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting for news coverage. On such a day, the outbreak of AP's error was assumed to have been attributed to their inability to remove opinions conceived in their minds over Myanmar and the State Counsellor. I pondered myself whether they would have hallucinations of thinking the truth as the falsity, the cold to be the heat and loving-kindness to be anger, provided that an error impressed itself in the deepest soul of a person.—Translated by Khin Maung Oo



The full text of the speech of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was covered in the Global New Light of Myanmar. PHOTO: MNA

Progress in least developed countries hinges on access to modern energy

ACCORDING to The Least Developed Countries Report 2017, published today, the world's 47 least developed countries1 (LDCs) are falling far behind the rest of the developing world in terms of getting power to homes and businesses. While they have made great strides in recent years, achieving the global goal of universal access to energy by 2030 will require a 350 per cent increase in their annual rate of electrification.

"Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7 is not only a question of satisfying households' basic energy needs," UNCTAD Secretary-General Mukhisa Kituyi said in Geneva, ahead of the report's publication on Tuesday. "That in itself has valuable welfare implications, but we need to go beyond... For electrification to transform LDC economies, modern energy provision needs to spur productivity increases and unlock the production of more goods and services."

Dr. Kituyi added: "The productive use of energy is what turns access into economic development, and what ensures that investments in electricity infrastructure are economically viable. But that means looking beyond satisfying households basic needs to achieving transformational energy access – satisfying producers' needs for adequate, reliable and affordable energy."

While on average 10 per cent of people in other developing countries lack access to electricity, this remains the case for more than 60 per cent of the population in LDCs.

High time for donors to meet aid commitments
Achieving universal access to modern energy in LDCs by 2030 will be costly. Based on previous global estimates, the report puts the cost at US\$12 billion to US\$40 billion per year. Transformational energy access would cost still more.

This far exceeds the resources currently available, the report says. Total official development assistance to the energy sector is just US\$3 billion per year; domestic resources for public investment are scarce in most LDCs, and most also face serious limits to borrowing without risking an unsustainable debt burden.

Most LDCs are also seen as relatively high-risk environments – although the availability of de-risking instruments, such as insurance and guarantee products, might help to bolster confidence. **Renewables have potential but will need support**

Renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, could have a revolutionary effect in rural areas, home to 82 per cent of those without power in LDCs, and help to overcome the historical obstacles to rural electrification.

But non-hydro renewable energy in these countries has so far come mostly from small-scale technologies, such as solar lanterns and stand-alone home systems. While these have brought some progress, they fall short of the game-changing access to power that LDCs need to transform their economies.

Utility-scale renewable technologies capable of feeding the grids and mini-grids necessary not only to power homes, but also to grow businesses and industries, need to be deployed rapidly. But to achieve this, LDCs must overcome important technological, economic and institutional obstacles. This will require both the right national policies and stronger international support.

Despite remarkable potential in LDCs, wind and solar power alone cannot meet their needs. Hydroelectricity also plays a major role, currently providing half of all the electricity generated in LDCs; and fossil fuels will also have a continuing role in many cases, with a progressive shift towards less carbon-intensive technologies such as natural gas.

Because energy technologies, and particularly renewable technologies, are constantly evolving, it is critical that LDCs gain access to the technologies suited to their particular conditions and circumstances, and that they strengthen the capacity of their energy sectors to absorb such technologies.—UNCTAD

13th UPDJC meeting held

The 13th Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) meeting was held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Vice-Chairman of UPDJC said, “At the previous UPDJC meeting, the State Counsellor gave guidance to perform the tasks of preparation for result of the framework of political dialogues based on the experiences encountered in the previous conference, preparation for ToR (term of reference) and SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) compilation. With the guidance and under decision of UPDJC Meeting Framework, formation of ToR SOP, each with eight members the working committee was assigned. Working committees’ meetings were held from November 17 to 20 November. Then it was discussed in the UPDJC Secretariat meeting, and thence in the present UPDJC meeting.”

“Starting from the time Myanmar gained its Independence, efforts were made throughout the reigns of successive governments for cessation of armed conflicts. Looking back on these, no one could manage to reach the level of holding political dialogues. Now, as known by all, not only political dialogues were held but also agreements had been achieved. For the success of political conference it is of great importance for frameworks on political negotiation to be clear, easy and convenient in carrying out practically. Framework on political dialogues was drawn up in 2015, after signing National Ceasefire Agreement. At the time of the incumbent government and at the time when State Counsellor led UPDJC, the framework was amended to be in harmony with the 21st Century Panglong Conference Road, especially the part concerned with convening the conference,” added the Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe.

Afterward, the Vice-Chairman of the UPDJC went on saying, “Those who did not yet sign NCA were invited to take part in the process of reassessing the framework and discussions were made concerning the frameworks. The doors were opened for those who did not take part in the preparation of the framework to be able to take part and to discuss in Review Process.



The meeting of the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee being held in Nay Pyi Taw on 24 November 2017. PHOTO: MNA

For this final discussion was not made for those who could not take part yet to join the present process. At today’s meeting submissions to be presented by the working committees must be approved after collective discussions. We firmly believe that all will make concerted efforts for success of political dialogues at different levels including Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong for the Union Peace. We deeply urge all our UPDJC leaders to continually make efforts for cessation of armed conflicts and for the emergence of peaceful federal democratic Union.”

In addition, Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win, Vice-Chairman of UPDJC said, “UPDJC is mostly responsible in holding political dialogues for emergence of Union Peace in the country. Arrangements will be carried out for smoothness of political dialogues. UPDJC is the joint committee for the Union Peace and Political Dialogues. 13th UPDJC Meeting is important. After decisions had been made concerning the facts presented and performed by the UPDJC Secretariat, measures are to be made for implementation of political dialogues and peace.”

U Thu Wai, Vice-President of UPDJC said, “Under the leadership of the Union Government efforts are being made for achievement of the national peace. UPDJC as well is performing the task of gaining peace together with political parties. If and when mutual understanding develops in us, any kind of work can be implemented. If we have mutual understanding, we will have trust. If we have trust we will have unity. If we have unity

we will have success. If we negotiate by grasping understanding, we will reach our destination.”

Afterward, UPDJC Vice-Chairmen Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win, U Thu Wai, UPDJC member Union Minister U Thein Swe made closing addresses respectively and the meeting came to a close.

Present at the meeting were UPDJC Vice-Chairmen Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win, U Thu Wai, UPDJC members—Union Ministers U Thant Sin Maung, U Thein Swe, Dr Win Myat Aye, Nai Thet Lwin, Lt General Min Naung, Dr Tin Myo Win, Union Attorney General U Tun Tun Oo, Major San Myint, Brigadier Sein Tun Hla, U Khin Zaw U, U Aung Soe, U Hla Maung Shwe, U Zaw Htay, Dr Lyan Hmon Sar Khoung, U Khun Okkar, U Myo Win, U Sai Ngin, Saw Mya Yar Zar Lin, Salai Htalar Hey, Pado Saw Tar Do Hmu, Saw Kyaw Nyunt, Saw Sein Win, Pado Mahn Nyein Maung, Daw Mi Hsu Pwint, Dr Sai Oo, Saw Smith Don, U Khaing Lin Khaing, U Myint Soe, Sai Kyaw Nyunt, U Naing Ngan Lin, Min Kyaw Zay Oo, U Tar Hla Pe, U Tun Tun Hein, Dr Aye Maung, Saw Tun Aung Myint, U Thein Tun, Dr Min Nwe Soe, Dr Aung Myat Oo, Khun Htun Shwe, U Shwe Min, U Zam Za Mon and responsible officials.

After the meeting press conference concerning the 13th UPDJC meeting was held, and the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor Director-General U Zaw Htay, and Yebaw Myo Win of armed national ethnic group replied to the questions raised by media men.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar Gazette

Confirmation and appointment of heads of service organizations

1.The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on the expiry of one-year probationary period from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Aye Lwin	Director-General National Registration and Citizenship Department Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population
(b) U Htay Hlaing	Director-General Immigration Department Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population

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

Name, Designation and Department	Appointment
(a) U Ye Naing General Manager News and Periodicals Enterprise Ministry of Information	Director-General Information and Public Relations Department Ministry of Information
(2) Dr Kyaw Moe Oo Deputy Director General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Ministry of Transport and Communications	Director-General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Ministry of Transport and Communications
(3) U Zin Maung Tun Pro Rector (Academic) Myanmar Maritime University Ministry of Transport and Communications	Principal Myanmar Marcantile Marine College Ministry of Transport and Communications

Myanmar News Agency ■

Photo gallery to be exhibited in Yangon region

A photo gallery with the topic of “Cultural Heritage of Myanmar” will be exhibited at Myanmar Deitta Gallery (No. 49, 3rd floor, 44th Street) at Botahtaung Township, Yangon region on Wednesday 29 November 2017. The exhibition will continue until 2 December 2017, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The exhibition will be jointly held by the Embassy of Italy and the Italian Trade Agency. Out of over 100 photos, 16 photos will be selected and displayed for sale at Myanmar Deitta gallery

in Yangon. Sixteen photos will be chosen by high-level international juries. At the competition, the photos of the competitors have to highlight the cultural heritage of Myanmar. Therefore, the visitors who visit our exhibition will get knowledge on the cultural heritage of Myanmar,” said an official from the Embassy of Italy in Yangon. Everyone can visit the exhibition free of charge. At the exhibition, the photographers will explain about their selected photos, it is learnt.—GNLM ■

Venezuela's Maduro keeps eye on prize — 2018 presidential vote

CARACAS — Just months ago, with crowds of protesters baying on the streets for the resignation of the “dictator” and “murderer,” Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro looked like a goner.

Global opinion hardened against his socialist government, with Washington the first to impose sanctions. Coup rumours spread amid one of the worst economic implosions in modern Latin American history, and there were two botched mini-uprisings.

Yet the unpopular successor to Hugo Chavez has not only survived, he is ending the year on a political high and is even a front-runner for the 2018 presidential election.

The upturn in Maduro's fortunes began with a surprise victory in last month's gubernatorial elections, thanks to abstentionism by disillusioned opposition supporters and election conditions stacked in favour of his Socialist Party.

He then seized the initiative by announcing Venezuela's in-



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro talks to the media during a news conference at Miraflores Palace in Caracas, Venezuela on 17 October 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

tention to restructure its more than \$120 billion (90.29 billion pounds) foreign debt. The high-stakes moves allows him to blame a US-led “capitalist conspiracy” for hyperinflation and shortages while potentially freeing hard currency to import food and medicines ahead of next year's vote.

Government sources say a buoyant Maduro is now considering driving home his advan-

tage by bringing forward the normally year-end election to February or March.

The president, so toxic last month that few gubernatorial candidates wanted to be seen with him, might now be his party's best bet to retain power against an opposition in disarray.

Speculation about alternative candidates — from powerful Socialist Party No. 2 Diosdado

Cabello to up-and-coming governor Hector Rodriguez - has quietened in recent days.

“For sure Maduro will be the candidate. How can anyone challenge him?” said Dimitris Pantoulas, a Caracas-based consultant who tracks Socialist Party politics.

“Look at him on TV: He's bright and happy. He even dances better than before! ‘Chavismo’ has the momentum,” he added, referring to the movement founded by Chavez.

Maduro is taking credit in government circles for pushing through a Constituent Assembly super-body that cemented the socialists' power — albeit in an election boycotted by the opposition and marred by fraud accusations even from the company running the voting machines — and for breaking the opposition coalition.

With the main parties within the opposition Democratic Unity coalition boycotting next month's mayoral elections, another win looks likely at the local level.—Reuters ■

Militants kill 184 in attack on mosque in Egypt's north Sinai — state media

CAIRO — Militants killed 184 people at a mosque in Egypt's north Sinai region on Friday, detonating a bomb and shooting at fleeing worshippers and ambulances, state media and witnesses said.

It was one of the deadliest attacks in the region's Islamist insurgency. No group claimed immediate responsibility, but since 2014 Egyptian security forces have battled a stubborn Islamic State affiliate in the north of the mainly desert Sinai, where militants have killed hundreds of police and soldiers.

State media showed images of bloodied victims and bodies covered in blankets inside the Al Rawdah mosque in Bir al-Abed, west of the city of El Arish.

State television and the official news agency MENA reported that 184 people had been killed. Another 125 were wounded, according to state media.—Reuters ■

Utility files to extend operation of aging east Japan nuclear unit

TOKYO — A utility operating the sole reactor at the Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plant northeast of Tokyo filed Friday for a state approval to extend the unit's operation beyond the government-mandated 40-year service period.

It is the fourth time that an application has been filed with the Nuclear Regulation Authority to extend the operation of an aging reactor for an additional 20 years but the latest request is the first for a boiling water reactor — the same type as those at the crisis-hit Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex. The application for the Tokai plant in Ibaraki Prefecture, currently offline, comes despite local governments not having emergency plans to evacuate around 960,000 people living within 30 kilometers of the plant. Of all Japan's nuclear power plants, Tokai's has the most densely populated surrounding area.

Tougher safety rules introduced in the wake of the Fukushima disaster, triggered by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, prohibit



File photo taken in March 2017 shows the Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plant in Tokai, Ibaraki Prefecture, northeast of Tokyo. Japan Atomic Power Co. filed on 24 November for a state approval to extend the aging plant's operation beyond the government-mandated 40-year service period — for an additional 20 years. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

in principle the operation of nuclear reactors beyond 40 years.

But extending a unit's life for an additional 20 years is possible if operators make safety upgrades and pass the regulator's screen-

ing. It is unclear whether the operator, Japan Atomic Power Co., which is jointly owned by nine of the country's utility companies, can secure an estimated 180 billion yen (\$1.6 billion) in costs to

implement measures to enhance the safety of the aging reactor, with its business struggling after all of its nuclear power reactors ceased operations.

The Tokai No. 2 plant, sit-

ting on the same Pacific coast as the tsunami-ravaged Fukushima plant, is currently under safety assessment by the Nuclear Regulation Authority for a reactivation.

So far, three pressurized water reactors belonging to Kansai Electric Power Co. have gained the authority's approval to extend their operations for 20 years.

The Tokai No. 2 plant, which started commercial operation in 1978, will be decommissioned if it cannot gain the authority's approval for safety measures and extension by November 2018.

But even if the authority approves the resumption and extension of the plant, the actual reactivation would come later than March 2021, which would be the earliest that works on implementing safety measures would be likely to be completed.

Japan Atomic Power filed for the extension after its president, Mamoru Muramatsu, told Ibaraki Gov. Kazuhiko Oigawa of the utility's intention to seek it in a meeting on Tuesday.—Kyodo News ■

Gov't to take steps to help farmers after Japan-EU free trade accord

TOKYO — The Japanese government decided Friday to take a set of measures to strengthen Japan's farm industry in the face of competition with its European peers after the Japan-EU free trade is implemented.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party seeks to allocate some 300 billion yen (\$2.69 billion) in the supplementary budget plan for fiscal 2017 to implement the steps, a source close to the matter said, as the cheese, pork, beef and timber industries among others will prepare for stiff competition following an agreement on the accord earlier this year.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's push to strengthen Japan's farm sector also comes as the 11 signatories of the Trans-Pacific Partnership including Japan reached an agreement this month to go ahead with the implementation



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (2nd from R) and Toshimitsu Motegi (R), minister in charge of revitalizing the economy, attend a meeting of ministers at the prime minister's office in Tokyo on 24 November 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

of the Pacific Rim free trade pact despite the withdrawal of the United States.

"The TPP and the Japan-EU

economic partnership agreement are the trump cards for (Japan's) growth strategy. I hope to realize economic growth by

taking advantage of their merits as much as possible," Abe told a meeting of ministers at his office on Friday.

The new steps, compiled in a revised version of the measures the government outlined shortly after the agreement on the TPP in 2015, are designed to improve the quality and reduce the production costs of domestic dairy products and raw milk.

The government will also increase subsidies to livestock farmers to make up for their losses stemming from tougher competition and strengthen the competitiveness of Japanese timber products by making their processing facilities more efficient.

The measures are also aimed at helping small and medium-sized companies enhance their exports to the EU market.

After reaching a broad agreement on the free trade pact in July, Japan and the European Union aim to put the agreement into force as soon as possible.

—Kyodo News ■

Hope fades as search for Argentine submarine enters ninth day



People walk behind an Argentine national flag displayed on a fence, in support of the 44 crew members of the ARA San Juan submarine who are missing at sea, at an Argentine naval base in Mar del Plata, Argentina, on 22 November 2017. The words on the flag read: "ARA San Juan, be strong". **PHOTO: REUTERS**

MAR DEL PLATA, (Argentina) — Hopes diminished that the 44 crew members on a Argentine submarine missing for nine days would be found alive after evidence pointed to the possibility that it had exploded and because it only had a seven-day supply of oxygen. Crew members' relatives who had been waiting for news at the submarine's base in the city of Mar del Plata started going home late on Thursday, while the navy vowed to keep searching.

"At this point, the truth is I have no hope that they will come back," Maria Villareal, mother of one crew member, told local television on Friday morning.

Some family members accused the navy of putting their loved ones at unnecessary risk by sending them out in a more than 30-year-old vessel that they suspected was not properly maintained, an accusation the navy has denied. "They killed my brother," a man leaving the base in a car shouted out to re-

porters. The older man driving the car was crying. The submarine, called the San Juan, was launched in 1983 and underwent maintenance in 2008 in Argentina. The armed forces have had to face dwindling resources and lack of training since the end of a military dictatorship in the early 1980s. "They did not tell us they were dead, but that is the logical conclusion," Itati Leguizamon, wife of one of the missing crew members, told reporters.—Reuters ■

San Francisco to invest heavily in saving its landmark waterfront from earthquakes, rising sea level

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco is planning to spend tens of millions of US dollars on salvaging its landmark tourist attraction waterfront that is threatened by earthquakes and a rising sea level, media reports said Thursday.

The City Hall and port authorities of San Francisco, a tourist city in the US western coast state of California, are grappling with the pressing likelihood of natural disasters hitting the city's landmark waterfront, the Embarcadero.

The Embarcadero, along the city's eastern shoreline, is home to several waterfront attractions of San Francisco, including its iconic clock tower and the 1898 Ferry Building, a major food lover's attraction featuring restaurants and gourmet shops.

The city authorities are moving to sign a 10-year contract valued at 40 million US dollars with a group of 21 consultants, including a Dutch firm, to remake the Embarcadero into a landmark capable of withstanding future natural threats.

San Francisco port authorities estimated last year that the cost of upgrading the Embarcadero seawall could top 5 billion dollars.

Built in 1916, the rock-and-

concrete seawall keeps San Francisco Bay from reclaiming inland blocks built on landfill, including portions of the Financial District, the city's business center.

A 2016 study for the port authorities said that although the seawall is not likely to collapse in a major earthquake, it could sag and lurch toward the bay.

Such a consequence could cause buildings along the Embarcadero to collapse while water floods into the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) tube, which is a rapid transit public transportation system linking downtown San Francisco with other cities around it.

BART is the fifth-busiest heavy rail rapid transit system in the United States.

"We need to address a problem that hasn't been confronted before — how do you prepare a city for sea level rise?" said Peter Wijsman of Arcadis, a Dutch environmental consulting firm that is leading a study plan for the rehabilitation of the Embarcadero.

San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee is expected to call a public ballot next November on a 350-million-dollar bond that is designed for seawall improvements.—Xinhua ■

Three coffees a day linked to more health than harm — study

LONDON — People who drink three to four cups of coffee a day are more likely to see health benefits than harm, experiencing lower risks of premature death and heart disease than those who abstain, scientists said on Wednesday.

The research, which collated evidence from more than 200 previous studies, also found coffee consumption was linked to lower risks of diabetes, liver disease, dementia and some cancers.

Three or four cups a day confer the greatest benefit, the scientists said, except for women who are pregnant or who have a higher risk of suffering fractures.

Coffee is one of the

most commonly consumed drinks worldwide. To better understand its effects on health, Robin Poole, a public health specialist at Britain's University of Southampton, led a research team in an "umbrella review" of 201 studies based on observational research and 17 studies based on clinical trials across all countries and all settings.

"Umbrella reviews" synthesise previous pooled analyses to give a clearer summary of diverse research on a particular topic.

"Coffee drinking appears safe within usual patterns of consumption," Pool's team concluded in their research, published



Latte art is displayed during the finals of the German Barista Championships in Hamburg on 17 April 2011. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

in the BMJ British medical journal late on Wednesday.

Drinking coffee was consistently linked with a

lower risk of death from all causes and from heart disease. The largest reduction in relative risk of

premature death is seen in people consuming three cups a day, compared with non-coffee drinkers.

Drinking more than three cups a day was not linked to harm, but the beneficial effects were less pronounced.

Coffee was also associated with a lower risk of several cancers, including prostate, endometrial, skin and liver cancer, as well as type 2 diabetes, gallstones and gout, the researchers said. The greatest benefit was seen for liver conditions such as cirrhosis of the liver. Poole's team noted that because their review included mainly observational data, no firm conclusions could be drawn about cause and effect. But they said their findings support other recent reviews and studies of coffee intake.—Reuters ■

Viet Nam to spend 1 bln USD on site clearance for int'l airport construction

HANOI — Viet Nam's top legislature on Friday decided to spend over 1 billion US dollars on site clearance for construction of Long Thanh international airport in southern Dong Nai province.

According to a resolution adopted by the National Assembly on Friday, the last day of the legislature's 4th session, Viet Nam will,

from now to 2019, recover nearly 5,400 hectares of land to build the airport.

A total of 22,938 billion Vietnamese dong (over 1 billion US dollars) will be spent on compensating households that have to relocate and on resettling them.

The airport will be designed to serve 100 million passengers annually

and handle 5 million tons of cargo.

The airport's construction will have three phases, with the first phase costing 5.45 billion US dollars, excluding the site clearance expense.

The first phase is scheduled to be completed in 2025 when a runway and a terminal become operational, serving 25 million

passengers and 1.2 million tons of cargo a year.

Viet Nam's aviation sector served 38.3 million passengers in the first 10 months of this year, up 11.4 per cent year-on-year, said the country's General Statistics Office. Meanwhile, the sector transported 262,100 tons of cargo, up 8.8 per cent than the same period last year.—Xinhua ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BANDA VOY. NO (072)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BANDA VOY. NO (072) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Indian official aims to take Japanese bicycle technology back home

TOKYO — An Indian official recently toured Japan's bicycle industry with a view to transferring the country's cutting-edge technology and know-how to India, which is currently facing severe competition in the sector from China.

Devinder Pal Singh Kharbanda, director of industries in the northern state of Punjab, said in an interview with Kyodo News earlier this month that his visit was aimed at learning "what Japan has done

well in the cycle industry, so we learn from Japanese technology." India is the second-largest bicycle producer after China and "70 to 80 per cent of cycles in India are produced in Punjab," said Kharbanda, who is also the chairman of an institute in Ludhiana in the state that offers training for workers and conducts testing of bicycles.

India produces about 10 per cent of bicycles in the world, compared with 67 per cent made by China,

and has been facing the challenge of steel price increases and the trend of global manufacturers turning to China for high-quality parts.

In an attempt to address such problems, Kharbanda and his team from the Research and Development Center for Bicycle and Sewing Machines Ludhiana visited Japanese bicycle manufacturers, testing institutions and a design school, and talked with Japanese

industry representatives.

The visit was organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which connects businesses between developed and developing countries.

Kharbanda said his team is targeting technologies for electric bicycles and aluminum alloy to be used instead of steel alloy, which makes bikes "lighter in weight" and ensures they have "good ambience."—Kyodo News ■

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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Multi-sensory exhibition “Van Gogh Alive” comes to Greece

ATHENS — An unprecedented multimedia exhibition which has been travelling the world in recent years has arrived here, giving Greeks the chance to immerse themselves in Vincent Van Gogh's world, and leave behind the gloom of the seven-year Greek debt crisis.

“Van Gogh Alive” is not an ordinary art exhibition, but a “multi-sensory experience,” visitors and organizers told Xinhua at Megaron Concert Hall, which is hosting the event from 7 November, 2017 to 5 March, 2018.

The Greek capital is the 36th city in the world to welcome the exhibition. Visitors can forget about tiptoeing through silent museum galleries. Instead, they are free to dance to the music or touch the floors or the walls that Van Gogh's masterpieces are projected onto.

More than 3,000 paintings, sketches and animated images of the great 19th century Dutch artist are projected onto 40 giant screens on ceilings and floors using an advanced media platform of multi-sensory technology developed by Australian company SENSORY4.



People visit the multimedia exhibition “Van Gogh Alive” at Megaron Concert Hall in Athens, Greece, on 21 November, 2017. PHOTO: XINHUA

The multi-channel, high resolution projectors and high-fidelity sound create a three-dimensional display that provides for an interactive way for visitors to see Van Gogh's life and work from new angles, surrounded by his vibrant colors, music and light.

“The use of music is very good. They have achieved what Van Gogh was seeking — to combine (his work) with music

to bring people tranquility,” visitor Maria Douka said.

Katerina, 4, who was visiting the exhibition with her mother and two-month-old brother, was excited by the colors, in particular Van Gogh's yellow, she told Xinhua.

“I have created a puzzle with Van Gogh's room,” she said.

Organizers hope that using 21st century technology to make

great 19th century art come to life will attract more audience, in particular, the youth.

Many school groups from all over Greece have been queuing at Megaron this November to enter the exhibition.

“The number of visitors is great. Within the first 10 days, more than 20,000 people visited the exhibition. The reactions have been excellent,” said Yannis Moustakas, assistant

managing director of Lavris, the Greek company organizing the event.

“Unfortunately, the financial crisis has not helped in the production of many new projects in art. Nevertheless, every day there are remarkable works coming to light. I think that art is the best way to leave behind the pressure and the grief caused by the crisis,” he added. —Xinhua ■

Seth Meyers to host 2018 Golden Globe Awards

LOS ANGELES — TV presenter Seth Meyers has been confirmed to host the Golden Globes Awards in January.

The host of “Late Night with Seth Meyers”, is known for his political skits and criticism of US President Donald Trump and his administration.

Meyers succeeds Jimmy Fallon, who hosted this year's ceremony.

President Meher Tatna of Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), which conducts the awards annually, made the announcement in statement posted on the awards official website.

“The Hollywood Foreign Press Association is excited to have Seth Meyers host the 75th Annual Golden Globe Awards”, said Tatna.

“With his natural comedic wit and innate ability to charm

audiences, Seth will help us carry on the celebratory tradition of recognising the best in television and film at the Party of the Year,” she added.

The awards were hosted by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler from 2013-2015, and the duo were reported to have been approached once again for the job.

Ricky Gervais had emceed the awards from 2010 to 2012 and once again in 2016.

Meyers, 43, has a previous experience of hosting the 2014 Emmy awards and the infamous 2011 White House Correspondents Dinner, in which he poked fun at Trump.

The nominations for the 75th Golden Globes will be announced on December 11, while the ceremony will take place on 7 January 2018. —PTI ■

I think world of him: Josh Gad on Kenneth Branagh

LONDON — Actor Josh Gad has said that he “thinks the world” of actor-director Kenneth Branagh.

The 36-year-old star will next be seen in the Branagh-directed “Murder on the Orient Express”, which also features

Johnny Depp, Penelope Cruz, Judi Dench, Olivia Colman, Daisy Ridley, Derek Jacobi, Leslie Odom Jr, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Willem Dafoe.

“I would follow that man to the ends of the Earth; I just think

the world of him,” Gad said according to Femalefirst.

“A large part of my education was spent watching the work of Kenneth Branagh. He is an exceptionally talented human being,” he added. —PTI ■

How ‘Prem Kahani’ helped bring back the romance of Opera House

NEW DELHI — “Prem Kahani” may be long forgotten, even by ardent Rajesh Khanna and Shashi Kapoor fans, but it was the film that provided crucial tips on how to restore the century-old Royal Bombay Opera House.

The climax scene in the 1975 film, little known despite its stars being reigning icons of the time, gave restorers a glimpse into the magnificence of Mumbai's opera house, which reopened last year after seven years of painstaking work.

A listed heritage building in Baroque style, the Opera House was inaugurated by British monarch King George V in 1911 and completed in 1916. It began its journey as ‘the finest theatre in the East’, but suffered monumental neglect during its stint as a cinema hall before its eventual closure and abandonment.

“Prem Kahani” gave restorers the connect they were looking for. Mumbai-based conservation architect Abha Narain Lambah, who led the restoration project for

the former royal family of Gondal, the current owner, says it was “leap of faith” given the myriad challenges they faced.

“It was an old film starring Rajesh Khanna, Shashi Kapoor and Mumtaz that helped us in knowing vital components of the old design. A scene towards the end of the movie was shot in the Opera House, where the original balconies and the frescoes could be seen. It was a big help,” Lambah told PTI over phone from Paris. —PTI ■

Yangon Supreme Court receives YHT Commemorative Blue Plaque



Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein sprinkles scented water to the blue plaque at Yangon Supreme Court. **PHOTO:MDN**

THE Supreme Court received Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT) of the commemorative Blue Plaque in a ceremony this morning and it was opened by Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

The Yangon Supreme Court is an iconic colonial-era building

that's been famous in the judicial sector of Myanmar. The building is located between Maha Bandula Garden Street and Pansodan Street.

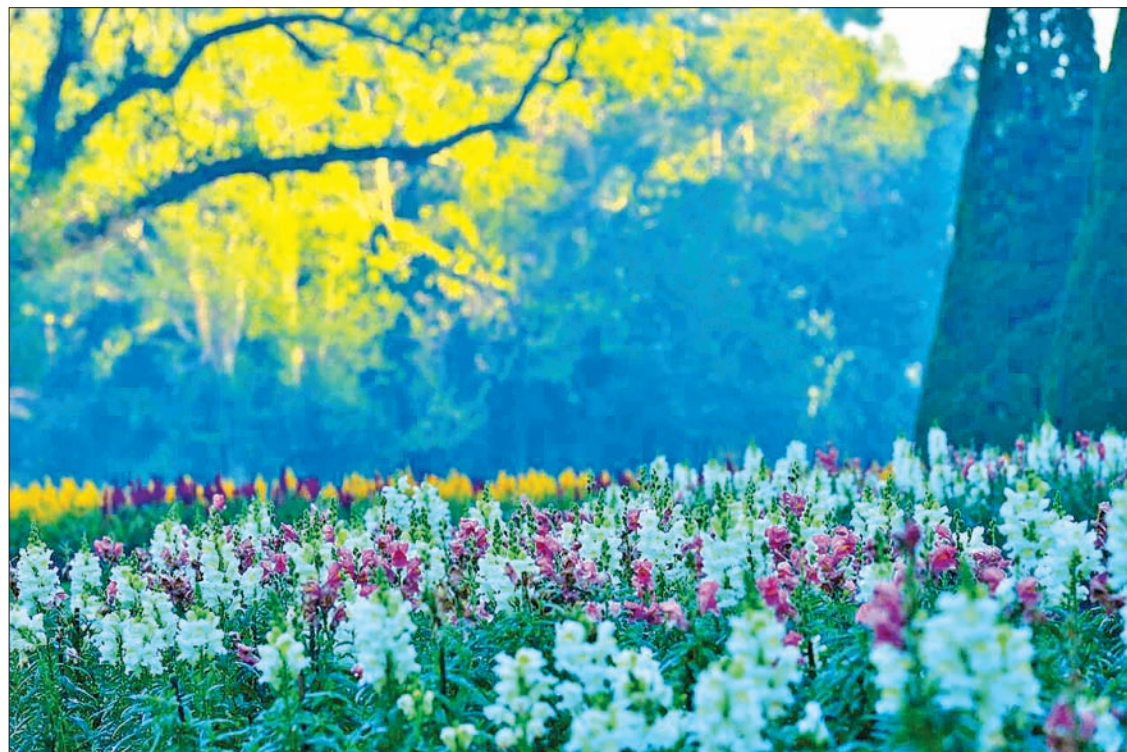
"The commemorative blue plaque is not only an icon of heritage, but also the building's his-

tory is memorable and honorable in the eyes of local residents, even 100 years ago the building was depicted as the image of Myanmar's judicial system.

The building that now has the blue plaque was the High Court Building from 1911 to 2006 and is today used as the Yangon Regional Parliament. With plans drawn up by James Ransome, the consulting architect of the Indian government, the construction of the building began in 1905 and was completed in 1911 by Bagchi & Co., Ltd, the total costs were 2,450,000 rupees.

"The image of the lion and arched roofs, as well as the clock tower reflects the symbolism of Myanmar's judicial system. It is also one of the first buildings to have electricity in Yangon. There are so many heritage buildings and about two hundred landmarks will be installed with the blue plaque" said U Turein Aung, historical researcher and Project Manager for the YHT. —MDN ■

Photo contest marking flower festival to be held in flower city



MYANMAR Photographers Association (Upper Myanmar) and PyinOoLwin Photographers Association will jointly organize 4th photography contest to celebrate the 12th flower festival scheduled to be held at National Landmark Garden in PyinOoLwin early in December.

Photography enthusiasts are invited to take part in the competition and the prize awards will be Ks 5 lakhs for the first prize winner, Ks 4 lakhs for second prize and one lakh kyats for consolation prize winners. In addition, 10 consolation prizes will be awarded to the winners. The participants are

requested to send their photos not later than 5 January 2018.

Prize winning photos will be chosen by PyinOoLwin Photographers Association on 6 January and those wishing to know more details about the contest may call 09-2031333 or 09-79471117. —MDN ■



Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint and wife Daw Khin Htay are welcomed by Ambassador of Timor-Leste to Myanmar Mr. Joao Freitas de Camara as they arrive a reception to celebrate the National Day of Timor Leste at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon on 24th November 2017.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Official complaint forms to be issued to tel-com customers

THE Communication Department issued an official announcement of complaint to customers who are not satisfied with the customer service that phone operators provide.

This notice will present clear and accurate information regarding rules and regulations that licensed telecommunications services must abide by.

If customers want to know their phone balance in detail they can call the relevant operator and speak to them about

their balance and other details such as their call logs.

Furthermore if customers are not satisfied with the explanations the operator gives them regarding their phone balance OR the time duration of individual phone calls they can submit the official complaint to the director general of the Communication Department, Office No. 2 in Nay Pyi Taw or complaint@ptd.gov.mm. After customers do this, the Communication Department will take the necessary action.—MDN ■

Chinese, French experts co-work to restore ancient building

XI'AN — Chinese and French cultural experts will cooperate to restore Gongshutang, a cultural relic site under state protection in China's ancient city of Xi'an.

The news was announced at a seminar on Sino-French cultural heritage preservation in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, Thursday. The site has several problems, including skewing, microbial disease, discoloration, as well as rot and moth damage, which need to be urgently restored. "We have monitored the environment and investigated the biological damage at Gong-

shutang, for the preparation of the restoration program," said Zhou Ping, a cultural relics researcher with Shaanxi Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics Protection. Zhou said that Chinese and French experts would research the traditional crafts of colored drawing, and the ingredients of the adhesives in the building. Gongshutang was built during the reign of Emperor Yongle of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) in memory of a legendary craftsman Lu Ban, who is believed to have invented or improved many carpenter's tools.—Xinhua ■

Myanmar U-21 football team beats Mongolia in last minute

THE Myanmar U-21 national football team defeated the team from Mongolia by a score of 2-1 yesterday evening in a friendly match at Thuwanna Stadium in Yangon.

Myanmar lined up with goal-keeper Phone Thit Sar Mi and players Kyaw Thu Tun, Ye Yint Tun, Win Moe Kyaw, Than Htaik Zin, Myat Kaung Khant, Zayar Naing, Kyaw Myint Win, Shwe Ko, Ai Soe and Zwe Thet Paing.

Though Myanmar had chances in the first half, they failed to convert any of the opportunities into goals. The first half ended in a scoreless tie. In the second half, Myanmar striker Shwe Ko headed the ball that had been centred from a corner kick. The ball touched a Mongolia defender before landing in the net, giving Myanmar its first goal of the match at the 65-minute mark.

At 70 minutes, Myanmar was equalised by Mongolia player Tuguldur Galt. The game remained tied until the 90-minute mark, when Myanmar player Soe Lwin Lwin scored the winning goal for



Myanmar footballer (red) in action with Mongolia footballer (white) on 24 November at Thuwanna Stadium. **PHOTO: MFF**

Myanmar. The match ended soon thereafter.

Myanmar coach U Kyi Lwin said that the match was important preparation for the upcoming match against Viet Nam. The outcome, win or lose, was less important.

“There were some needs at today’s game, as it is the kick-off game for the players. We will prepare for Viet Nam match” UKyi Lwin said.

The head coach of the Mongolia team Michael Weiss also said that the friendly match

was good preparation for future matches.

“We played our best till the last minute. We are satisfied with our team’s effort today. We will prepare our best for next match”, Michael Weiss said. —Kyaw Zin Tun ■

Myanmar, Indonesia fall in the same group in 2018 ASEAN Women Championship

MYANMAR national women team is falling in the Group B together with host Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Singapore.

On the other hand, Thailand, Australia, Timor and Malaysia falls in the Group A.

The AFF Women Championships were postponed due to the 2017 Malaysian SEA Games and Asian Women qualifiers. So, it will be rescheduled to play in 2018. Myanmar national women football team achieved third place in 2016 and the team is hoping gold medal in the upcoming Championship. The AFF Women’s Championship is the competition in women’s football organised by the ASEAN Football Federation, contested by the national teams of nations in Southeast Asia. The official tournament started in 2004, hosted by Viet Nam and Myanmar national women football team secured the gold medal.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Milan, Villarreal and Nice reach Europa League knockout round

LONDON — AC Milan, Villarreal and Nice reached the knockout stage of the Europa League after posting wins on Thursday in the penultimate round of the group stage.

Arsenal lost to Cologne 1-0 in Germany but still finish top of Group H while Hertha Berlin crashed out of the competition after a 3-2 loss to Athletic Bilbao.

Everton, already eliminated, suffered a humiliating 5-1 defeat at home to the Italian side Atalanta with Danish forward Andreas Cornelius and midfielder Bryan Cristante each claiming a brace.

The Bergamo club progress from Group E along with Olympique Lyon, who crushed Apollon Limassol 4-0. Seven-times European champions AC Milan crushed Austria Vienna 5-1 after going a goal down. Portuguese forward Andre Silva and Patrick Cutrone each scored twice.

Spain’s Villarreal moved into the next round after beating As-



Villarreal’s Rodri in action with Astana’s Patrick Twumasi at Astana Arena, Astana, Kazakhstan, on 23 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

tana 3-2 to end the Kazakh club’s 17-game unbeaten run.

Substitute Cedric Bakambu scored twice after being introduced on the hour to put Villarreal 3-1 up; an 88th-minute Patrick Twumasi goal for the hosts made no difference to the result.

Italian Mario Balotelli scored

twice, including a penalty, for Nice as they went through from Group K with a 3-1 victory over Belgium’s Zulte Waregem.

European debutants Ostfriesen, who now top Group J with ten points, triumphed 2-0 at home to Ukrainian side Zorya Luhansk, taking the lead through an own

goal from Dmytro Hrechyskin in the 40th minute before a long-range effort from Saman Ghodnos secured the win 13 minutes from the end.

Salzburg enjoyed a comfortable 3-0 win over Portugal’s Vitoria Guimares thanks to goals from Israeli Moanes Dabour, Andrea Ulmer and South Korean Hwang Hee-chan.

Viktoria Plzen progress after a 2-0 win over Romania’s Steaua Bucharest which came after second-half goals from Milan Petrzel and Jan Kopic.

Arsenal were already assured of progress before their trip to Germany but will still be disappointed to have a fallen to the Bundesliga’s bottom club.

Sehrou Guirassy’s 62nd-minute penalty, after he was brought down by Mathieu Debuchy, was all that separated the two sides although Reiss Nelson and Jack Wilshere both went close to levelling in the final moments but

were foiled by Cologne keeper Timo Horn.

Serbian champions Partizan Belgrade progressed with a pulsating 2-1 home win over Young Boys Berne. Towering Cameroonian striker Leandre Tawamba gave Partizan the lead with a 12th-minute header before Nicolas Ngamaleu equalised with an opportunist goal after the home side failed to clear a corner.

Roared on by a fervent 25,000 home crowd, Partizan snatched the winner early in the second half when striker Ognjen Ozeovic finished off a delightful move.

Real Sociedad progress with Zenit St Petersburg from Group L due to a 1-0 win at Norway’s Rosenborg. Mikel Oyarzabal grabbed the winner in the 90th minute. Portugal’s Braga will also be in the last 32 after beating Hoffenheim 3-1. Brazilian midfielder Fransergio scored twice after the break.—Reuters ■