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7th SSMN Committee holds 47-member leading committee meeting

THE ANNUAL meeting of the 47-member leading committee of the 7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held at the Wizaya Mingalar Dham-

mathabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon yesterday.

Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Abhidhaja Maharattha

Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhamo Sayadaw, Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa presided over the meeting. In his opening

address at the meeting, the Sayadaw called on the members of the committee not to lose sight of the basic principles, mission, vision, and re-

sponsibilities set by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee at the 1980 All-Orders Sangha Conference.

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State Counsellor meets President, Prime Minister, Congress Party Chairman of Nepal

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who was in the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal met separately with the President, Prime Minister and Congress Party Chairman of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal yesterday.

The State Counsellor met with the President of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Mrs. Bidhya Devi Bhandari in the Presidential Palace in Kathmandu at local standard time 10:30 a.m.

During the meeting matters relating to increasing and strengthening bilateral relations, establishing more contact between the people of the two countries, increasing pilgrimage tours, trade and investment were discussed and views exchanged.

Present at the meeting were Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government U Min Thu, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin,



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with Mrs. Bidhya Devi Bhandari, President of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, in the Presidential Palace in Kathmandu. PHOTO: MNA

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Eighth-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session held

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE eighth-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session was held at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall of the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. At the meeting asterisk-marked questions raised were answered by Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo after which a motion was tabled, a report read and a bill approved.

Question and Answer session

First question of the day was raised by U Nyan Lin of Shwepyitha constituency. The question was whether there is a plan to repair in fiscal year 2018-2019 a severely damaged 1,345 ft. long section of Hlawga-Wataya Road in Shwepyitha Township and for YBS buses to ply the road. Deputy Minister replied that repair work for this particular road section was proposed for this budget year but was not conducted as there was insufficient fund. Fund will be allocated to lay a 24 ft. wide 11 inch thick concrete road on the 6,900 ft. fiscal year 2019-2020 and 5,900 ft. long two sections of the road in fiscal year 2020-2021 said the Deputy Minister. As for YBS buses plying the road section, the Deputy Minister explained on behalf of Yangon Region Government that this will be conducted under the arrangement of Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).



U Kyaw Myo. PHOTO: MNA

The second question was raised by U Shwe Hla @ U Shwe Hla Win of Thingangyun constituency asking if there is a plan to close down and relocate the pebble and sand collection dumps along the Nga Moe Yeik Creek on both side of the Kamakyi Bridge. Deputy Minister replied that there were four pebble and sand collection dumps at the subject area of which two run by U Myint Aung and U Nyi Nyi Zaw Aye didn't have necessary permission to conduct the work. Two other, U Thaung and Daw Ohnma Hlaing were permitted to conduct the work in fiscal years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 but due to objection of the locals in the area, permission was no longer



U Nyan Lin. PHOTO: MNA

given since fiscal year 2016-2017. Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) and Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems were also informed about this so that pebble and sand collection dumps are no longer operated in the area explained the Deputy Minister on behalf of Yangon Region government.

On the question of plan to resolve traffic and car parking problem in Yangon raised by U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo of Hline constituency, the Deputy Minister answered that Yangon Region Government formed YRTA to resolve the traffic problem as well as to develop a public transport system. Re-surfacing and widening of the roads were conducted while drains were systematically constructed to prevent roads from being inundated or submerged under water. A new YCDC Law was enacted and effective action will be taken against unlawful/unsafe driving, illegal parking and illegal road side stalls and shops. Tender winning company CRCC of China had installed a modern centrally controlled 154 traffic lights system that is now being

tested said the Deputy Minister. To have the public buses running systematically, Yangon Region Government had started a new YBS bus system added the Deputy Minister.

For parking, roads were widened to enable parking space while arrangements are made to conduct Smart Car Parking works in joint venture with private companies. A new policy was set for new building construction to have adequate car parking space. A long term plan to reduce traffic and parking problem through establishing public transport system that reduces private car usage is being strived toward said the Deputy Minister on behalf of Yangon Region Government. In addition to a question raised by Dr. Sai Mauk Kham of Lashio constituency of plan to install traffic lights in Lashio Township, questions raised by Dr. U Myint Thein of Nyaunglebin constituency, U Myint Kyi of Katha constituency and U Sai Ngaung Hsai Hein of Maukmai constituency were also answered by the Deputy Minister.

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Amyotha Hluttaw

Second Amyotha Hluttaw's tenth regular session holds eighth-day meeting

By Aung Ye Thwin

THE tenth regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw held its eighth-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw's meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, two reports were read out, and two bills were approved.

Asterisk-marked questions

During the session for asterisk-marked questions, U Hwei Tin of Chin State constituency 11 asked the government about its plans to construct a two-storey housing unit with 60×30 feet width for the government employees, and a housing unit with 40×30 feet width for Township officers in the compound of the Forest Department in Paletwa Township, Chin State as of the 2019-2020 fiscal years. Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe replied that arrangements are being made



U Hwei Tin. PHOTO: MNA

to submit the state government and using from the state's fund as of 2019-2020 fiscal year. The project would be commenced in the 2019-2020 fiscal year once the project has gained approval from the state government.

U Sai San Aung of Shan State constituency 12 raised a question on Phar Khar forest reserve in Hopong Township in the Wa Self-Administered Division, Shan State. Deputy Minister Dr.



Dr. Ye Myint Swe. PHOTO: MNA

Ye Myint Swe replied that Peace, Stability and the Rule of Law Committee's meeting (13/2018) had decided to form an inspection team comprised of different groups to scrutinize the ground situation and would submit it to the Ministry-concerned to wipe off the established villages from the list of forest land.

U Kyaw Kyaw of Rakhine State constituency 4 asked the government about its plan to

designate the Lin Mway Mountain as a restricted area from mine workings. Deputy Minister for Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe replied that as for the Rakhine State government, steps are being taken to stop illegal mining while carrying out the supervisory works in cooperation with the Department of Archaeology and National Museum, and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Following this, Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr. Ye Myint Swe replied to the questions raised by Daw Htu May of Rakhine State constituency 11, Daw San San Myint of Bago Region constituency 4 and Saw Yar Phaung Awa of Kayin State constituency 12. Afterwards, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member U Soe Moe read out and explained about 2018 Gambling Bill submitted by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn

Win Khaing Than announced the approval of the bill after obtaining the approval from the Hluttaw.

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Nwe Nwe Aung read out the bill of the Penal Code with amendments for the second time and clarified the reports submitted by the Bill Committee.

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker obtained the paragraph by paragraph decision and approved of the bill made by the Hluttaw.

U Aung Thein of Bago Region constituency 12 tabled the motion to be approved, and Dr. Myo Aung of Kayin State constituency 10 supported the bill.

After taking the decision of the Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced that the bill was approved.

The ninth-day meeting of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw's tenth regular session will be held on 4 December. ■

(Translated by
Win Ko Ko Aung)

State Counsellor meets President, Prime Minister, Congress ...

FROM PAGE-1

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo, Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal Thiri Pyanchi U Tun Nay Lin and officials.

After the meeting, the State Counsellor signed in the guest book of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Presidential Palace.

Next, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met privately with the Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. K. P. Sharma Oli at the Kathmandu Hotel Annapurna at 11:30 a.m.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor and the Prime Minister of Nepal attended the Myanmar-Nepal bilateral meeting held at Hotel Annapurna.

At the meeting, exchange of friendly visits between the leaders of the two countries, democracy and peace work processes, increasing bilateral trade and investment, bilateral relations and cooperation in all sectors were cordially discussed and views exchanged.

In addition to this the State Counsellor invited Nepal Prime Minister to visit Myanmar at a mutually convenient time.

The State Counsellor was accompanied by Union Ministers U Min Thu and U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo, Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal and officials at the bilateral meeting.



Myanmar and Nepal hold the bilateral meeting at Hotel Annapurna in Kathmandu, yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. K. P. Sharma Oli at Hotel Annapurna in Kathmandu. **PHOTO: MNA**

Following this State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Nepal Prime Minister Mr. K. P. Sharma Oli attended the memorandum of understanding signing ceremony between the two countries held at the hotel. At the ceremony Myanmar-Nepal memorandum of understanding on cooperation in trade and investment was signed and exchanged by Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and Nepal Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Pradeep Kumar Gyawali in the presence of the State Counsellor and the Nepal Prime Minister.

In the afternoon, State Counsellor Daw Aung San

Suu Kyi and party attended a luncheon hosted by Nepal Prime Minister at Hotel Annapurna.

Later in the day at 5 p.m. local standard time, former Nepal Prime Minister and Congress Party Chairman Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba came to meet with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel.

In the evening, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party attended a dinner hosted in Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel Ballroom for heads of states and heads of governments attending the Asia-Pacific Summit 2018. — MNA ■
(Translated by Zaw Min)



(Left), State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the dinner hosted in honour of heads of states and heads of governments attending the Asia-Pacific Summit 2018 at Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel in Kathmandu. (Right) State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with former Nepal Prime Minister and Congress Party Chairman Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice President U Myint Swe presents victory flag to Myanmar Sports Team contesting in 19th ASEAN University Games

VICE President U Myint Swe, in his capacity as Patron of the 19th ASEAN University Games (AUG) Leading Committee addressed the Myanmar university sports teams which will be contesting in the 19th AUG at a ceremony held at the Wunna Theikdi Stadium (B) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, after which he handed over the victory flag to Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister for Education and Chairman of the same committee.

Firstly, the coaches, managers and members of the university sports team cordially introduced themselves to the Vice President.

Next, the Vice President addressed the ceremony, saying it was a proud historical moment for Myanmar to be hosting the AUG for the first time. The 19th AUG will be held for ten days from 10 to 19 December 2018, he said.

He called for the sports team to give their utmost, united efforts to garner more medals than in previous games so that the Myanmar university sports teams could have a more successful history of accomplishments.

He said Myanmar accepted the honor of hosting the AUG in that regard and has set the motto 'Youth and Friendship'. He said prominent sports competitions like the AUG also support



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses Myanmar university sports teams and attendants at the handing over ceremony of the victory flag for the 19th ASEAN University Games. **PHOTO: MNA**

the promotion of 'international friendship' and opportunities for building bridges of understanding, trust, good relations and cultural exchange among the ASEAN brethren.

The Vice President asked the university sports teams to swear they would try their utmost to have their victory flag flying proudly in each contest at the 19th AUG. The Vice President expressed his belief that with

only 9 days left till the 19th AUG, the university sports teams were well prepared in regard to their strategies, stamina, skills, standards and spirit to represent their country. He requested the athletes to exert perseverance, diligence and persistent effort based on nationalism and patriotism and to display full sportsmanship while adhering to the rules of the competition.

The Vice President also

expressed his gratitude to the entrepreneurs, well-wishers and sports enthusiasts on behalf of the nation for willingly providing help and support to host and compete in the 19th AUG.

He instructed the sports teams to treat the athletes from other countries with team and family spirits, and to conduct themselves with the appropriate customs and traditions of Myanmar.

The Vice President concluded his speech by urging the sports team to 'keep the battle flag flying even when there is nothing but the bare hull left' and try their very best.

Next, the Vice President presented the National Flag of Myanmar to Union Minister and Leading Committee Chairman Dr. Myo Thein Gyi for the victory of the university sports team competing in the 19th AUG.

The Union Minister then explained about the preparedness of the university sports team for competing in the 19th AUG.

Following this, donors handed over donations to the Union Minister, who handed back honorary certificates in return.

Afterwards, the Vice President cordially greeted the managers, coaches and athletes of the university sports teams and gave words of encouragement.

Attending the ceremony were Leading Committee Chairman and Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Civil Service Board Chairman Dr. Win Thein, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun, Permanent Secretaries, directors-general, university rectors, chairs and secretaries from Myanmar sports associations, donors, and the university sports team with their leaders and coaches. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Ceremony held to mark Japanese Emperor's birthday

THE Union Minister for State Counsellor's Office, U Kyaw Tint Swe, and his wife, Daw May Yin Tun, attended a ceremony to mark the Japanese Emperor's birthday at the residence of the Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar yesterday evening.

The ceremony, held at No. 80, Natmauk Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, commenced with the playing of the national anthems of Myanmar and Japan.

Afterwards, the Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, and Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe delivered speeches. The ceremony was followed by a dinner.

The ceremony was attended by the Union Minister for Information, Dr. Pe Myint, and



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, (Right), delivers a speech at the ceremony to mark the Japanese Emperor's birthday at the Japanese Ambassador's residence. **PHOTO: MNA**

his wife, the Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun,

Lt-Gen Myo Zaw Thein from the Commander-in-Chief's (Army) Office, the Yangon Command

commander, Maj-Gen Thet Pone, ambassadors, and charge d'affaires of foreign embassies

in Yangon, resident representatives from the United Nations and invited guests. — MNA ■

7th SSMN Committee holds 47-member leading committee meeting

FROM PAGE-1

The Sayadaw also reminded the members of the committee's decision in the previous meeting, which called for establishing new executive committees of nuns, as the 7th SSMNC has not yet received reports on the formation of such committees at the nationwide level. "Those committees should be approved by announcing gazette orders and duties should be assigned to them in accordance with the rules and regulations of the committee. Only then, the flourishing of the Sasana (Teaching of the Buddha) would be accom-

plished through the efforts of the nuns." Speaking at the meeting, the Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture, Thura U Aung Ko, asked the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee to instruct region, state, and township Sangha committees to enforce rules to prevent actions that tarnish the image of the Sangha organization.

At yesterday's meeting, the members of the committee discussed the code of conduct, religious affairs, and educational affairs, and decided on issues.—MNA
(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee holds its 47-member leading committee meeting in Yangon yesterday. (Upper). Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko supplicates matters related to religious affairs (Lower). **PHOTO: MNA**

Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair held on Ngwehsaung Beach

THE Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair was organized at the Yamonnar Oo Hotel on Ngwehsaung Beach yesterday to promote investment opportunities in the region and to help domestic entrepreneurs network with foreign investors.

The investment fair was jointly organized by the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), the Ayeyawady Region Government, and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), with the support of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Myanmar Survey Research Co. Ltd (MSR).

The Union Minister for Commerce and MIC Vice Chairman, Dr. Than Myint, Ayeyawady Re-

gion Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, regional Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Kyaw Khine, and regional Minister for Planning and Finance, U Htay Win, opened the fair with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and toured the exhibition booths. A seminar on investment was also held at the fair. The Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister delivered the keynote speech. JICA's chief representative, Mr. Masayuki Karasawa, and the chairman of the Ayeyawady Region Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, U Win Myint Hlaing, gave the opening speeches. Afterwards, MIC Secretary U Aung Naing Oo spoke about investment opportunities in the Ayeyawady Region. Offi-

cials then detailed investment opportunities in the agriculture, hotels and tourism, industrial, support, and transport sectors. Later, a presentation was given on the findings of the Investment Opportunity Survey and a panel discussion was conducted on the advantages of Ayeyawady Region as an investment destination.

In the afternoon, foreign and other investors met with local businessmen to discuss future collaboration. As part of the fair, participants will conduct site visits to regional housing projects, prawn breeding businesses, and the Patheingyi Industrial City today.

Chief ministers from regions and states, Ayeyawady Region ministers, ambassadors and of-

ficials from foreign embassies in Myanmar, Hluttaw representatives, officials from JICA and JETRO, invited guests, and

domestic and foreign entrepreneurs also attended the fair.—Zaw Gyi
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister Dr. Than Myint, and dignitaries view a scale model of a housing at Ayeyawady Region Investment Fair. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

Union Minister U Thein Swe returns from ASEAN meetings in Malaysia

UNION MINISTER for Labour, Immigration and Population, U Thein Swe, attended the 10th ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers' Meeting (ALMM +3) held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, yesterday. At the meeting, officials approved the report of the 16th ASEAN Senior Labour Officials' Meeting (ASEAN SLOM) held on 25 November. Leaders from ASEAN countries and China, Japan, and South Korea also exchanged opinions and evaluations on the ASEAN Declaration on Promoting Green Jobs for Equity and Inclusive Growth of ASEAN Community, adopted at the 25th ALMM.

During the discussions, Union Minister U Thein Swe said that he believes a good adminis-

trative system can be established if it is based on the promotion of green jobs, as declared at the 25th ALMM, and assessed from different perspectives.

He said that we need to find new solutions to our modern-day problems. He said that we need to define 'green' in new ways as it entails not only preserving the natural environment, but also stability, cohesion, respect, equity, equality, and compassion. Myanmar will work to establish ASEAN as a green, safe, and bountiful region in the future, he added.

Afterwards, the Union Minister attended the closing ceremony of the 25th ALMM and its related meetings and returned to Myanmar in the evening. —MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister U Thein Swe and ministers from ASEAN countries have the documentary photo taken in ASEAN way at closing ceremony of 25th ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting in Kuala Lumpur. **PHOTO: MNA**

Program inviting suggestions, discussions from locals held in Mann Oil Field in Minbu



Local women taking part in the program to give their suggestions and to discuss social responsibilities in Mann oil field. **PHOTO: MNA**

TO establish and maintain good relations between locals of Mann Oil Field and companies doing business there, the MPRL E&P Company conducted a program inviting suggestions and discussions from locals for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 from 30 October to 29 November.

To help locals understand its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) works which include sustainable development plans for locals, and to create mutual trust and confidence, the MPRL E&P started the program in 2014. For this year, the program opened with the theme 'Our village, our family, discuss, and suggest together'. Mobile cartoons and arts exhibits were organized in the villages as part of the program.

The mobile cartoons and art

exhibits were shown in villages adjacent to Mann Oil Field, the Myanmar Oil & Gas Enterprise (MOGE) office in Mann Oilfield, and the MPRL E&P (Mann Oilfield) office. The information programs included face painting, which attracted several youths and children to the exhibits.

A total of 1,872 villagers and employees attended the events. Staff from the MPRL E&P Mann Oilfield and CSR personnel spoke to the locals and asked them for suggestions.

Similar programs were held in fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, and this was the third time a program seeking local participation was held by the company. —MNA ■

(Translated by
Zaw Htet Oo)

Singapore Festival 2018 opens in Yangon

THE Singapore Festival 2018, jointly organized by the Yangon Region Government, the Singapore Tourism Board and the Doh Eain Company, was opened at 5:30 p.m. yesterday in Yangon.

The opening ceremony was held on the Bogalay Zay Street, between the Mahabandoola Road and the Merchant Street, in Botahtaung Township, Yangon.

At the ceremony, Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe said the festival is unique because it aims to present thoughts and ideas on future Yangon to city dwellers. Yangon has many opportunities and possibilities for becoming a pulsating and vibrant city for city folks and international tourists, he added.

Next, Singapore's Ambassador to Myanmar, Ms. Vanessa Chan Yuen Ying, said that from 2016, Singapore festivals have

been held in shopping centers as a symbol of friendship and closeness between Myanmar and Singapore. "Thanks to all that, starting from this year, the third festival is being held on Bogalay Zay Street near the Secretariat, which is a busy place in Yangon. It is hoped and expected that mutual visits and study tours are maintained at the highest level by employing many ways and means for all to notice the values the two countries have," she said.

Afterwards, the Yangon Mayor, the Yangon Region Minister for Kayin Ethnic Affairs, Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, the Singaporean Ambassador, and the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) CEO opened the festival by pressing a button. The Singapore Festival 2018 will be held from 30 November to 2 December from 4 to 9 p.m., with stalls

selling Myanmar and Singapore foods as well as exhibits showing places to visit in Singapore. There'll be places for children to draw, paint, and play, too. Hella who wrote and sung the theme song of a television series 'Where There Is Love', jointly produced by STB and Forever Group, and Singapore rapper A.K.A. Kevin Lester of The Lion City Boy will be performing at the festival.

Graffiti artists Bart Was Not Here, Wunna Aung, and Thu Myat have also made modern and artistic graffiti on the walls of the buildings along Bogalay Zay Street. People living on Bogalay Zay Street have cooperated with the Singapore Tourism Board and the Doh Eain Company to install and arrange lighting, flowers, trees, street scenes, and walk ways for the festival. —Min Thit and Thant Zin Min ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



People visit the Singapore Festival 2018 which will be held from 30 November to 2 December. **PHOTO: NAY LIN**

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Amid investment push, Myanmar looks for equitable growth

MYANMAR recently laid down an economic framework that will support the long-term conservation and fair allocation of natural resources among all states and regions. The aim is equitable growth, which is a healthy growth, and which will act as a strong unifying force for the country.

The Union Government has adopted the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP), a comprehensive economic, environmental, and social reform agenda prepared in line with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

With its 3 main pillars, 5 goals, 28 strategies and 251 action plans, the MSDP will serve as a roadmap for the country's long-term development.

Each goal of the MSDP has its own vision and mission. The first goal emphasizes peace and national reconciliation, the second goal focuses on economic management, the third on job creation, the fourth on human capacity and social development, and the fifth on natural resources management and environmental protection.

The third goal of the MSDP explicitly seeks to provide a secure, accessible, and conducive investment and business environment.

To create a more attractive, investor friendly environment, the Myanmar Investment Law was enacted in October 2016. The law simplifies the processing of investment applications, provides incentives, guarantees protection for business ventures, and a more transparent, more liberalized, and more protected investment environment.

The Union Government has placed special emphasis on prioritizing the basic needs of the people, particularly improved transportation networks, electrification, development of smart cities, and improvement of healthcare and quality education.

Business communities are invited to seek and seize business opportunities that will accelerate sustainable economic growth, and provide mutual benefit.

For foreign direct investment, the Union Government has set priority sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, livestock production, export promotion and import substitution, power sector, logistics industries, education services, healthcare industry, affordable housing, and industrial estates.

Agriculture is the mainstay of Myanmar's economy. The country is rich in natural resources and energy resources for hydropower. The demand for electric power is continuously outstripping supply in the regions. To tackle this situation, Myanmar must enhance energy cooperation and energy trade with regional countries to fill the energy gap in our regions.

We are committed to transforming Myanmar's development finance landscape, welcoming all forms of responsible investment - public and private, national and global, in the form of both capital and capacity.

The Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan will cater to the long-term interests of investors and the local people.

World AIDS Day observes on the 1st December each year. It is an occasion for all the people in the world to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV, and to mourn those who have died from a AIDS-related illness. 2018 will be making its 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day on 1 December. This year's theme for World AIDS Day is "Know your status".

Global HIV & AIDS Statistics

In 2017, 36.9 million [31.1 million-43.9 million] people globally were living with HIV and 21.7 million million people were accessing antiretroviral therapy. 1.8 million people became newly infected with HIV and 940 000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses. Every week, around 7000 young women aged 15-24 years become infected with HIV. The risk of acquiring HIV is 27 times higher among men who have sex with men; 23 times higher among people who inject drugs; 13 times higher for female sex workers; 12 times higher for transgender women. TB remains the leading cause of death among people living with HIV and TB



Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe discusses at the 71st World Health Assembly on 22 May, 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland to join "the Global HIV Prevention Coalition"

accounts for around one in three AIDS-related deaths. In 2016, 10.4 million people developed TB disease and 1.2 million were living with HIV. People living with HIV with no TB symptoms need TB preventative therapy, which lessens the risk of developing TB and reduces TB/HIV death rates by around 40%.

Epidemiological context of HIV in Myanmar

The HIV epidemic in Myanmar began with the identification of the first HIV infected case in 1988, and the almost three decades old HIV epidemic is concentrated among population subgroups with high-risk behavior. These population subgroups include Female Sex Worker (FSW), Men who have

World AIDS Day 2018



sex with Men (MSM), People Who Inject Drug (PWID), and sexual partners of these sub-group populations. Myanmar is one of the few countries in the world where the incidence rate of HIV infection among adult 15 to 49 years old has decreased by more than fifty per cent over the last decade (Ending AIDS, global AIDS update, UNAIDS, 2017).

The national response against HIV/AIDS has been implementing in concerted efforts with all implementing partners including WHO, UN organizations, NGOs and community based organizations, and positive groups since the early phase of the epidemic.

The efforts are guided by the medium (5-year) and long term National Strategic Plans (NSP) for HIV/AIDS which have been developed based on the information from program evaluations, surveillance surveys, operational researches and other studies and with the full engagement of stakeholders.

Myanmar's current National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS (2016-20) envisioned the political declaration on ending HIV as public health problem by 2030 where the fast track 90-90-90 prevention, testing and treatment targets are adopted as built in strategic milestones assessing the progress of national responses.

The National Strategic Plans are usually used as a guideline that ensuring concerted efforts of all stakeholders. The current cycle of NSP has based on five main strategic directions aiming for providing holistic and continuum of services while moving towards the goal of "reducing HIV transmission and HIV related morbidity, mortality, disability, & social and economic impact"

ing Drug Use (IDU) driven HIV epidemic whereas Yangon and Mandalay regions have Men that Have Sex with Men (MSM) and Heterosexual driven (FSW and clients) epidemic.

Progress in National Responses to HIV

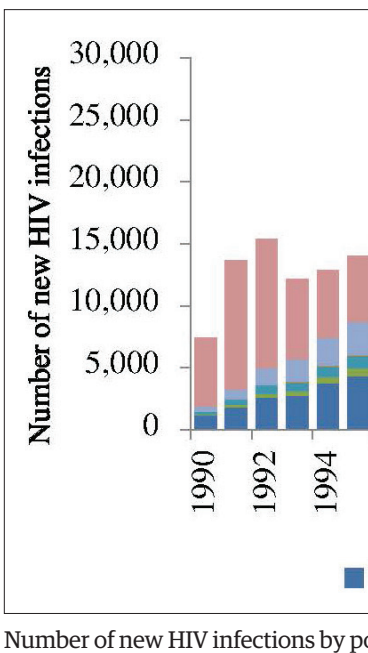
The significant reduction in the number of new infection in the past decade revealed the positive impact of prevention services. Of the estimated 66,000 FSW (NAP, 2017), the proportion reached with prevention program was 63% in 2017. In 2011, 37% of the estimated 252,000 MSM (NAP, 2017) was reached by prevention services in 2017. The number of PWID was estimated to be 83,000 (NAP, IBBS PWID 2015). 72% of PWID accessed harm reduction services in 2017 while the number receiving MMT was increased from 10,290 at the end of 2015 to 13,441 by the end of 2017. In addition, the number of needle syringes distributed a PWID per annum have been increased to 324 in 2017.

Services for improving health outcomes for people living with HIV have been increasing reach in term of both geographic and population coverage. Coverage of antiretroviral therapy (ART) has doubled from 55% in

Reducing new HIV infection and Improving health outcomes for all people living with HIV in Myanmar

2015 to 66% (146,826 of estimated 223,000 PLHIV) on ART by 2017.

In addition, the treatment and care services have been made available to more and more townships by expanding the ART centers and establishing decentralize ART services up to sub township level. By the end of 2017, the treatment and care services are available in 227 townships through 127 ART centers and 174 decentralized sites. In addition, ART services are increasingly available and accessible for those in prisons. In collaboration with National TB control program, 96% of PL-HIV enrolled in care received TB screening in 2016 which increased from 95% in 2013.



Number of new HIV infections by population groups (15 years and above) in Myanmar (1990-2020)

Regarding Progress in Strengthening integration of community and health systems and promoting a human right based approach, innovative services delivery modalities that help integration of community based services and ensure continuum of services from prevention, testing, to enrollment into care was formalized and started rolling out in townships with high priority townships as defined in NSP III. There are ongoing activities for strengthening procurement and logistics management, and laboratory information system in recent years. Review and revision of HIV related laws/policies including the new HIV laws, the amendment of the Prostitution act and are also in progress.

Regarding Progress in Strengthening strategic information and research to guide service delivery, management and policy, a programmatic exercise for key populations that helps not only with providing bet-

ter picture of program needs but also improve capacity of local stakeholders for better coordination and optimized resources allocation was conducted in 46 highest burden townships in 2016 and in additional 28 townships in 2017. Details HIV Epidemic picture are available for Yangon, Mandalay, Kachin, Shan (North) and Sagaing.

The way forward

Myanmar has already announced to join "the Global HIV Prevention Coalition" during the 71st World Health Assembly on May 22, 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland. Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe mentioned that Myanmar is creating an enabling environment for providing continuous efforts for removing legal, stigmatizing factors and financial barriers to help achieve "AIDS FREE MYANMAR"

Although Myanmar has limited resources in both Central NAP and State/Regional AIDS/STD teams the following activities are planned as priorities among others in the coming years.

SEE PAGE-12

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Order 91/2018

8th Waning of Tazaungmone, 1380 ME
30 November 2018

Restructuring of Regional Ministries

WITH the approval of the Bago Region Hluttaw, Bago Region ministries under the Bago Region government have been re-structured as indicated below:

Original Ministries	Restructured Ministries
1. Ministry of Development and Social Affairs	Ministry of Social Affairs
2. Ministry of Natural Resources, Forests and Environmental Conservation	Ministry of Natural Resources, Environmental Conservation and Development Affairs

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued on Friday 30 November 2018)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT 09:30 hrs MST: During the past (24) hours, rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Sagaing and Mandalay regions, Kachin and Shan states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states. Night temperatures were (3°C) below November average temperatures in Upper Sagaing and Yangon regions, (2°C) below November average temperatures in Lower Sagaing, Magway and Ayeyawady regions, Kachin and Rakhine states, (2°C) above November average temperatures in Mon State and about November average temperature in the remaining regions and states. The significant night temperatures were (-1°C) in Haka, (3°C) in Heho, (6°C) in Ramthlo, (5°C) each in Putao, Hsipaw, Lolo, Tiddim, Matupi and Tongzan. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.08) inch. **BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and a few cloud elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 1 December 2018: Rain will be isolated in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon regions, Kachin, Shan and Kayah states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3-5) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of light rain in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 December 2018: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 December 2018: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 December 2018: Generally fair weather.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Weather will be generally fair in Naypyitaw and Yangon Region and partly cloudy in Mandalay Region.

EARTHQUAKE NEWS

A slight earthquake of magnitude (3.8) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about (28) miles southwest of Mingin), latitude 22.68°N, longitude 94.12°E, depth (99) kilometers about (33) miles east of Haka, seismological observatory was recorded at (14)hr (51)min (52)sec MST on 30 November 2018.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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

Efforts on to build jade pagoda in Kachin's jewelry land

PLANS for a jade pagoda in Kachin State have been completed, and construction will begin as soon as authorities give the project a green light, said a project manager. Once complete, the pagoda will be the first of its kind in Kachin State.

The construction of the pagoda is being organized by the abbot of the Mawpint Monastery, and volunteers, including gems and jewellery entrepreneurs from Namachi area. The building project has been mooted since 15 November.

The organizing body has submitted information related to the design for the jade pagoda to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. It will start construction after the plans are approved by the authorities.

The jade pagoda will be

A compound seen, in which a jade pagoda will be built in Kachin State. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

constructed on a one-acre land plot located at the summit of the old Buddhist monastery near the bottom of the Lwekham Mountain in Mawhan Village, Mohnyin Township. Gems and jewellers from Mawhan area

have pledged good quality raw jade stones for the project, while entrepreneurs from Hpakant area have said they will provide all necessities for the project. Initially, some families residing in Mawhan Village donat-

ed more than Ks65 million and some building materials for the project. We are welcoming donations of all sizes for the project, said U Yi Myint, one of volunteers.—Ni Toe (*Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin*)

Surgeons perform 59th kidney transplant in Mandalay

SURGEONS from the Mandalay General Hospital successfully conducted their 59th kidney transplant last Wednesday.

During the operation, a 23-year-old woman who was suffering from kidney failure received a kidney from her brother, aged 35. The operation began at 8:45 am and was successfully concluded at 9:35 am. It was conducted by surgeons from the nephrology, cardiac surgical, anesthesiology and

pathology departments of the Mandalay General Hospital.

Since 2011, the hospital's nephrology department has successfully conducted 58 such surgeries.

"The cost of kidney transplants in foreign countries is too high. It is cheaper to get them done locally," said a doctor with the hospital.—Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

(*Translated by Ei Myat Mon*)

Motorcyclist killed, one injured in collision in Kangyidaunt

A 51-year-old man was killed and another injured in a head-on collision between a motorbike and a car on the Yangon-Pathein road in Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Region, early on Friday morning, said police.

Around 5:30 am on 30 November, a Honda 125 motorcycle driven by Zaw Maung, 51, collided with a car driven by Ye Lynn between mile posts No. 14/4 and 14/5 on the road near

Michaungtaya Village. Zaw Maung was thrown from his bike in the collision and died of serious head injuries. Kyi Thu Lynn, 25, who was riding pillion sustained serious injuries and was taken to a hospital.

The Kangyidaunt Township police have filed charges against both the drivers for reckless driving under Sections 304 (a) and 338 of the Penal Code.—Nan Htike /(*Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin*)

Police arrest truck driver for smuggling jade

A 20-year-old man was arrested for trying to smuggle jade stones in a truck from Mohnyin Township in Kachin State to Indaw Township in Sagaing Region, said police on Friday.

Acting on a tip-off, a team from the Naba police outpost, led by Sub-Inspector Myo Thet Naing, stopped and searched a six-wheel truck at the Nanmakyaing junction of the Mandalay-Myitkyina road at 7 pm on 29 November. They found 1,133 viss (over 4,000 lbs) of jade stones

and jewellery hidden under the floor of the truck.

Police seized 137 pieces of jade stones, weighing 999.2 viss (about 3,600 lbs), 130 jade bracelets, weighing 81.18 viss (4,248 lbs), and raw jade stones, weighing 20.65 viss (190 lbs).

They arrested the truck driver, identified as Yi Wai Tun, also known as Yi Wai Aung, and registered a case against him.—Win Naing (Kachinmye)

(*Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin*)



Photo: Win Naing (Kachinmye)

Automobile prices stable; buyers prefer credit

By May Thet Hnin

DOMESTIC CAR prices have stabilized after a remarkable rise since six months ago, and an increasing number of buyers are preferring to purchase them on credit, according to automobile dealers in Yangon.

"The prices of cars remain stable. While there are fewer right-hand drive vehicles as their imports are no longer permitted, domestic buyers prefer them," said U Aung Than Win, the chairman of the Myanmar Automobile Purchase and Sale Enterprise (Yangon).

Right-hand drive cars such as Toyota Probox, Honda Fit, Honda Wish, Toyota Kluger, and Toyota Alphard, with prices ranging from Ks15 to 40 million, are in demand, he said.

"As right-hand drive vehicles are fewer, their price is expected to rise in the market. Although, some buyers have shown an interest in purchasing completely knocked down (CKD) or semi knocked down



Right-hand drive cars on exhibition for sale in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

(SKD) cars assembled in Myanmar," he added.

The number of buyers purchasing vehicles through instalments has risen 40-50 per cent this year from last year, said U Min Min Maung from MMM Car Sale Center.

"Some Suzuki car sales centers are offering 5-year-in-stalment plans. Some buyers have shown an interest as they can get brand new cars on credit. However, the total amount of interest over the years is too high," he said.

"To buy a vehicle on credit, buyers have to verify their income, which must exceed the monthly instalment. Buyers can take credit from their banks or through other financing schemes. The rate of interest is based on the period of the

loan. At present, Suzuki Ciaz, Ertiga, and Swift dealers are offering monthly instalment plans," he added.

German and Chinese automotive manufacturers are preparing to enter the Myanmar market to sell cars assembled under the SKD and CKD system.

This means local buyers seeking brand new cars will have much to choose from. According to market watchers, the second-hand and old automobile markets are also expected to see steady growth.

During the Tazaungdine Festival, automobile sales were cooler than in the previous months, according to car sales centers. The automotive market seems slower than last year owing to high taxes on imported cars and the new automobile import policy on late models, market watchers said. Yangon residents are also factoring in the shortage of parking space before deciding to shop for a car, they added.

(Translated by
Ei Myat Mon)

Mobile app for gold trading to be launched soon

By Nyein Nyein

A mobile platform for gold trading will be launched soon to ensure smoother transactions for traders, according to the Yangon and Mandalay gold entrepreneurs associations.

"Currently, gold traders make transactions with ledgers, and errors can sometimes creep into these during trade balancing. On the mobile trading platform, members of gold entrepreneurs associations will be able to trade by putting in a deposit. The mobile platform will help improve efficiency by discounting new information and driving the market into equilibrium much quicker," said U Myo Myint, the chairman of the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

"Gold trading through verbal agreements has resulted in disputes and fraudulent cases in Yangon, although such cases have not been reported in Mandalay. A system of deposits is

a must for the mobile trading platform," said U Tin Tun, the chairman of the Mandalay Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

Mobile trading using deposits will be more secure as users will not be able to make trades exceeding their deposit amount, he said.

"Traders will have to deposit money into a KBZ account opened by our association. If a trader has deposited Ks5 million, he will not be allowed to make trades exceeding the amount. If

The software for the gold trading platform has already developed and trials will start next month.

he does, circuit breakers will trigger a stop-market order," said U Myo Myint.

The software for the gold trading platform has already developed and trials will start this month.

The mobile trading app aims to facilitate trading for the members of the gold entrepreneurs associations, forecast the most probable moves in the markets, provide loss/profit statements, and adopt systematic trading in line with international criteria.

The mobile trading platform will be made available only to members who can put in the deposit set by the associations, said U Myo Myint.

At present, the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association has 700 members, while the Mandalay association has about 300 members.

(Translated by
Ei Myat Mon)

Trading at Hteekhee boosts Myanmar-Thailand trade

BILATERAL trade between Myanmar and Thailand rose on the back of increased trading at the Hteekhee border gate between 1 October and 16 November in the current fiscal year.

The value of bilateral trade between the countries in the last one and a half months totalled US\$476.58 million, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce. The figure shows a significant increase from the same period last year when the value of trade stood at US\$148.6 million.

Normally, Myawady sees the largest trade among the Myanmar-Thailand checkpoints. However, this year, trade at the Hteekhee gate rose tremendously, helping boost the total trade value.

Of the seven border points between Myanmar and Thailand, only Tachilek gate showed a small decrease in trade. The value of trade stood at US\$295.45 million at Hteekhee, US\$107.5 million at Myawady, US\$32.45 million at Myeik, US\$30.86 million at Kawthoung, US\$6.85 million at Tachilek, US\$3.31 million at Mawtaung, and US\$0.14 million at Maese.

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

— Htet Myat
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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World AIDS Day 2018

FROM PAGE-9

- ✓ Strengthen prevention of new infections ensuring the holistic continuum of services for all key population and achieving the elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV in Myanmar by 2025.
- ✓ Devising innovative service delivery models that tailored to the local epidemic and need
- ✓ Improve the accessibility of lab services for all and strengthen the lab information system that ensure the results are linked and used to improve individual patient management
- ✓ To holistically provide HIV health services to target communities and populations by way of providing medical facilities, equipments, strengthening capacity of health workers at national level, State or Regional and townships, improved access to community outreach among target populations and encourage HIV infected person to approach those facilities and workers.

Know your status

HIV testing is extremely important for expanding treatment and making sure that all people living with HIV can lead healthy and productive lives. It is also essential to achieving NAP targets and enabling people to make choices about HIV prevention so they can protect themselves and their

love ones.

Globally, 75% of all people living with HIV knew their HIV status in 2017. In Myanmar, an increasing trend can be seen in term of HIV testing coverage among key populations. The testing coverage increased from 42% in 2015 to 60% in 2017 for FSW; from 13% in 2015 to 33% in 2017 for MSM; and from 33% in 2015 to 43% in 2017 for PWID. In addition, efforts have been made to reach the partners of key populations. There has been increase in number of partners being reached with HIV prevention services and HIV tests.

Myanmar has fully followed the Global Goal of Ending Paediatric HIV infection by 2020 and prolonging mother life. Establishing a community based service delivery modality is a priority recommendation to reach the Global PMCT Goal effectively and sustainably (WHO, 2013). In late 2013, Myanmar started its first step of community based movement with the introduction of decentralized HIV testing where the primary care providers are allowed to perform screening test for all pregnant women seeking Antenatal Care.

This community based testing strategy brought a significant improvement in the number of pregnant women received HIV test and test result (309,677 pregnant women knew HIV status in 2013 and it was in-

creased to 848,557 in 2017).

Although improvements have been seen in term of providing HIV testing and treatment for positive pregnant women living with HIV, limited improvement has been observed in the area of providing follow up care and diagnostic services for exposed infants. Only 28% of the exposed infants received HIV testing within 2 months of age (early infant diagnosis) in 2017.

Regarding HIV testing, some barriers such as Stigma, discrimination and access to confidential HIV testing still persist.

World AIDS Day 2018 theme emboldens everyone to know their HIV Status.

You can join us in the fight this World AIDS Day in promoting awareness about the importance of knowing one's status and asking for the removal of all barriers to accessing HIV testing.

Reference:

1. Draft Progress Report 2018, National AIDS Program, DOPH, MOHS, 2018
2. Global HIV & AIDS Statistics-2018 fact sheet, UNAIDS, 2018
3. National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS, Myanmar(2016-2020), DOPH, MOHS, 2016
4. World AIDS Day 2018 Message of UNAIDS Executive Director, UNAIDS, 2018
5. World AIDS Day 2018-Feature Story, UNAIDS, 2018



Eighth-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session



U Zaw Min Thein. PHOTO: MNA



U Aung Soe Min. PHOTO: MNA

FROM PAGE-2

Motion to achieve better result with NRSC

After the question and answer session U Zaw Min Thein of Laymyethna constituency tabled a motion urging the government to achieve better result from National Road Safety Council (NRSC) through more effective and practical works that fulfill the requirements of road safety. U Zaw Min Thein explained that NRSC was formed but good results were yet to be attained and the momentum to achieve good results need to be increased so that people do not get used to the vicious cycle of breaking road and traffic laws with fatal and undesirable outcomes for all. The motion was supported by U Aung Soe Min of Ywangan constituency.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw's agreement to discuss the motion after the decision of Hluttaw was obtained.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker also announced further for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the motion to enroll their names.

Transport, Communications and Construction Committee report read

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Transport, Communications and Construction Committee report was read by committee member Daw Yin Min Hlaing and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the report to register their names.

Hluttaw approve a bill amending the Myanmar Accountancy Law

Following this Bill Committee member U Pa Htan submitted to the Hluttaw for approval the 16 amendments made by Amyotha Hluttaw and 19 amendments made by Pyithu Hluttaw to a bill amending the Myanmar Accountancy Council Law approved and sent by Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker first obtained the decision of the Hluttaw on approving the clauses amended by the two Hluttaws and non-amended clauses. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then obtained the decision of the Hluttaw on the entire bill and announced the Hluttaw's approval.

The ninth-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session is scheduled for 4 December it is learnt. ■
(Translated by Zaw Min)

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NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION TO ALL CLAIMANTS OF

SCIARONI AND ASSOCIATES LIMITED (417FC-2012-2013)

On a special meeting of the Board of Directors held at Company Office on 20th November, 2018, a special resolution approved by 2/3 of the votes of the members was adopted for the dissolution of Sciaroni and Associates Limited (417FC-2012-2013) Myanmar Branch with address at Room No. (29), 3 Floor, 53/55, Maharbandoola Garden Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar. The dissolution is effective 8th December, 2018.

Accordingly, if you believe you have (i) a claim, or (ii) a contractual claim contingent upon the occurrence or nonoccurrence of future events or otherwise conditional or unmatured (each a "Claim") against Sciaroni and Associates Limited Myanmar Branch ("SA Asia MM"), you must present each such Claim to SA Asia MM in writing and must contain sufficient information reasonably to inform SA Asia MM of the identity of the claimant and the substance of the Claim. Claims should be sent to the following address: Room No. (29), 3 Floor, 53/55, Maharbandoola Garden Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

All Claims must be received at the address listed above on or before 7th December, 2018. Any and all such claims will be barred if not received by 7th December, 2018.

SCIARONI & ASSOCIATES LIMITED – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Invitation for Request for Proposal (RfP)

Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) now invites eligible consulting firm to submit the Financial and Technical proposals for "Provision of Consulting services to verify the Network Performance of the Mobile Operators' Networks as part of the Telecom Sector Reform Project supported by the World Bank's Loan". The deadline for submission of RfP is December 28, 2018 by 2:00 PM Myanmar Standard Time.

Attn ;
Mr. Than Htun Aung, Project Director, Telecom Sector Reform Project
Building Number 2, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
Tel : +95 67 3407435, Fax: +9567 3407539
E-mail : thanhtunaung@ptdmyanmar.com, tsrproject2014@gmail.com

The detailed information and requirements can be seen in the Terms of Reference (ToR) and it can be downloaded at PTD Website: <https://www.ptd.gov.mm>

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COP24 host Poland to stick with coal for foreseeable future

WARSAW (Poland) — Poland's coal habit is becoming more expensive and polluting, but the host of the COP24 global climate summit is struggling to part ways with its "black gold" and main energy source.

Polish cities and towns are among Europe's most polluted, blanketed in smog during the colder months of the year due to the widespread use of coal, mostly low grade, for heating.

The European Environmental Agency blames air pollution for an estimated 50,000 premature deaths per year and countless cases of respiratory illness and other symptoms in the EU country of 38 million.

It currently uses coal to meet around 80 per cent of its energy needs and some 82,000 people work in the coal sector.

Decisive and socially painful measures will likely be necessary for Poland to meet its commitments on emission reductions in the Paris Climate Agreements that are intended to curb global warming.

To meet those targets, Poland needs to reduce coal use in power production to 39 per cent by 2030, Jan Witajewski-Baltviks, an expert with the Warsaw-based Institute for Structural Research (IBS), told AFP. The European Union on Wednesday unveiled an even more ambitious plan to cut emissions and make the bloc carbon neutral by 2050. But just days earlier, Warsaw revealed that while it plans to reduce carbon emissions by 30 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990, it would still use coal to meet 60 per cent of its electricity needs 12 years from now. Poland is planning to launch its first nuclear power station in 2033, with five to follow, along with offshore wind farms. Coal is slated to account for under 30 per cent of electricity production by 2040.

'Negative impact'

Delegations from nearly 200 countries are due in Poland next week for the latest COP24 climate

summit, aimed at renewing and building on the Paris deal and limiting global warming.

Poland's right-wing Law and Justice (PiS) government has a clear preference for continued coal use, which has raised questions about whether it is serious about curbing emissions.

A position paper issued earlier this month by the Polish Energy Ministry said: "Poland opposes the EU's increased CO₂ reduction targets for the year 2030 as this would have a negative impact on the electricity sector and the Polish economy as a whole."

Due to EU pressure to decarbonise and thanks to the advent of renewable energy resources, coal-based electricity in Poland fell from 98 per cent in 1990 to 80 per cent in 2017, official statistics show.

Its relative share is expected to fall to 50 per cent over the next three decades.

But that does not mean that coal production will decrease. According

to Piotr Naimski, the secretary of state in charge of energy infrastructure, it will remain at near current levels. Poland mined some 65.5 million tonnes in 2017.

Should domestic extraction decline, Poland will meet its needs through imports.

Purchases of good quality and relatively cheap Russian coal increased significantly this year, reaching 12 million tons between January to September.

'Political interest'

Environmentalists contend that subsequent Polish governments, no matter their political stripe, have failed to develop any real strategy to wean the country off coal.

"Poland doesn't have a strategy, it's the short-term political interest that prevails, the difficult decisions are being postponed," says Marek Jozefiak, coal expert at the Greenpeace Foundation.

He points to the recent launch of the Ostrołęka coal-fired power plant by Energy Minister Krzysztof Tchórzewski, in a region



Poland currently uses coal to meet around 80 per cent of its energy needs and some 82,000 people work in the coal sector. PHOTO: AFP

north of Warsaw that is his political stronghold — over 200 kilometres (125 miles) away from any coal mine.

According to Piotr Siergiej, an environmentalist with the Polish Smog Alarm NGO, the ever higher price of natural gas is driving consumers back to coal despite its health risks.

But Siergiej insists that at macroeconomic level, Poland is paying a heavy price for its reliance on "black gold".

According to Poland's Supreme Audit Office, the mining industry received more than 15 billion euros

(\$17 billion) in subsidies between 2007 and 2015.

This figure does not factor in the cost of the toll that coal pollution takes on the health of Poles.

Siergiej argues that pumping coal subsidies into renewable energy would not only provide cheaper energy in the long run but would also bring substantial savings in healthcare.

Environmentalists also warn that a new law banning the retail sale of cheap, low-grade coal for use in home furnaces is unlikely to curb smog significantly.

They point to a government regulation allowing coal for retail sale to contain up to 30 per cent of the most polluting low-grade varieties.—AFP ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL VOY. NO. (016 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL VOY. NO. (016 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 01-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTER ASIA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (107 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (107 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 01-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (25/ 2018)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(a)	IFB-035(18-19)	Spare for VSAT (1) Set	US\$
(b)	IFB-036(18-19)	6" and 4" ERW Steel Line Pipe (2) Items	US\$
(c)	DMP/L-139(18-19)	NDT Services for 20" Domestic Natural Gas Pipe Line (1) Lot	Ks
(d)	DMP/L-140(18-19)	40 D-76-48 Type Pumping Unit (2) Nos	Ks
(e)	DMP/L-141(18-19)	228 D-213-120 Type Pumping Unit (1) No	Ks
(f)	DMP/L-142(18-19)	114 D-119-86 Type Pumping Unit (1) No	Ks
(g)	DMP/L-143(18-19)	Pipe Wrench and Chain Tong (2) Groups	Ks
(h)	DMP/L-144(18-19)	Fire Extinguisher (5) Groups	Ks
(i)	DMP/L-145(18-19)	Heat Shrinkable Sleeve and Closure Patches (2) Items	Ks
(j)	DMP/L-146(18-19)	Mobile Welding Machine (2) Sets	Ks
(k)	DMP/L-147(18-19)	Assorted Sizes of Tyres (12) Items	Ks
(l)	DMP/L-148(18-19)	13 5/8 x 5K Annular BOP Spares (2) Items	Ks
(m)	DMP/L-149(18-19)	Spares for Cooper Well Servicing Unit (35) Items	Ks
(n)	DMP/L-150(18-19)	Spares for 30 Ton Grove Mobile Crane (13) Items	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy Website Portal (www.moe.gov.mm) as from 30 November 2018. Tender forms will not be sold.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm on 26 December 2018**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time- 26-12-2018, 14:00 pm
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411206

Rare Van Gogh photo is of Vincent's brother, say experts

AMSTERDAM — For decades bright-eyed boy in the photograph was believed to be the legendary artist Vincent Van Gogh at the age of 13. But experts revealed Thursday that the picture is most likely not the Dutch “Sunflowers” painter but his brother Theo, was 15 at the time.

The Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam announced the shock discovery about what was previously thought to be one of only two photos of Vincent, and which has appeared in dozens of books.

“With this discovery we are an illusion poorer and a portrait of Theo richer,” said Axel Rutger, director of the Van Gogh Museum.

“Of course there was a slight twinge of disappointment also because we have so few photographs of Vincent van Gogh and now we have even one less,” he told AFP. “But on the other hand of course I am always happy if you can discover more of the truth.”

The discovery leaves just one known picture of the artist, taken when he was 19 years old.

While Vincent Van Gogh is famed for his vividly-coloured, emotionally turbulent self-portraits in oils, he showed a surprising reluctance to be captured on camera. He committed suicide at the age of 37 in 1890 after an emotionally turbulent life, detailed in years of correspondence with Theo, an art dealer who supported the artist emotionally and financially.



The picture of a teenaged Van Gogh, but which brother? PHOTO: AFP

“When I heard that this is most likely a picture of my great-grandfather Theo — and not of Vincent — I was surprised, but I am glad that the mystery has been solved,” Willem van Gogh, Theo’s great-grandson and an advisor to the board of the Van Gogh Museum, said in a statement.

‘Image that everybody knows’

Uncovering the case of mistaken identity took years of artistic detective work. The picture was taken by taken by Brussels photographer Balduin Schwarz in the late 19th century, but did not emerge publicly until 1957, in an exhibition by Mark Edo Tralbaut, a Belgian researcher who identified it in a catalogue as ‘Portrait

of Vincent Van Gogh (circa 1866)’.

“It is the image that everybody knows as the portrait of the artist as a young boy,” Teio Meedendorp, chief researcher at the Van Gogh Museum, told AFP.

But after a Dutch TV programme raised questions about it in 2014, the Van Gogh Museum launched an investigation.

Coincidentally, another Van Gogh expert from Belgium, Yves Vasseur, had also started his own enquiries and got in touch with the museum. Vasseur said he discovered by chance that the photographer had only moved to his Brussels studio in 1870, four years after the photo was taken, and that Vincent Van Gogh would have been much older at the time.

“I decided to share my doubts about the identification with the Van Gogh Museum, and we subsequently decided to collaborate to solve this ‘identity crisis’ once and for all,” he said.

Confusing the issue was the fact that the brothers looked alike, with reddish-blond hair — but Theo had more delicate features and a “very light eye colour” which looked like it could be seen in the photo,

“The light colour of Theo’s eyes is especially striking in the known photographs of him, and this can also be seen in the Schwarz portrait — this was another indication that the person in the portrait is probably Theo,” added Meedendorp. —AFP ■



The concert hosted by Winfrey is the climax of a year of events celebrating the centennial of Mandela’s birth in 1918. PHOTO: AFP

Oprah honours Mandela ahead of global charity concert

SOWETO (South Africa) — US television celebrity Oprah Winfrey on Thursday paid emotional tribute to Nelson Mandela as she prepared to host a star-studded concert in Johannesburg to cap celebrations marking 100 years since his birth.

Winfrey will co-host the Global Citizen festival on Sunday, where artists including Beyoncé, Jay-Z, Cassper Nyovest, Ed Sheeran, Femi Kuti, Pharrell Williams, Chris Martin and Tiwa Savage will perform.

The concert is the climax of a year of events celebrating the centennial of Mandela’s birth in 1918, and is part of a campaign to tackle poverty, child malnutrition and boost gender equality.

Winfrey hailed Mandela’s “goodness and integrity”, describing him as her “favourite mentor” as she spoke at a public debate at the Soweto campus of the University of Johannesburg.

“He was a man who could

have sought revenge, but he was a man who sought reconciliation,” she said, adding he “knew that when one of us is wounded all of us are bleeding.”

Mandela was jailed under South Africa’s apartheid regime. After being released in 1990, he led the country’s transformation into a multi-racial democracy. He died on 5 December 2013 aged 95.

She said Mandela “could have actually crushed his opponents with his power but instead he choose to defeat them without ever” ever disarming them.

Former US president Barack Obama spoke in Johannesburg in July, delivering the flagship address of the “Mandela 100” celebrations, remembering the “wave of hope that washed through hearts all around the world” when Mandela was released from jail.

Tickets for the weekend concert were allocated to people who have taken part in the Global Citizen campaign. —AFP ■

Reggae, music ‘of love and humanity’, secures UN culture listing

PORT LOUIS (Mauritius) — Jamaican reggae, the music of the oppressed which Bob Marley catapulted onto the global stage, won a coveted spot on the United Nations’ list of global cultural treasures Thursday.

UNESCO, the world body’s cultural and scientific agency, added reggae to its collection of “intangible cultural heritage” deemed worthy of protection and promotion, along with two dozen other traditions from around the world.

“This is a historic day. We are very, very happy,” enthused Jamaica’s Culture Minister Olivia Grange, speaking by phone from the island of Mauritius where the listings were announced.

“Anywhere you go and say

you’re from Jamaica, they answer ‘Bob Marley,’” said Grange, adding that the distinction “underscores the importance of our culture and our music, whose theme and message is ‘one love, togetherness and peace.’”

UNESCO noted that while reggae started out as “the voice of the marginalised” it was “now played and embraced by a wide cross-section of society, including various genders, ethnic and religious groups.”

Its “contribution to international discourse on issues of injustice, resistance, love and humanity underscores the dynamics of the element as being at once cerebral, socio-political, sensual and spiritual,” Paris-based UNESCO added in a statement.

UNESCO is best known for its prestigious World Heritage List of outstanding cultural and natural sites, which include the Grand Canyon, the Great Wall of China and the Old City of Jerusalem.

Its Intangible Cultural Heritage List runs to hundreds of traditions from around the world — some of which are barely known beyond the borders of the country bidding to have it recognised.

While largely symbolic, inclusion on the list can serve to raise the profile of the country and the practice.

Among the other additions Thursday were the ancient Irish sport of hurling, the spring rituals of Kazakh horse breeders, includ-



A statue of Jamaican Reggae legend Bob Marley welcomes visitors at his museum in Kingston on 30 June 2012. PHOTO: AFP

ing drinking fermented mare’s milk, and the Polish tradition of creating glittering Christmas creches.

“This is a special moment for anyone whose heart is set on caring for Polish heritage,” Culture Minister Piotr Glinski tweeted.

Ireland’s Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) welcomed the honour bestowed on hurling — a

fast-paced ball game played with carved wooden sticks which enjoys a mass following across the country.

“It reaffirms the fact that hurling is more than just a sport. It a national treasure; an ancient tradition that connects us to our Celtic past and a part of our DNA,” GAA president John Horan said. —AFP ■

Visa launches Practical Money Skills financial literacy website

IN response to a study that unveiled a need for financial education among Myanmar people [1], Visa today launched www.myanmar.practicalmoneyskills.com, a Practical Money Skills website featuring cost calculators, budget templates, games and quizzes to help Myanmar people understand and better manage their personal finances.

As more companies — traditional financial institutions and new entrants — introduce more financial products and services in Myanmar, there is a clear need for financial education. According to Myanmar Financial Education for Sustainable Growth Study 2017 [2] (“Study”), most Myanmar people describe themselves as only slightly or fairly knowledgeable about managing finances. Only seven per cent describe themselves as “very knowledgeable” or an “expert”

on financial management or tools.

Arturo Planell, Visa Country Manager for Myanmar said: “As Myanmar’s economy progresses and communities grow, there are opportunities for partnerships in the finance industry and the authorities to educate people on how best to manage their personal finances and how they might benefit from increased digitization of payments and commerce. As the world’s leader in digital payments, Visa is doing its part to empower consumers with key financial skills, and to enable consumers to make responsible choices on managing their finance for long-term benefit.”

The Practical Money Skills website is available in Myanmar language. It is organized into two main categories: Learn the Basics and Resources. The

sub-topics in each include saving, credit, debt, life events, financial calculator and free material that can be downloaded.

“The website currently features information that is suitable for various types of audiences including young people, educators, and consumers of all ages. And we will continue updating it with new features and content as we progress in this journey,” added Arturo.

Dr. Tin Win, Rector of the Yangon University of Economics, said: “We believe that the most important financial tool is knowledge.

The ability to manage personal finance will benefit a person for a lifetime. We also hope the launch of our Practical Money Skills website will foster collaboration in financial literacy between public and private entities that will lead to open and



Officials take a photo at a ceremony to launch financial literacy website by VISA. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

sustainable economic progress in Myanmar.”

Daw Myint Myint Kyi, Director General of the Central Bank of Myanmar said: “We are pleased to see Visa’s commitment to financial education and bringing that commitment

to life. Greater personal financial knowledge and skills are an important building block for the industry and economic development of Myanmar. We encourage consumers, students and educators to take advantage of this very useful content.”—GNLM ■



SCORE convenes effective training and consulting for facility improvement at the UMFCFI in Yangon. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

SCORE offers new ideas to improve factories

CONSULTANTS from SCORE conducted an event at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) in Yangon on Wednesday sharing new ways for improvement of factories in Myanmar.

The Score’s consultants said its trainings are aimed at boosting production capacity, quality of products and safety of food and cooperation at work sites.

A total of 26 factories have already taken consultations from SCORE which has assigned world-grade counsellor from Myanmar.

This time, SCORE was firstly introduced in Myanmar, co-sponsored by Norway and Switzerland.

The curriculum of the SCORE was categorized based on the requirement of the working environments.—GNLM (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Ethnic food, utensils show held in Yangon

AN ethnic food and utensils show is being held at the Mya Kyun Tha Amusement Park, Kabaaye Pagoda Road, in Mayangone Township, Yangon, from November 30 to December 2. A total of 200 booths will be set up at the show. The exhibits include traditional food, costumes, and utensils of ethnic races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan. The show is open from 2-9 p.m every day.

“I am selling several types of silk and cotton clothes that are produced in the southern and northern parts of Chin State. Generally, the clothes that popular artists wear are selling very well. I am also selling many kinds of utensils in addition to tradition-

al costumes. As for foreigners, they prefer to buy handicrafts. These days, people from Yangon have shown a keen interest in buying these things,” said Ko Moe Hman, who is running a booth on traditional Chin clothes and items.

“Once I started eating Kayan traditional cuisine, I felt like introducing the cuisine here because this kind of food is not available in the market. I use local products as much as I can. I have to select the food I sell in keeping with Yangon weather. I mainly sell KhaungYay (a kind of traditional brew), sausages and potatoes,” said U Zayar Min, who is selling traditional Kayan cuisine at his stall. “The ethnic food and uten-

sils show can enhance friendship, and help us learn more about the ethnic people,” said U Aung Ye Tun, the person in-charge of the event. The food and utensils show is being held for the third time this year. Similar shows were held in the Maha Bando-la Park, Yangon in 2016 and 2017, respectively, together with cultural dances, entertainments, and performances. To help the booth owners, arrangements have been made to supply electricity and water free of charge.

On the third day of the show, seven doves will be released to commemorate the 21st century Panlong Conference.— Sandy Phyo ■ (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Two get 40 years for trafficking women to China

THE Dekkhina District Court on 28 November sentenced two persons to 40 years’ imprisonment for trafficking women from Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw, to China.

The two traffickers have been identified as Myo Min Aung, also known as Uwar-athami, aged 24, from Pyinmana Tsp, Nay Pyi Taw, and Daw San Myint, aged 47, from Ywa Thit, PyinOoLwin Tsp, Mandalay Region.

Their sentences include 10 years of hard labour and jail time according to Penal Code No. 75/2017, Section 24

of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law; 10 years of hard labour and jail time according to Penal Code No. 85/2017, Section 24 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law; 10 years of hard labour and jail time according to Penal Code No. 84/2017, Section 24/32 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law; and 10 years of hard labour and jail time according to Penal Code No. 80/2017, Section 24/32 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Yangon United extends contract with Kosuke

THE Yangon United FC has extended its contract with Japanese midfielder Kosuke Yamazaki Uchida by another year for the upcoming season of the Myanmar National League, said a source from the football club.

Kosuke is one of the best players in the team and helped them win three titles last year.

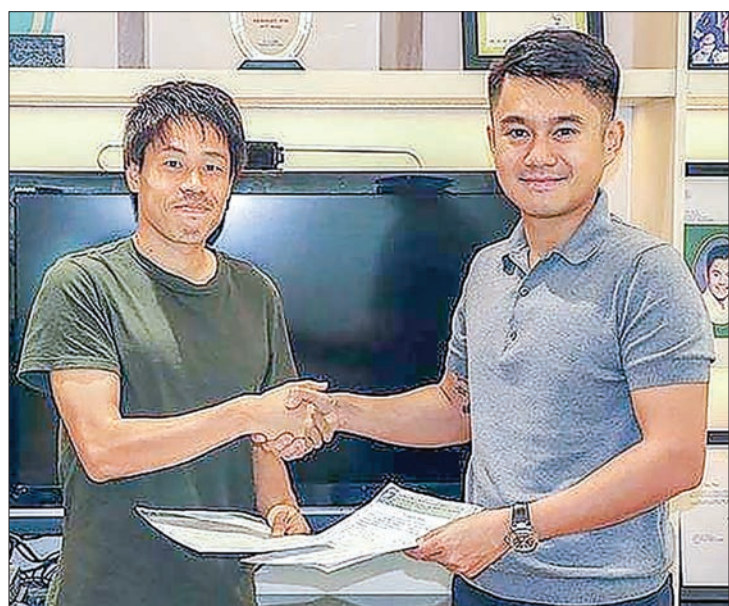
"I am really happy about the deal. I wish to play here. We face Ceres Negros and in the next stage, Chiangrai United. Once we overcome these

two teams, a Japanese Club will be waiting at the play-off stage. This is my first priority. And I know it will be difficult, but I will do my best," said Kosuke.

"We will have to fight hard as we need to defend our championship titles.

All fans, please cheer for us. We will make you happy," he added.

Kosuke has been playing for Yangon United since the last season. —Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Kosuke Yamazaki Uchida(left) shakes hand with U Pyae Phyo Tayza, Chairman of the Yangon United FC. **PHOTO:YUFC**



Yadanabon FC and Myanmar National Football team's midfielder Si Thu Aung. **PHOTO: YADANABON FC**

Thai club Chonburi to hire Myanmar football star Si Thu Aung

THAILAND'S premier football club, Chonburi FC, is working out an agreement to hire Myanmar national football team's winger Si Thu Aung with his current local club Yadanabon FC.

"Chonburi is one of the best teams in the Thai Premier League. I am very excited about the agreement. I'll try my best for this opportunity," said 22-year-old Myanmar midfielder Si Thu Aung.

Chonburi finished in the ninth place in the previous season of the Thai domestic premier league. It won the championship of the league in 2007.

Chonburi is eager to sign Si Thu Aung for a one-year period for their next football season, according to a statement from the Yadanabon FC.

Chonburi will arrange accommodation and salary for Si

Thu Aung in Thailand, according to the Yadanabon FC.

Si Thu Aung moved to Yadanabon FC from the Yangon United in 2014. He has played in the U-16, U-20, and U-23 categories, and is currently playing for the Myanmar national football team.

Si Thu Aung helped the Myanmar team win the silver medal in the 2015 SEA Games.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

Liverpool face Everton test as Spurs play Arsenal on derby day



Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp is preparing his side to face Everton at Anfield. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Liverpool face a derby clash against Everton as they lick their Champions League wounds while Tottenham travel to Arsenal with a spring in their step on a weekend of big-city derbies.

Jurgen Klopp's team lost 2-1 to Paris Saint-Germain in midweek, meaning their bid to reach the knockout stages in Europe will go to the last game against Napoli, while Spurs face the daunting task of beating Barcelona to progress.

But both clubs will have to put their continental ambitions to one side as they attempt to stay on the coat-tails of Pep Guardiola's Manchester City in the Premier League.

Chelsea take on Fulham and one of their former managers in another London derby but Claudio Ranieri's side will travel the short distance to Stamford Bridge with new-found confidence after arresting a run of six Premier League defeats.

Jose Mourinho's misfiring Manchester United play Southampton away after edging past Swiss side Young Boys into the Champions League knockout phase.

AFP Sports picks out some of the main talking points ahead of the weekend fixtures in the Premier League.

'Perfect' time to play Arsenal

Third-placed Spurs head to the Emirates stadium buoyed by last week's 3-1 victory against Chelsea and their 1-0 win against Inter Milan in midweek, which keeps alive their hopes of reaching the Champions League knockouts.

Midfielder Harry Winks, who came agonisingly close to scoring against Inter at Wembley when he hit the bar from distance, said it was the "perfect" time to play Arsenal after six straight wins in all competitions.

"It is going to be another difficult game, so we have to get right and physically prepared for it, because it is going to be another battle," said the England international.

"It is a game the fans want to win and one that we want to win. Three games in a week is going to be tough, but confidence is high."

Everton derby pain

Everton have a shocking record against city rivals Liverpool, not tasting victory in the derby since 2010 and failing to win at Anfield since 1999.

Marco Silva's task looks daunting on Sunday but Everton travel in hope after a solid start to the season that sees them in sixth, 11 points behind Klopp's team. —AFP ■