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State Counsellor visits boarding school, drug rehab center, IDP camps in Kachin State



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with people at Ingyandon Baptist IDP camp in Thatkon Ward in Myitkyina yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi travelled to Myitkyina in Kachin State yesterday and visited a boarding school for students from the hilly regions, a drug rehabilitation center donated by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, and IDP camps in the area, where she provided them with necessities.

The State Counsellor landed

in Myitkyina, Kachin State yesterday morning, accompanied by Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Union Minister for Labor, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, and Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu.

The State Counsellor and her delegation were welcomed at the Myitkyina Airport by Kachin State Chief Minister Dr. Khet Aung, State Hluttaw Speaker U Tun Tin, Chief Justice of High Court of Kachin State U Tu Jar, state ministers, ethnic literature and culture organizations, and officials.

The State Counsellor and

her entourage first traveled to Shwe Moe Taung Pagoda in Myitkyina and offered flower, water and oil lamps and signed the pagoda's guestbook.

The State Counsellor then paid obeisance to Member of Kachin State Sangha Maha Naya-ka Sayadaw Baddhanta Kemeinda and State Sangha Secretary Agga Maha Panti Kaytumalar

and gave offertories to them in the religious building of the pagoda. Next, the State Counsellor and her entourage visited the Lansel Boarding School in Shwe Set Ward, to attend a donation ceremony being held there. the students performed to the songs "Hero" and "Let's build peace".

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Union Gov't prepares to hold Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Government Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony Leading Committee meeting was held at 9:30 am in the assembly hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. The meeting was addressed by Vice President U Myint Swe, patron of the leading committee.

The Vice President said that to hold the 2018. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Government Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony in the compound of the Sasana Maha Beikmandaw building at the Uppatasanti Pagoda, the Union Government had formed the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Government Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony Leading Committee and Work Committee with the Office of the President's Notification No. 75/2018 on 21 September 2018 and laid down four tasks. In order to systematically perform the works and responsibilities, eleven sub-committees were also formed.

Kathina Robe Offering is permitted as a donation in accordance with the "Vinaya" to the Sanghas by the Lord Buddha and can be done within the first Waning Day of Thadingyut and the Full Moon Day of Tazaungmon. That is why the Kathina Robe offering is a periodical donation that can be done one month in a year, one day in a month, one monastery a day and once for a monastery.

This special donation was being conducted by the Govern-



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the committee meeting for Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

ment starting from 2012 and this is the seventh time. Before Thadingyut during the period of lent, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture identified and selected monasteries that are in accord with the "Vinaya" and informed the respective leading monks of the monasteries to offer Kathina Robe.

As this Kathina Robe Offering is a union level event relevant committees are to coordinate and do the necessary works to hold this event systematically and successfully. Since this event was held annually relevant committee members and departmental officials are to base on the experience of the previous years and coordinate in order to make it better year by year. Necessary arrangements are to

be made to invite and transport the venerable sayadaws to the event. Appropriate lodgings as well as healthy foods are to be readied in addition to providing health care services as well.

Preparations are to be made at the Sasana Maha Beikmandaw Building where the event will be held and Kathina offerings should also be prepared accordingly. Kathina offering trees are to be at the designated places at the specified time and are to be sent systematically to the monasteries once the event is completed. Trial run should be conducted so that everything will go smoothly when the event is held.

In today's meeting, work committees and sub-committees are urged to discuss and openly

provide necessary suggestions, said the Vice President.

Next, Leading Committee Chairman Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko explained about arrangements made to successfully hold the event.

Afterwards, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture Permanent Secretary explained about sub-committees formed, transportation arrangement made for the Sayadaws, arrangements made for trial runs and coordination made with other ministries.

This was followed by respective sub-committees explaining about the preparations and works conducted by each sub-committee.

Meeting attendees provided

suggestions on the discussions and explanations and the Vice President also gave his comments to ensure proper coordination based on the suggestions, discussions and explanations presented. The meeting came to a close after the Vice President delivered a closing speech.

Present at the meeting were Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Deputy Ministers U Kyi Min, U Tha Oo, Dr. Tun Naing and U Maung Maung Win, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun, Nay Pyi Taw Command Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Permanent Secretaries, heads of departments and officials.—MNA ■

National Security Advisor makes stops in Hong Kong on way to Macau Fair

U Thaung Tun, National Security Advisor, Union Minister for Office of the Union Government and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission, called on Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor on 16th October 2018 in Hong Kong on his way to Macao to attend the 23rd Macao International Trade and Investment Fairs.

During the meeting Mrs. Lam expressed her appreciation to Government of Myanmar for granting visa exemption to Hong Kong Passport holders. They also discussed matters relating to anticorruption measures under taken by the Myanmar Government, capacity

building, vocational training, tourism, education and urban development.

The Union Minister also paid a courtesy call on Mr. Edmund Ho Hau Wah, Vice-Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and former Chief Executive of Macao.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to promotion of tourism, investment from Macao SMEs and cooperation with Portugal Speaking Countries, and the appreciation of visa exemption for Macao SAR passport holders.

During the transit in Hong Kong, MIC organized a Myan-

mar Investment Seminar at Island Shangri-La Hotel.

The event was graced by Mr. Edward Yau Tang-wah, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and Officials of Hong Kong SAR Government, Members of Legislative Council, Members of Hong Kong Development Council and Hong Kong Productivity Council; which was attended by 130 Hong Kong firms and Hong Kong based foreign business firms.

On 18th October, Union Minister and delegation attended the opening ceremony of the 23rd Macao International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF), the

ASEAN Pavilion Expo organized by Macao-ASEAN International Chamber of Commerce, the meeting with visiting Ministers and Chief Executive Mr. Fernando Chui Sai On and the dinner hosted by President of MIF. Mr. Ragendra de Sousa, Minister for Trade and Industry of Mozambique also attended the MIF.

The Union Minister paid a courtesy call on Mr. Alexis Tam Chon Weng, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture of Macao, and the promotion of culture, trade and investment between Myanmar and Macao were discussed. MIC delegation has also held a Myanmar Invest-

ment Promotion Seminar at the Macao Science Museum.

The Union Minister was accompanied by the Minister for Electricity, Industry, Roads and Communications of Yangon Region, Daw Nilar Kyaw, Director-General of Directorate of Investment and Company Administration of the Ministry of Finance and Planning, U Aung Naing Oo, Director of Promotion of Myanmar Trade Organization of the Ministry of Commerce, U Myo Thu and Dr. Maung Maung Lay, Vice-Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry.—MNA ■

Anti-corruption

- * The Union Government has established a four-year (2018-2021) strategic plan for anti-corruption reforms and initiatives to reduce the erosion of state funds and bring bribery and corruption under control.
- * The government's plans are now in place to implement the strategic plan for anti-corruption and bribery. At the same time, in order to protect individual rights and the basic rights of citizens, the protection of human rights is being implemented as a matter of great importance.

(Excerpt from the report on the current work of the Union government, delivered at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 19 September 2018)

State Counsellor visits boarding school, drug rehab...

FROM PAGE-1

In her speech, the State Counsellor said, "I first want to thank all the children who sang the songs. I noticed heroes for the country in their singing. Everyone can become a hero for their country. Each and every one of the children sitting can become a hero for your country. Becoming a country's hero means you contribute your life in a positive way for the country. That's why I hope the children here are taught how to live their lives in a beneficial way for their country, for other citizens, and for the world. Every person has their self-value. You need to understand that value. And know it. Respect it. No one has a reason to think they are not worth anything. Being a human makes you valuable already. It's important to know whether that value is used in a good and correct method or not."

There has never been world peace in the entire history of the globe. That's because people don't go towards the path of peace so often.

"We were entertained with songs but the songs were not just for entertainment. They have meaning. The songs are unveiling the important values for the country. It's very encouraging. That's why I hope the children will have a deep appreciation for the songs in their heart when they sing them. They need to know what



Students sing songs "Hero" and "Let's build peace" at ceremony to donate cash and aid to Lansel Boarding School in Shwe Set Ward. PHOTO: MNA

meaning the songs they are singing carry. It's not enough to just focus on the tune and not on the meaning."

"I don't want special considerations for the meanings to be forgotten. I assume the teachers fully explain the meaning of the songs when teaching them. I want you to ask the children how they understood the meanings as well."

"I hear that the children here are always improving. This can be contributed to the achievements and endeavors of the teachers and that of the children as well. I implore all the children in this room to always strive to become a person who is valuable to their community and their world. You need to be trying continuously. There is no end to striving. But don't think this means it will always be tiring. There is no meaning in living an unchanging life."

"Please try to truly understand the meaning of the two songs sung here today and if you live your life as the songs suggest then all the children in this room will have nothing but

improvements in their lives. But this is not just for yourselves. It is for your community, your country, your world, and a new peaceful world. A new world cannot come into being with only your country in peace. The entire world must be at peace for everyone to have peace. There has never been world peace in the entire history of the globe. That's because people don't go towards

the path of peace so often."

"Whether peace will be attained in the time of the children here depends on each child. It's okay to wonder what you could possibly do by yourself. While accomplishing things alone can be difficult, if you can find friends and partners to walk by your side then you will succeed in whatever you set out to do. That's why I want children to consider find-

ing great friends at this age as a duty. If you can't find good friends then you have to ask yourself if you are one too."

"Try to acquire good friends from a young age. If you have friends who will stay by your side when you're facing challenges then there's no need to fear any challenges. This is most important."

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi visits drug rehabilitation center in Leagone Ward. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor visits boarding school, drug rehab...



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the address at the donation ceremony at Ingyandon Baptist IDP camp in Tatkon ward in Myitkyina. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-3

When the friends by your side have the same mindset as you, you automatically gain strength. Your worries and fears will decrease. You are not facing anything alone; if there's even just one other person with you it's all the more empowering. Try to be a good friend and make lots of good friends too."

"My final wish is for the children here to contribute to your home place as much as you can when you can one day."

"That's why you children should always keep in your heart how you may help back to your home place, your parents and relatives. Giving help like this is the same as helping the world. Helping peace flourish in one part of the world contributes to the overall peace building of the world. I wish for the children to continue their studies here and adopt good characteristics

as well," said the State Counsellor.

This was followed by the State Counsellor handing over 106 blankets, 106 towels and 106 dozens of books worth Ks 866,000 to an official for the boarding school.

Similarly, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye handed over the letter of recognition of the boarding school as a first step and Ks 4,860,000; Union Minister U Thein Swe handed over a computer set worth Ks 700,000 and various books and documents, Kachin State Chief Minister Dr. Khet Aung handed over the state government's donation of Ks 2 million; State Minister for Social Welfare Dr. Thin Lwin handed over Ks 1,432,000 of educational funds donated by the Department of Disaster Management; and the State Education Office handed over stationery and backpacks worth Ks 300,000, which were accepted by the re-

My final wish is for the children here to contribute to your home place as much as you can when you can one day.

sponsible officials.

Afterwards, Hsawlaw Tsp State Hluttaw MP Daw Kaw Mar Gu gifted a traditional garment to the State Counsellor and thanked her, whereby the ceremony was concluded.

After the ceremony, the State Counsellor looked around the student hostels and gave instructions as necessary.

St. Joseph IDP Camp

The State Counsellor and her entourage then attended the donation ceremony held at the St. Joseph IDP camp where she delivered a speech.

The State Counsellor handed over rice, cooking oil, salt and lentils worth Ks 11,952,000 to a camp official.

Similarly, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye handed over Ks 7,350,000 for matriarch families, pregnant mothers, children under five-years old, people living with disabilities, and elderly people over 85 years of age. State Chief Minister Dr. Khet Aung also handed over stationery and 300 backpacks all worth Ks 400,000.

After the ceremony, the State Counsellor inspected residents of the camp weaving traditional garments and talked warmly with them.

In the afternoon, the State Counsellor and her entourage had lunch at the Lone Ga Pa Restaurant together with the students from the boarding school for children from hilly regions. They then took a documentary photo together in front of the Manaw pillars in Myitkyina's Manaw ground.

Drug Rehabilitation Center

Afterwards, the State Counsellor and her entourage went to the handover ceremony of the drug rehabilitation center donated by the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and opened in Leagone Ward.

The State Counsellor delivered the opening speech at the ceremony, saying, "Thank you to all the people attending the opening ceremony. The reason we are giving priority to this ceremony

is because the rehabilitation of drug users, be they youths or middle-aged, concerns everyone. This concern is indifferent to race, religion and political opinions."

"It is something we all have to chip in. When our fellow citizens are lured by the temptations of drugs and have their capacities diminished and lives destroyed, it is our duty to help them get back on their feet and provide support. It is something everyone can collaborate in. Like I've said earlier, it doesn't matter what race you are, what religion you follow or what political stance you've taken; it concerns humanity and compassion and the stabilization of our community and environment."

"Sometime, people who had their lives destroyed by drug create problem for their society. So once a person is addicted to drug, it is not only him and his family but his society is also affected. That is why we all need to help. We need to be sympathetic. This is what we had decided."

"This problem is not our country's problem only. It is a problem for the whole world. Even the richest countries in the world are unable to eradicate this problem. For a developing country like us, it may seem that the problem is much more intense and difficult but due to our people's enthusiastic spirit of sharing, we have some advantages. The advantages are our spirit and habit of donating and doing merit. Beyond the physical donation of money and material is the huge force of providing their labour, time, good will and efforts. This is much more important."

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi observes traditional weaving at St. Joseph IDP camp. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor visits boarding school, drug rehab...

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“After stopping the drug usage it is important to retain the situation. This is where the difficulty is. How do we overcome this? People normally rely on something or someone else and drug user’s reliance on drug had to be substituted by his/her reliance on his/her family and friend. We have to make them rely, trust and depend on their family and friends instead. That is why we are opening up a drug rehabilitation centre based on the people and community.”

“This is a rehabilitation centre that everyone can participate in. Their participation is also important. We will have to use every way to make this centre a success. For this centre to be successful, drug addicts must be freed from their addictions, return to their own communities and become people that not only benefit themselves or the community but also the country.”

“According to studies, teenagers get hooked to the drug after testing it out. As far as I know, they use it to make themselves alert for the examination. After trying out one pill, they keep on increasing the dosage and finally end up getting addicted to it.”

“Responsible persons at the centre also need to educate the parents and inform them of drug addiction symptoms. They are to continuously monitor their offspring. The reason this centre was opened was because of the donation by Daw Khin Kyi Foundation. But the support provided by Czech Republic to Daw Khin Kyi Foundation was what made the donation possible. Czech Republic has long history of friendly relation with Myanmar. Czech Republic is one of the countries that has understood and assisted our country. Czech Republic has plans to assist Daw Khin Kyi Foundation in making donations to other drug rehabilitation centres. Here I would like to thank the Ambassador of the country that has been friendly to us and has enthusiastically supported the rehabilitation of our youth and people. Nothing would be successful without the enthusiastic participation of the people. Regardless of a government being formed with the best people, without the support and participation of the people, it would not be successful. That is why only through the support of the people of Myitkyina can those trying to get rid of drug addic-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meeting with local people at Ingyandone Baptist IDP camp. PHOTO: MNA

tion in the centre overcome their drug addiction,” said the State Counsellor.

Next Daw Khin Kyi Foundation Executive Committee member U Moe Zaw Oo explained about the reason for donating the building and transferred documents relating to the building to Department of Rehabilitation Director General U Win Naing Tun.

Afterwards State Counsellor presented a document of appreciation to Czech Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Jaroslav.

Ingyandone Baptist IDP camp

Following this, the State Counsellor and party attended the donation ceremony held at Ingyandon Baptist relief camp in Tatkon ward.

First, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered a greeting message and handed over Ks 3,877,750 worth of rice, cooking oil, salt and peas to representatives of the relief camp.

This was followed by Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung donating Ks 1,50,000, Union Minister

Dr. Win Myat Aye donating Ks 1,850,000 for women led households, expecting mothers, children under five-years of age, people living with disabilities, elderly above 85 years of age, and State Chief Minister Dr. Khet Aung donated stationeries and backpacks.

While at the camp, the State Counsellor delivered words of encouragement and said, “The main aim is to enable all to return to their own places and live peacefully. The main responsibility of those who had established the camp, organisations and entities that supported the camp including the government is to enable the people to return to their place of origin and live peacefully and progress ahead. It is important for all to have in mind that ultimately, they will return to their places of origin and create a stable and developing situation.”

“Emphasis is placed toward education and health care in camps like this. Once a person comes into existence, it is important for them to be full of both

physical and mental strength. Education is for mental strength and health is for physical strength.”

All need to emphasize towards supporting people in the camp both physically and mentally, especially the youngsters. Sports activities are also related to both physical and education. Youngsters need to be encouraged toward sports activities.

Not only in sports but arts also need to be encouraged too. Physical health is required. But opportunities must be given toward developing the artistic abilities. Playing music together, singing songs together, working together on art matters also create unity. It also provides satisfaction. Here too all need to do what it can.

I feel that by talking here, I’m sharing what I have in mind. By visiting camps like this, we can understand the feeling of the people who were moved from their places of origin. We are heading toward providing for the majority and creating a safe community for the majority.

We don’t want to see our peo-

ple in camps like these. We want to see them return to their places and live peacefully. We will do our best. In doing our best, the people who are most affected are urged to help and participate in it.

State government plays the main role. If there are problems in the camp, open discussions must be held with the State Government. The problem will not go away by hiding it. Unsatisfactory or unwanted situation will not go away or disappear. If there are requirements, discuss with the state government. Matters can be resolved through discussion.

While here, rebuild your strength so that it can be used to develop your own places when you return there. Rebuild your strength and obtain the ability to do it. Encourage this to the children. Our futures are these children. They need to have correct norms. They must have the will to help their own places. Only then can there be sustained stability and sustained development. Our country is hungry for peace. Our country needs peace very much. The nutrient for the development of a country is the will for peace. These wills are expected to be taught in these camps. Based on these camps we want to encourage and establish union spirit and brotherly spirit among the ethnic national.

A government could not treat the people differently. The rule of law that I’m saying repeatedly mean that people are not to be treated differently according to the law and according the government’s policy. All are equal. Everyone individually has values. The value of our country is the combination of these individual values.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party then left Myitkyina by special flight and reached Nay Pyi Taw in the evening. — MNA ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and students from Lansel Boarding School in Manaw ground. PHOTO: MNA

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Fire at Ohn Taw Chay village IDP camp in Sittway kills six

SIX PEOPLE, including one man and five women, died in a fire broke out at Ohn Taw Chay Village IDP camp, Say Tha Mar village-tract in Sittway, Rakhine State at 11:30 pm on 18 October.

The fire started through a spark from the kitchen of Room-1 of Nau Hsu Hmyar in Building No.12 at the camp and destroyed 15 buildings.

Police from Hmansi Police Station, firefighters Sittway township fire brigade and local people put out the fire and it was put under control about one and

half hours later.

About 822 fire victims from 141 households are relocated to other relief camps.

State Ministers U Aung Kyaw Zan and U Win Myint, departmental officials, search and rescue teams encouraged the victims and provided them with aid.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided Ks 300,000 each to families of the six deceased victims and household utensils to 141 households. —Kyaw Thu Win, Aung Ye Thwin ■



PHOTO: AUNG KYAW OO

Police record over 1,200 drug trafficking cases in Sagaing this year

POLICE in Sagaing Region exposed a total of 1,242 drug cases and related crimes between January and mid-October this year, said Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr Myint Naing.

Dr Myint Naing said that the region government is accelerating its crackdown on drug trafficking. Currently, the national drug policy is also being drafted. Upon completion, the region authorities are planning to draw an action plan to effectively eliminate drug trafficking

in the region than before.

Between 1 January and 17 October this year, the region police confiscated 22.836 kg of white opium, 200.6 kg of black opium, 4.4 million yaba tablets and other kinds of stimulant drugs weighing 1.67 kg, according to official statistics.

In 2017, the region police seized 30 kg of Heroin, 5.5 million yaba pills and other kinds of stimulant drugs weighing 1,123 kg from 1,346 cases.—Win Oo (Zeya Taing) ■

Stimulant tablets seized in Mansi, Myawady, Muse

A combined team comprising local police and members of a local anti-drug squad seized 2,850 stimulant tablets and Ks 51,000 from a motor bike driven by Shwe Lin Tun (alias) Bo Toe in Mansi Township on 18 October evening.

Similarly, members of the Myawady District Police Force discovered 1350 stimulant tablets and Ks 30,000, during a search of a house owned by Ma Moe Moe Aung in Ward 4

in Myawady.

In another search in Moe-ko, Muse Township, the members of the Tatmadaw found 0.264 kilo of heroin and 1,168 stimulant tablets in a motor-bike driven by Gweyoo Fwa near Manjat old village, Mone Goo, Muse Township, on Wednesday.

Police filed charges against them under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA ■

Yangon Region Transport Authority explains actions taken against cabs with window shades, stickers

By Nyein Nyein

YANGON Region Transport Authority clarified yesterday the actions which include fine and revoking licence against taxis which failed to remove window stickers on their cars.

YRTA met with taxis owners and drivers on Thursday and explained the instructions and punishments.

The face to face meeting came one day after the vehicle owners and drivers held the press conference on 17 October in Yangon where they explained the media what difficulties they are facing. They said that they are not allowed to carry out licence renewal although they paid fines for breach rules on installation of window shades on cars, facing deportation of their cars under Section 40 (b) of the existing Automobile Law.

But, U Lian Cin Maung, Director of the Road Transport Administration Department, said the department already announced that taxi must remove window shades, stickers and advertising that could obscure the view inside and effective action has been taken against those failed to abide by the rules starting on 1 February.

He said, "vehicle owners probably don't understand the information. The department does according to the announcement, which says those who break the rules will face both fine and other penalties including revocation of licence. According to the Automobile Law, it is difference between the fine and the penalty."

Following the announcement, the department seized a total of 66 cabs, including 24 cabs which changed their number

plate background colour from black to red. The department immediately revoked licences for those 24 cabs under Section 12/1 (a) of the Road and Inland Water Transport Law 1963. U Lian Cin Maung said: "The 44 vehicles have faced actions once. They will have to pay fines only. As we cannot disband it, the Yangon Region Government has asked for advice from the Ministry of Transport and Communications about the ways of how to deal with those vehicles."

"According to section 40 (b) of the Automobile Law, the Union ministry can put a provision that the following matters can be done with the approval of the Union Government. The provision is the designation of accessible locations for vehicles based on the types of vehicles. The Union Government can take action against law breakers un-

der this law. As Yangon Region Government cannot revoke the license under this section, the proposal to send the taxies with the number plates of AA and BB to other regions and states. The department is unable to renew the licenses for these taxies whose licenses have expired while it still seeking advice from the Union Government," he added.

U Hla Aung, a taxi owner said: "The use of stickers is my mistake. I failed to remove stickers from my vehicle. But I think it is not a severe offence."

Vehicle owners have sent apology letters to the President and other departments to review the abolishing of "C" license and the actions.

There are over 66,000 registered taxies in Yangon, according to the Road Transport Administration department. ■

Notification on advance voting

1. During the by-election to be held on 3 November 2018, if voters in their constituencies are unable to come and vote at the voting booths due to any reasons, they can come and cast advance votes at their respective Ward/Village Election Sub-Commission from 1 to 2 November 2018.
2. Inside the constituencies of remote regions, patients who are undergoing medical treatment in a hospital, detainees and people who have to travel beyond their constituencies on national duties on the by-election day (as listed below), can cast advance votes from 24 October to 2 November 2018.
 - (a) Members of the Union Government and Union level organizations
 - (b) Members of Region/State Government and Region/State level organizations
 - (c) Members of region/state/district Sub-Election Commissions
 - (d) Those who will be on duty for the by-election.
3. Therefore, representatives from political parties, Hluttaw MP candidates, international and domestic election observer groups and members of the media can come and observe at the respective Ward/Village Election Sub-Commission.

Union Election Commission
(Unofficial translation)

Opening Ceremony of Tracking Sheet Course for Union Election Commission

THE opening ceremony of the Tracking Sheet Course collaborated by Union Election Commission and International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), was held at the training room of the Union Election Commission Office in Nay Pyi Taw at 9 am yesterday. The course teaches the use Tracking Sheet concerned with registration of political parties and rejection processes for name registration of can-

didates.

In the ceremony, UEC Chairman U Hla Thein said information is needed to be clear and understood, reporting by graphs and figures in simple ways are more effective, the Excel Tracking Sheet Course will help to get more interests from the people on announcements, the commission is giving priority to promote quality of the staffs, people will increase their trust

in the election and the election commission in accordance with the quality of the staffs, and that raising the interest of the people on the election higher is the main fact for the development of democracy.

Trainer Ms. Pascaline Krone then explained about the course program and aim of the course. 22 trainees from UEC are attending the course and the duration of the course will be three days. — MNA ■

Union Minister for Information receives Country Director of DW Akademie

UNION MINISTER for Information Dr. Pe Myint received a delegation led by Country Director of DW Akademie Ms. Eva Mehl at the meeting hall of his ministry yesterday morning.

During the meeting, DW Akademie showed a Power Point Presentation about Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) plus general workflows, composition, election process of their members and budget system with the Union Minister asking questions and discussing over the presentation.



Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint meets with Country Director of DW Akademie Ms. Eva Mehl and party yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

The meeting was also attended by the Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun and responsible officials. — MNA ■

Coordination body of Rule of Law Department and Judiciary Fairness holds sixth meeting

THE sixth meeting of the Coordination body of Rule of Law department and judiciary fairness was held at Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw at 9am yesterday.

U Tun Tun Oo, the Union Attorney-General and also Chairman of the Coordination body, said the government is giving priority for the development of rule of law and the justice sector and implementing in respective sectors. The round table discussion on public justice and rule of law involving the Union Supreme Court, Union Attorney General's Office, Anti-Corruption Commission, Myanmar Police Force, and Advocate had been broadcasted recently.

He said, the conference on Justice Sector Coordination for Rule of Law held on March was aimed to evaluate a strategic plan to promote the rule of law and garner procedures to proceed with the coordinating body,

with four goals and six topics discussed during the conference. The Coordination Body's Strategic Plan (2018-2022) was compiled in accordance with outcomes from the discussions and a draft of the Strategic Plan will be approved in the meeting. The tasks of the coordinating committee and sub-coordinating committees will be reviewed in accordance with their work condition.

The Union Attorney-General said within over one year of forming the sub-coordinating groups, about 750 public reports have been received and regarding the reports, they have also coordinated between respective organizations.

The progression from the tasks of sub-coordinating committees have been seen and he discussed that respective departments, civil society organizations and international

partner organizations will have to support and collaborate in the strategic plan.

The confirmation of the strategic plan, review on the tasks of sub-coordinating groups, shar-

ing of working experiences, discussion for the effective work and designation on the processes which should be continued were discussed and advised on.

In the meeting, the Chair-

man of the Joint group Committee for Rule of Law and Justice Fairness, the Deputy Chairman, members and advisors of the coordinating committee were present. — MNA ■



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo attends the sixth meeting of the Coordination body of Rule of Law Department and Judiciary Fairness in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Collaborative effort by government and private sector key to promote legitimate investments

REALIZING that battling counterfeits, contraband, illicit and illegal trade protects and boosts legitimate manufacturing and trade, the Ministry of Commerce has supported importing, producing, selling and distribution of alcohol and beer in line with the trade policy.

A Notification No. (8/2013) prohibited the import of foreign alcohol, beer and cigarettes.

But, in keeping up with improving situations and in light of increasing foreign travelers into Myanmar, the Ministry of Commerce has permitted sales of limited amounts of alcohol, beer and cigarettes in duty-free shops in international airports and also in hotels, after gaining a recommendation from the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

“

... local breweries need to be carefully monitored to ensure their product quality is up to standards.

ing of alcohol in international airports above the permitted limit. He also suggested a new system of taxing per bottle production in local breweries and distilleries to be adopted and that tax rates be increased.

At the same time, local breweries need to be carefully monitored to ensure their product quality is up to standards.

There have been rampant sale and distribution of counterfeit alcohol in Myanmar.

Counterfeits and contraband erode the consumer confidence in established brands, deny legitimate businesses a level playing field and end up shaking confidence in business and investments.

A loss of confidence in established products is also a loss of revenue for the government and the country.

It is necessary for the government agencies to conduct long-term enforcements and for companies to use technology in the fight against the counterfeits to make it possible for customers to easily verify the authenticity of the products.

Because, their legitimate business makes valuable contributions to the socio-economic well-being of the people.

A collaborative effort shared by the government agencies and industry players will help to deal with unscrupulous players and to encourage legitimate investments - a key factor for the country's economic growth.

Hence, hotels have to adhere to the written guidelines to increase administration in ensuring that the points in their alcohol license and retail license are followed.

As part of efforts for fighting the counterfeit products and illicit trading, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo has urged the authorities of the ministry to step up efforts for monitoring of counterfeit alcohol entering the country, making fake alcohol in the country, and the sale of alcohol and beer without a license in the country. At the same time, the ministry would take measures to control over purchasing

Round table discussions on Rule of Law and Public Security (Part – 2)

By Zin Oo and Khin Yadana, Photo: Thiha Sithu

RULE of law could never be implemented individually or by only a certain group, it is to be carried with the participation of all relevant departments with the cooperation of the people to overcome the challenges.

The second part of round table discussions on public justice and rule of law was conversed by panelists U Myo Tint, Judge of Supreme Court of Union; U Win Myint, Deputy Attorney General of Union Attorney General's Office; U Han Nyunt, Member of Anti-Corruption Commission of Myanmar; Police Major General Aung Naing Thu, Deputy Chief of Myanmar Police Force; and U Aung Soe, Member of the Joint Coordination Committee for Rule of Law and Justice Affairs of Yangon Region, Notary Public, Advocate was being conducted at the Studio Hall of Myanmar Radio and Television (Taikon) in Nay Pyi Taw on 4 October 2018.

Police Major General Aung Naing Thu: There are two categories of challenges with regards to the rule of law. The first challenge is to contain, control and taking care of ex-convicts not to allow them to commit crime again. Our Myanmar Police Force may need to rehabilitate the former convicts with job opportunities through the team of area surveillance in cooperation with relevant organizations. This is one of the solutions to counter the challenges.

With regards to the second challenge that involves politic, economic, and social and religion matters, we need to create job opportunities, education, social welfare and healthcare in conformity with the local conditions through the participation of the government, state and region governments, the ministries and the people to overcome the challenges.

Cooperation needed

In the age of modern technology, the relevant ministries and the concerning technological and information companies must provide technical supports in time regarding the investigation of crimes. With the improvement of road transportation and communication many problems



existed at the border check points such as the cross border crimes; the illegal border trades; the arms smuggling; the deterrent of goods that may hamper the rule of law. The people are also there in the border areas.

It is therefore, the people and the responsible officials of relevant ministries at the check point must work together with the Myanmar Police Force to overcome the challenges. Public awareness campaign must be carried out in a broader aspect. I would like to suggest that deserving punishment must be pronounced to the culprits by the lawmakers and judiciary in cooperation with the relevant departments and organizations.

In the task of crime prevention for the rule of law, one vital and important aspect is to get the information. I firmly believe that the crime prevention as well as in countering the challenges could be effectively carried out by getting the information, news and tip-off in advance from the public or the relevant departments. Therefore, I would like to point out my view that the people should cooperate with the Myanmar Police Force to get and provide the information in time.

U Aung Soe: Rule of law could never be implemented individually or by only a certain

group, it is to be carried with the participation of all relevant departments with the cooperation of the people to overcome the challenges. In this connection, I would like to make assessment with regard to the crime such as the period before the crime, during the crime, the investigation period, the prosecution period, the sentencing period, and the role of the people.

Time has changed

The Myanmar Police Force has the main responsibility in connection with the crime. As it has already been told, the crime prevention is needed. It could not be done with bare hands, as the criminals have modern devices and weapons. Time has changed.

Therefore, the Myanmar Police Force is to be equipped with modern arms and devices. Another factor is about cyber-crime which required fulfilling in the modern techniques. The crimes committed through the Facebook are to be dealt with cyber police. The law enforcers are to be equipped with modern trainings. In fact, it has been co-operating with the international organizations, which I have already witnessed. The international organizations are assisting us.

A police officer could not be assigned for (24) hours. They could

endure only on duty roster basis. When we look into the root cause, the Myanmar Police Force has no adequate number of forces.

Assigning duties

The number of police force in the states and Yangon Metropolitan are not the same. We need to recruit more skillful young police force members for the country. Over the years, new recruits for Myanmar Police Force have been inducted including women officers. We need to nurture more.

They must be provided with adequate entitlements so that they would become efficient officers and earned the esteemed of the people. In the successive era, there were times that the police and the people have had good relations as well as bad relations. In the judicial sectors, there are good people as well as bad people.

They must be reliable

There were talks about regular and customary corruption among the police force, which is needed to be reformed and changed. In the foreign countries, everybody including the kids is scared of the police. I mean they all are scared of committing crimes. We wanted our police force to be reliable force of the people. On the other hand, the police force must protect the people.

doing noble tasks. The law organizations must nurture and trained the new generation lawyers.

In wrapping up, I would like to say that we are in the same boat, and that we are heading to the same destination. With regards to the rule of law, no one could do alone. We must all come together such as the Myanmar Police Force, the lawyers and advocates, the judges, and the people to fight against the bribery and corruption. Cooperation does not mean to cooperate in the “giving and taking”.

We have our own tasks and responsibilities. We must shoulder our own responsibilities to reach the destination of rule of law. The core task is to free ourselves from corruption. More importantly, I would like to raise a question such as “Who has the responsibility?” Whether the police, the judges, or the advocates. I am of the view that we all have the responsibility. Moreover, the people also have the responsibilities. Each and every citizen has the responsibility.

I would like to offer an example. If an individual stays in accordance with the law and discipline, then the family would become a law abiding family. As a result, the ward, village and town would become united and disciplined. Eventually, the town and city could be under the rule of law, and finally, the rule of law could prevail in the nation.

Therefore, the people could not say that the information and tip-off is nothing to do with them. The people must reveal the information. Traditionally and culturally, Myanmar people tend to avoid appearing at the law courts, offices and police stations. If and when required, the people must come forward to the law courts as witnesses. Each and everyone must abide by the law, and eventually the family would be free from felony and misdeeds. Then, our nation would be under the rule of law. Finally, we would reach the goal of justice in the society in the nation of peace. Allow me to conclude by saying let us go together to the same destination for the rule of law.

The mindsets of the people and the law structures are to be reformed.

Especially, our lawyers and advocates have been blamed for rampant corruption. We are being charged as liars. In some cases, they were true, but not all. If and when the lawyers' organizations and the lawyers and advocates have dignity and self-esteem, they are in the right track to be

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued Friday 19 October 2018)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT 09:30 hrs MST: During the past (24)hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mon State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Mudon (1.85)inches, Bilin (0.24)inch and Paung (0.12)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 MORNING OF 20 October 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Kayin and Mon states and isolated in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (2 - 5) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions, Southern Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 October 2018: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 October 2018: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20 October 2018: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Yangon Region.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

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

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Myanmar earns over \$470 million from export sector in two weeks

MYANMAR'S exports to overseas countries in the first two weeks of this month totalled US\$472 million, up by \$238 million matched against the same period last year, the commerce ministry reported yesterday.

The total export figures included \$81 million by the public sector and over \$390 million by the private sector.

Between 1 and 12 August this year, the country exported domestically produced products worth \$326 million through maritime routes, while \$145 million worth of goods went to the partner international buyers through land borders, according to the ministry.

During the same period, the country exported its major

groups of products, covering \$77.6 million worth of agricultural products, \$18.5 million worth of animal products, \$30.6 million worth of marine products, \$39.9 million worth of minerals, \$7.7 million worth of forest products, \$230.8 million worth of manufactured goods and other miscellaneous items worth \$67.4 million.

Of the seven groups of commodities, the public sector exported forest products, manufactured goods and other goods.

Compared with the last 2017-2018 fiscal year, the public sector's export of commodities this year increased by \$66.6 million, while the private sector's exports rose by \$172 million.—Khine Khant ■



An ocean liner carrying containers docks at a jetty in the Yangon River. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

\$3.2 million joint investment goes to pig farming sector

THE DaNa Facility, a programme funded by the UK Government Department for International Development (DFID), and De Henus, an international animal feed business, made a joint investment of over US\$3.2 million in new project to improve pig farming industry.

The new project is focused on increasing incomes and productivity of pig farmers across the country. The new investment will be the largest single business investment in Kayah State. The De Heus project will work to address significant issues facing domestic pork production in Myanmar, including problems related to the quality of feed, breeding stock, veterinary services, bio-security issues and the genetics of domestic pigs, which negatively affect pig producers and consumers across the country.

The project will be investing across the swine production value chain in Myanmar, setting up the country's first pig stud farm near Loikaw in Kayah State, and import 250

sows with high quality genetics from overseas.

Under the project, the De Heus will also establish demonstration farms in Kachin, Kayah, Chin and Shan states, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady regions, as well as the administrative capital Nay Pyi Taw, to provide training for around 10,000 farmers to improve their pig-rearing and management practices. The De Heus will advocate for further positive policy changes, collaborating with Kayah State Government and the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department to improve business environment for pig farmers.

At the launching event in Loikaw on 18 October, Dr Gail Marzetti, the Head of the DFID, said: "DFID is excited to be launching this project as we see that it has significant potential to transform the production and quality of pigs in Myanmar, helping the market to become more efficient and inclusive. By working to improve the quality of pigs produced in Myanmar, while also increasing the skills

of small-holders in pig-rearing and business, we want to help small holder farmers and low-income producers across the country to increase their income and the prosperity of their families and communities."

Harry Schimmel of De Heus Myanmar said: "Through this project, we are seeking to help Myanmar smallholder pig farmers, by providing access to high quality genetics, animal husbandry techniques, farm management support and links to new markets. This is a huge opportunity for Myanmar pig farmers and the entire pig production market to improve the quality of their pigs but also the income of those working in the sector.

The De Heus project will invest in Myanmar to address systemic issues in domestic pork production that relies on small-holders (for 90% of production), is inefficient by international standards and is currently unable to keep up with increasing demand.—GNLM ■

Twantay Marine Institute construction expected to complete in June next year

By May Thet Hnin

WITH a view to providing technical trainings to fish farmers, Twantay Marine Institute in Twantay Fishery Department is slated to complete in June next year, said U Hla Win, head of Yangon Region Fishery Department.

The institute will be established on 7 acre land of Twantay Fishery Department. In addition to marine institute hall, laboratory, dorm for trainees, reinforced concrete building with eight apartments will be built. The authorities has invited open tenders for construction of Marine Institute as from 11 October. Tender evaluation process will be finished in December. The construction will start in January.

The construction project is allocated Ks1 billion. It is slated to finish in June, 2019. The institute intends to open courses in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

"The majority of fish, shrimp and crab farming ponds are primarily found in Twantay Township. As it is not that far from Ayeyawady Region, fish farmers from Ayeyawady can come to attend the course. Those whoever enthusiastic can attend the course free of charge", said U Hla Win.

The institute will offer courses related to induced reproduction, viral disease in fish and shrimp farming, farming

techniques, water quality testing, pond water experiment and feeding system. Those students who will attend fishery course at Zoology Department of Yangon University in the coming academic year can go on a study tour to the Marine Institute.

The country has many breeders who want to execute fish and shrimp farming but they are not in touch with systematic techniques for farming. Some of them came to ask for suggestions from the heavy businessmen. Therefore, awareness campaigns are required to disseminate information to the fish farmers, said U Zaw Lin, treasurer from Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

The Fishery Department has been conducting awareness activities for the breeders through the respective fishery departments of the regions and states, adding fish species into lakes, creeks and rivers and combating illegal fishing to conserve water resource.

Myanmar's Fishery Department has opened Fishery Institute in Yangon to enhance capacity building of its staff, and fishery courses are also opened in Pyapon, Sagaing, Thaton and Bago townships.

Of 480,000 acres of fish and shrimp farm, over 86,000 acres are located in Yangon Region, according to Yangon Region Fishery Department. ■

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EU builds ties with Asia in face of US protectionism

BRUSSELS (Belgium) — European leaders sought to build support from Asia on Thursday in defence of free trade and the fight against climate change, to counter the growing protectionism of President Donald Trump's America.

The 28 EU states were joined at a summit in Brussels by more than 20 Asian leaders including Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, Japan's Shinzo Abe and South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

Russia's Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev is also attending, despite tensions over Moscow's alleged cyber attacks on international institutions and European democracy. Amid bitter tariff disputes with Washington, the leaders are expected to use the two days of talks to give their backing to the global trading system based on the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

"To those who prefer quick fixes without clear rules I say it's not worth it. A world without rules is by definition a world of chaos," EU Council President Donald



President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker (r) and European Council President Donald Tusk (l) welcome Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (c) to the Asia-Europe Meeting summit at the European Council in Brussels on 18 October, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

Tusk said as he opened the summit. EU diplomatic chief Federica Mogherini insisted as she arrived that it was not an "anti-Trump" meeting, before enumerating most of the current areas of difference between Europe and the United States.

"We don't organise meetings against anyone," she said.

"We have our agenda, it's a very clear agenda that supports multilateralism, starting from the UN system, climate change action, trade — free and fair — non-proliferation and interna-

tional agreements that support the non-proliferation global architecture."

After a gala dinner on Thursday evening, the leaders head into talks on Friday, while Singapore and Vietnam are expected to sign trade deals with the EU on

the sidelines of the event.

Korean detente will also be on the agenda, with senior EU officials to hold talks with Moon, who earlier this week said world powers need to reassure the North Korean leader Kim Jong Un that he had taken the right decision in committing to scrap his nuclear weapons programme.

The EU will also seek to shore up support for the beleaguered Iran nuclear deal, which suffered a hammer blow when the US pulled out earlier this year and reimposed sanctions on Iran — despite the desperate pleas of European allies. Brussels is seeking to beef up its role in international diplomacy, answering a call by European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker for the EU to develop a more muscular foreign policy to match its economic clout. The leaders will discuss the EU's new "Asia connectivity strategy", which aims to improve transport, digital and energy links between the two continents while promoting environmental and labour standards. — AFP ■

EU slams Italy's 'unprecedented' deviation from budget rules



Underlining the sensitivity of the matter, a letter from the European Commission warning Italy about its budget will be delivered by Commissioner Pierre Moscovici (l) in person to Italian Finance Minister Giovanni Tria (r). PHOTO: AFP

BRUSSELS (Belgium) — The European Commission on Thursday formally warned Italy that its budget plans for 2019 are a serious concern, demanding "clarifications" from Rome over its unprecedented deviation from EU rules. Italy's populist government on Monday submitted its draft 2019 budget to the European Commission in which it laid out plans to increase spending and end the austerity policies of recent years, despite deficit warnings.

Italy's deficit is now projected at 2.4 percent of GDP, far higher than the 0.8 percent estimate given by the earlier centre right

government.

Brussels says Rome needs to cut the deficit in order to begin reducing its massive debt, which exceeds 130 percent of annual economic output — way above the EU's 60 percent ceiling.

The budget drew stinging criticism from the EU's top economic affairs officials, who penned a letter to Rome describing its plans as "unprecedented" and warning that Brussels does not rule out rejecting the entire budget. In the letter, Commission Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis and European Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici said the 2019 budget was in

"serious non-compliance" with EU law.

Crucially, this means the Italian budget can be rejected by Brussels and sent back for revision — in what would be a first within the European Union.

The commission gave the Italian government until 1000 GMT on Monday to respond.

Underlining the sensitivity of the matter, Moscovici delivered the letter in person to Italian Finance Minister Giovanni Tria.

Italy unrepentant

Aimed at fulfilling electoral promises, Italy's planned spending boost is what the government calls its "people's budget", a series of pension and tax changes that will cost 37 billion euros (us \$43 billion), of which 22 billion will be paid for by expanding the deficit. The Italian government's brash attitude towards public spending has spooked financial markets, with many fearing a re-run of the debt crisis that nearly saw Greece kicked out of the eurozone.

"I can not imagine the euro without Italy and Italy without the euro," Moscovici said after his meeting with Tria during which he delivered the letter. — AFP ■

Pompeo begins Latin America trip amid tensions over migrant caravan

PANAMA CITY (Panama) — US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrived on Thursday in Panama at the start of a tour of the Central American region that President Donald Trump blames for an "onslaught" of US-bound migrants.

Pompeo, who will head to Mexico on Friday, had talks in Panama City with President Juan Carlos Varela and Foreign Minister Isabel Saint Malo, who is also vice-president.

There were no statements after the meeting that lasted less than an hour but officials earlier said illegal immigration would be among the topics for discussion.

Pompeo's arrival in Latin

America comes amid tensions over a caravan of thousands of Honduran migrants heading through Guatemala to Mexico with the hope of reaching the United States.

Earlier Thursday, Trump threatened to send the military to close the US-Mexican border against an "onslaught" of Central American migrants.

In a Tweet, Trump called the caravan "an assault on our country by Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador."

On Tuesday, Trump threatened Central American countries with aid cuts if they failed to stop the caravan. — AFP ■



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (r) is greeted by Panama's Vice-President and Foreign Minister Isabel Saint Malo as he arrives at Tocumen International Airport on October 18, 2018. PHOTO: AFP



Russian President Vladimir Putin has spoken many times in the past in the past about his own regret over the break-up of the Soviet Union in the 1990s, infamously describing it as “the greatest geopolitical disaster of the 20th century” **PHOTO: AFP**

Putin says former Soviet Republics regret end of USSR

SOCHI (Russia) — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday said the citizens of many former Soviet Republics regretted the collapse of the USSR, which he described as a “great state”.

People in the former republics “interpret it in their own way, but all the same they believe that life in the Soviet Union was more secure, calmer, they felt surer of themselves,” he told a forum in the Russian city of Sochi.

“There were more opportunities in one great, united, powerful state,” he said.

Former republic Georgia fought a war with its former master Moscow in 2008 over break-

away regions, while the Baltic States have gone to lengths to remove traces of their Soviet past.

A conflict in eastern Ukraine in which more than 10,000 people have lost their lives has been ongoing for the last four years, as Kiev struggles to pull itself out of Russia’s orbit.

Belarus as well as the Central Asian republics remain closer to Moscow. Putin has spoken many times in the past in the past about his own regret over the break-up of the Soviet Union in the 1990s, infamously describing it as “the greatest geopolitical disaster of the 20th century”.—AFP ■

Several hurt in chopper crash on US carrier in Pacific

TOKYO (Japan) — A US Navy helicopter crashed on board a US aircraft carrier patrolling the Pacific on Friday, causing several injuries, the military said in a statement.

“All injured personnel are in stable condition under evaluation by Ronald Reagan medical staff. While some personnel will be medically evacuated ashore, none of the injuries is life-threatening,” the US 7th Fleet said in a statement.

There were no details on how many people were injured when the MH-60 Seahawk crashed shortly after take-off

on Friday morning.

“The cause of the mishap is under investigation,” the statement added.

The ship was conducting “routine operations” in the Philippine Sea at the time of the accident and remains “fully mission capable,” the military added.

The massive nuclear-powered aircraft carrier patrols throughout the Pacific, including sailing through the disputed South China Sea earlier this year as part of a mission intended to reassure Washington’s allies in the area.—AFP ■

Taliban attack on top US commander, Afghan security officials kills three

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan) — A Taliban-claimed attack on the top US commander in Afghanistan and senior Afghan security officials on Thursday killed at least three people and sent the government scrambling to secure the country’s restive south.

There are fears the attack in the southern province of Kandahar could derail US efforts to engage the group in peace talks and parliamentary elections scheduled for October 20.

US and NATO commander General Scott Miller was not hurt in the attack inside a heavily fortified government compound in Kandahar city that targeted a high-level security meeting.

But the shooting carried out by a member of the provincial governor’s security team killed anti-Taliban strongman and police chief General Abdul Raziq, Afghan and NATO officials said.

“Today I lost a great friend LTG Raziq. We had served together for many years. Afghanistan lost a patriot, my condolences to the people of Afghanistan,” said General Miller in a tweet posted by a NATO-linked account.

“The good he did for Afghanistan and the Afghan people cannot be undone.”

Provincial intelligence chief General Abdul Momin-Hussainkhail and an Afghan journalist also died in the attack that wounded 13 people, including two Americans and the governor, officials added.

“The attack carried out by a bodyguard of the governor happened moments after the meeting finished, as they were leaving the compound,” Afghan Army chief of staff General Mohammad

Sharif Yaftali told reporters.

After a meeting chaired by President Ashraf Ghani, “a high-ranking delegation headed by the NDS chief has been deployed to Kandahar to control the situation”, Yaftali added.

Afghan security forces swarmed Kandahar city after the shooting that shuttered shops and sent terrified civilians — already on high alert for violence ahead of Saturday’s ballot — into their homes.

The Taliban said in a Twitter post that Miller and Raziq were the targets of the shooting.

Pentagon spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Kone Faulkner said Raziq or the governor, not Miller, had been the targets.

“Eye witnesses reported that the attacker was focused on Raziq,” a US embassy official in Kabul said. But the unprecedented attack on a US and NATO commander in Afghanistan and the death of Raziq was “a huge blow to stability and to counter-insurgency more broadly”, said Michael Kugelman of the Wilson Center. “The bottom line here is that no one is safe, no matter how powerful they may be and no matter how much security they may expect to receive.”

‘Deep uncertainty’

The security void left by Raziq’s death, who was widely seen as a bulwark against the Taliban insurgency in Kandahar, would create “deep uncertainty” in the south, Johnny Walsh of the United States Institute of Peace said. Raziq long controlled the province with an iron hand and was accused of running secret torture chambers, an allega-

tion he denied. “While General Raziq had long faced accusations of human rights abuses, he was also arguably the most capable military commander in Afghanistan, and widely perceived as the main reason the Taliban have struggled in Kandahar in recent years,” Walsh told AFP.

Initial reports indicated Afghan officials were the targets of the attack, NATO’s Resolute Support mission spokesman Colonel Knut Peters said, describing it as an “Afghan-on-Afghan” assault.

“We are being told the area is secure.” A hospital official told AFP that several senior officials had been brought to the medical facility, but they would not provide further details.

A witness said the city was “full of military forces”.

“They don’t allow anyone to come out of their houses,” he told AFP. Afghanistan is tense ahead of the 20 October legislative election after the Taliban pledged to attack the ballot. More than 2,500 candidates are competing for 249 seats in the lower house. The election process has already been hit by violence, with hundreds killed or wounded in recent months.

At least 10 candidates have been killed so far including Abdul Jabar Qahraman, who was blown up Wednesday by a bomb placed under his sofa in the southern province of Helmand. The election is seen as a rehearsal for the presidential vote scheduled for April and an important milestone ahead of a UN meeting in Geneva in November where Afghanistan is under pressure to show progress on “democratic processes”.—AFP ■



General Abdul Raziq — the police chief of Kandahar province who had a fierce reputation for brutality — was one of the targets of the shooting. **PHOTO: AFP**

Peru in danger of losing its national cinchona tree

LIMA (Peru) — Pre-Columbian people used its bark as a medicine while South American liberator Simon Bolivar adopted it in Peru's coat of arms, but the cinchona tree is facing a battle for survival as vast swathes of forest are chopped down to make way for plantations.

The wider cinchona species is used in the production of the anti-malaria medicine, quinine.

But experts say the cinchona tree is in danger of extinction due to government neglect, while many Peruvians can no longer tell it apart from fig trees or quinoa plants.

"Peru has 20 of the world's 29 cinchona species but already many of them are hard to find due to deforestation, degradation of the soil and the growth of agriculture," forest engineer Alejandro Gomez told AFP.

"Their habitat is very fragile and they are exposed to extermination due to the burning of large areas of land to grow coffee and other crops, and also for the quality of their wood," added Gomez, who is managing a preservation project. Cinchona trees grow up to 15 meters (50 feet) in height, in humid forests between 1,300-2,900-meters above sea level, mostly in the north west but also the center of Peru.

It was first used for medicinal purposes by the

pre-Columbian peoples of Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela to treat fever and pain, but now cinchona is also used in the production of tonic water and angostura bitter, an alcoholic beverage used in Peru's national cocktail, pisco sour.

According to Jose Luis Marcelo, professor at the National Agrarian University, "six cinchonas that grow only in Peru and containing a high concentration of quinine, are under threat of disappearing."

'Funding is needed'

The National History Museum at the National University of San Marcos says there are only 500-600 of the Cinchona officinalis species, or colorless bark, left in the country. Specialists have been asking both the central and local governments for help in protecting the trees, but without success.

Marcelo says the Agrarian University has

the teams of specialists necessary to "restore this icon of the national coat of arms, but funding is needed." Education may also be needed simply to teach Peruvians the difference between the cinchona and fig tree. On some flags sold in shops ahead of national holidays, researcher Roque Rodriguez has found a picture of the fig tree rather than a cinchona.

The fact that flag makers can't tell the difference between the two plants "shows the ignorance" of Peruvians when it comes to their national tree, Rodriguez, who is trying to clone the cinchona in order to help reintroduce it throughout the country, told AFP. Back in 2008, Peru's congress approved a law declaring various wild species of flora as natural heritage but the text described quinoa as Cinchona officinalis. But quinoa is a cereal, not a tree like cinchona, says Rodriguez.

While the current Pe-



Although the cinchona is a tree and quinoa a cereal, some Peruvians are unable to tell the two apart. **PHOTO: AFP**

ruvian government may not value the cinchona, its bark was much sought after in Europe once it was brought to the old continent in 1631 by a Jesuit priest.

There it was used to treat scrapie, a fatal disease

affecting sheep and goats, and cinchona species have since been planted outside of South America.

The species was named after the countess of Chinchon, after her life was saved by its bark.

Bolivar and the nascent Peruvian Congress then decided in 1825, soon after independence from Spain, to include the cinchona in the coat of arms as recognition of its medicinal benefits.—AFP ■

Myanma Port Authority "Notice of High Tide"

Exceptionally high spring from 20.30 feet to 21.60 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of October 25th to October 28th, 2018. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

Transferring Distributor for Registration Pesticides

Distribution processes of pesticide produced by Kenso Corporation (M) Sdn. Bhd. B-9-3,PJ8 Block B West,No.23 Jalan Barat, Seksyen 8, 46050 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia are transferring to Grand Agrocare Co.,Ltd 93, Thura Street, 9 Ward, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon. Any Objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board for the following Pesticide within (14) days.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration Types	Registration Number
1	Ken-Aba 20 EC	Abamectin 2.0% w/v EC	Provisional	2016-3050
2	Kencepat 75 SP	Acephate 75% w/w SP	Provisional	2016-3051
3	Kendiuron 500 SC	Diuron 50% w/v SC	Provisional	2016-3052
4	Kenlon 480 EC	Triclopyr Butoxy Ethyl Ester	Provisional	2016-3053
5	Kenfosate 480 SL	Glyphosate-isopropylamine 48% SL	Provisional	2016-3054

Grand Agrocare Co.,Ltd.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1092 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO. (1092 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-10-2018 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 LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (103 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (103 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-10-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.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

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV OCEAN REEF

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OCEAN REEF are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-10-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T-5 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 WILHELMSSEN SHIPS
SERVICE (S) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

Royals Harry and Meghan go barefoot on Bondi

SYDNEY (Australia) — British royals Harry and Meghan kicked off their shoes and donned tropical garlands on Friday as they hit Sydney's famed Bondi beach for the latest stop on their Australian tour.

Expectant Meghan put on a summer dress and set aside her high heels, while Harry ditched his usual suit for chinos as the couple lapped up cheers from Australian fans and enjoyed Bondi's surf.

Despite morning fog, the pair met local surfers enjoying winter swells and sat down on the sand for a long chat with leaders of the OneWave group, which focuses on helping people improve mental health by getting outdoors.

Signs screaming "G'day Harry and Meghan" greeted the royal couple, who have received a warm welcome from fans throughout the start of their 16-day Pacific tour.

"You hear people that met the Queen when she came here

(in 1954)" said 26-year-old fan Christopher Cundle, "and they are still talking about it now.

"I can easily see that that is one of the things I will be talking to my grandkids and future generations about. It was awesome."

While half of Australians oppose having British monarchs as head of state, and the vast majority of citizens have carried on with business as usual during the visit, there has been sizable support for the celebrity couple at every stop.

News that the Duchess of Sussex is pregnant has only made the crowds swell.

She is the favourite royal of 11-year-old schoolgirl Mya.

"I actually think it is amazing that she actually got to meet Harry and fall in love with him."

Amid a torrent of fawning press coverage declaring Meghan the "Queen of hugs" and the prince receiving "buckets of love," the Australian Republican Movement is putting on a brave face.

"The Duke and Duchess of Sussex are very welcome visitors" the group said at the start of the trip, pointedly adding that "Australians of all ages know the difference between this wonderful event and the questions of our nation's identity and future."

In a 1999 referendum, 55 per cent of Australians voted against replacing Queen Elizabeth II as head of state, although polls indicate support for republicanism has grown since then.

The opposition Labor party has promised a plebiscite on the issue if it wins a general election expected in 2019.

Later on Friday the prince strapped on a harness and scaled the Sydney Harbour Bridge to hoist a flag of the Invictus Games, a sports championship for wounded military personnel.

On Monday the pair will go to Queensland's Fraser Island, the world's largest sand island, before jetting off to Fiji, Tonga and New Zealand. —AFP ■



Britain's Prince Harry and his wife Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, talk to members of OneWave, an awareness group for mental health and wellbeing at Sydney's iconic Bondi Beach. **PHOTO: AFP**



A crest of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is seen 03 August 2007 inside the J. Edgar Hoover FBI Building in Washington. **PHOTO: AFP**

FBI leaker jailed for four years

WASHINGTON (United States) — A former FBI agent who leaked internal documents showing how the agency used racial profiling in counter-terror investigations was sentenced to four years in prison Thursday. In the third case this week to underscore the Trump administration's determined crackdown on media leaks, Terry Albury, a 17-year FBI veteran and son of an Ethiopian refugee, was ordered to prison for 48 months by a Minnesota judge after pleading guilty in the case.

"We are conducting perhaps the most aggressive campaign against leaks in department history," said Attorney General Jeff Sessions in a statement.

"Crimes like the one committed by the defendant in this case will not be tolerated -- they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and punished."

Albury was a special agent in the FBI Minneapolis field office in 2016 and 2017 when he leaked the agency's Domestic Investigations and Operations Guide to The Intercept.

The guide showed how the agency can use racial and religious profiling to target investigations, bend rules to infiltrate activist groups, and spy on jour-

nalists. Albury's lawyers said that, as the only black field agent in the Minneapolis office, he took note of racist attitudes inside his squad and how these made it more difficult to gain the trust of the large Somali-American community in the area -- which had sent a number of young men to join jihadist groups Al-Shabab and Islamic State as fighters.

Albury's lawyer insisted that he was not seeking to divulge secrets but to advance discourse "about how to maintain the delicate balance between freedom and security." "He was endeavoring to resolve what for him became an insurmountable moral conflict between his role as an FBI agent sworn to uphold the written law and his personal commitment to social justice and human rights," they said. Prosecutors however suggested that Albury had a vendetta against his employers and would have continued to leak secret documents. The sentence was handed down one day after federal agents announced the arrest of a Treasury official for leaking documents to BuzzFeed, an Intercept competitor, on money transfers involving key figures in the Russia election collusion probe. —AFP ■

Worker from non-Japanese firm wins welding contest in Indonesia

JAKARTA — A worker from an Indonesian company has come out top for the first time in a local welding contest previously dominated by employees of Japanese firms.

The third annual competition, hosted by Japanese fuel supplier Iwatani Corp. to contribute to economic development in the Southeast Asian country, also awarded international certificates to five participants whose work met the standards of the In-

ternational Institute of Welding.

"This is the first time the Professional Certification Institute has issued certificates at the competition," said Edi Diarman, executive director of the Indonesian Welding Society.

The certifying body, known as LSP, also plans to hold a similar contest on a national scale in the next two years to certify more Indonesian welders. Of the 150,000 Indonesians working in the trade, only 10,000 are cur-

rently certified.

"The Indonesian government requires workers to have a professional certificate. Therefore, LSP has a target to issue more than 800 certificates this year and 1,500 certificates next year," Edi said.

PT Iwatani Industrial Gas Indonesia, a local subsidiary of Iwatani, and the society announced the results of the 2018 welding contest in Jakarta on Wednesday. —Kyodo News ■



Mitsuhiro Tanimoto (l), president of Japanese fuel supplier Iwatani Corp., hands a trophy to the winner of an annual welding contest, Ramadhani Lutfi Muktafi, from PT. United Tractors Pandu Engineering in Jakarta on 17 October, 2018. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Study provides insight into how nanoparticles interact with biological systems

CHICAGO — U.S. researchers discovered that when certain coated nanoparticles interact with living organisms it results in new properties that cause the nanoparticles to become sticky. The impact on cells is not known.

Using experiments and computer simulations, a research team of Northwestern University (NU) chemists and colleagues from the national Center for Sustainable Nanotechnology studied polycation-wrapped gold nanoparticles and their interactions with a variety of bilayer mem-

brane models, including bacteria.

They found that a nearly circular layer of lipids forms spontaneously around the particles. These “fragmented lipid coronas” have never been seen before, according to the results published on Thursday in the journal *Chem*.

“The nanoparticles pick up parts of the lipid cellular membrane like a snowball rolling in a snowfield, and they become sticky,” said Franz M. Geiger, professor of chemistry in NU’s Weinberg College of Arts and

Sciences. “This unintended effect happens because of the presence of the nanoparticle. It can bring lipids to places in cells where lipids are not meant to be.”

By pairing spectroscopic and imaging experiments with atomistic and coarse-grain simulations, the researchers identified that ion pairing between the lipid head groups of biological membranes and the polycations’ ammonium groups in the nanoparticle wrapping leads to the formation of fragmented lipid coronas. —Xinhua ■

China-Iceland Arctic Science Observatory inaugurated in northern Iceland



Photo taken on 18 October, 2018 shows the China-Iceland Arctic Science Observatory located at Karholl, some 66 km east of Akureyri in northern Iceland. The China-Iceland Arctic Science Observatory was inaugurated and officially began operation on Thursday in northern Iceland. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

OSLO — The China-Iceland Arctic Science Observatory was inaugurated and officially began operation on Thursday in northern Iceland.

The observatory, which is located at Karholl, some 66 km east of Akureyri in northern Iceland, is a joint project by Chinese and

Icelandic research institutions to further the scientific understanding on Arctic phenomena.

Currently, the observatory can accommodate 15 people in a work/live facility for research on various scientific studies, such as aurora, atmosphere, glacier and remote sensing.

With some modifications, parts of the observatory can also be used for research in other scientific fields, such as oceanography, geophysics and biology.

In 2013, the Polar Research Institute of China (PRIC) and the Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNIS) decided to jointly build an aurora observatory.

The Chinese institute proposed in 2017 to upgrade the aurora observatory to the China-Iceland Arctic Science Observatory that will enable not just aurora observations, but also research on atmosphere, oceanography, glacier, geophysics, remote sensing and biology. The Icelandic side has voiced its full support for the proposal.

The Arctic observatory will help China in its polar research as the country has already set up four research stations in Antarctica and one Arctic research station on Svalbard, Norway. —Xinhua ■

Astronomers find remotest titanic cosmic structure in early Universe

WASHINGTON — Italian and American astronomers discovered a large structure in the early Universe, formed just two billion years after the Big Bang, according to a study published on Wednesday in the journal *Astronomy & Astrophysics*.

The galaxy proto-supercluster, nicknamed Hyperion, has been the largest and most massive structure yet found at such a remote time and distance.

Hyperion is the largest and most massive structure to be found so early in the formation of

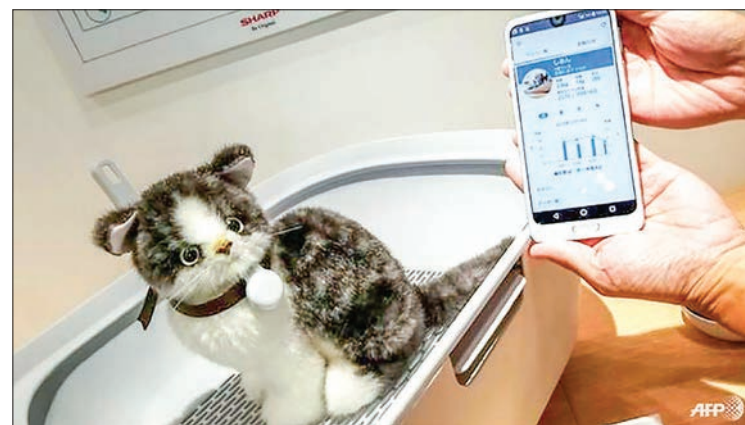
the Universe, or 11.5 billion years ago, with a calculated mass more than one million billion times that of the Sun, according to the study.

The team found that Hyperion had a very complex structure, containing at least seven high-density regions connected by filaments of galaxies.

“Superclusters closer to Earth tend to a much more concentrated distribution of mass with clear structural features,” said Brian Lemaux, project scientist at University of California, Davis.

“But in Hyperion, the mass is distributed much more uniformly in a series of connected blobs, populated by loose associations of galaxies,” said Lemaux.

Given its size so early in the history of the Universe, Hyperion is expected to evolve into something similar to the immense structures in the local Universe such as the superclusters making up the Sloan Great Wall or the Virgo Supercluster that contains our own galaxy, the Milky Way. —Xinhua ■



The sensors are not just for humans. **PHOTO: AFP**

Smell and stress sensors a smash at Tokyo tech fair

MAKUHARI (Japan) — State-of-the-art sensors that can measure stress levels, mood, posture, performance and even smell took centre stage at Asia’s top high-tech fair in Tokyo.

The big-screen TVs and entertainment systems that were all the rage 10 years ago at the CEATEC fair have gradually been replaced by tiny sensors that accurately measure the minutest facet of the human body — a Japanese speciality.

Electronics giant Panasonic showcased a prototype of an armchair that measures how much the user’s hands sweat along with the seating position and facial expressions via a camera, all to determine stress levels.

This could be useful for an airline pilot or long-distance truck driver for example but could also one day find its way into the workplace.

“You could imagine such a chair in the office and by combining the results with air conditioning and lighting levels, you could adjust the ambiance of the office to enable people to relax if necessary,” a Panasonic demonstrator said.

Components manufacturer Murata Manufacturing has pioneered a small device that is held for a minute between the thumb and forefinger to measure pulse rates and the nervous system.

“We are going to start selling this very soon to companies, so they can measure how stressed their employees are. Transport and taxi companies are especially interested,” said Takashi Hayashida, a spokesman for the firm.

Staff equipped with sensors could be under permanent surveillance to “improve their posture and productivity,” according to Japanese electronics firm TDK.

This also extends to the field of play, with Fujitsu demonstrating a 3D analytical system based on sensors to improve the performance of gymnasts.

Stress smells like onions

Sensors are also being put to work to improve healthcare — especially for the elderly, with nearly 28 percent of the Japanese population over 65.

Using a device created by hygiene firm Lion, patients worried about their teeth can flash a smile at a smartphone and send it to a specialised server that returns data on oral hygiene.

Housing equipment firm Lixil has developed a sensor for the bathtub that measures water temperature and key vital signs like pulse and body temperature in an attempt to reduce sudden bath deaths, which afflict more than 5,000 people annually in the country, 90 percent of them over 65. At the other end of the age scale, sensors are being deployed in a bid to ease labour shortages in kindergartens and creches.

Japan’s public New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization has developed a super-fine and sensitive film that can perform a host of functions related to childcare.

For example, placed in a cot, it can upload data to a computer showing whether a baby rolls onto its stomach or its temperature spikes — alerting an adult if necessary. “There is a staff shortage in creches. We need solutions to ease their task and enable them to watch over more children at a time,” said a demonstrator.

The same film can be used to determine how much and at what speed a meal is eaten — in a hospital or retirement home for example — by measuring the pressure applied on a table by a bowl or plate.

Of course, much effort is also devoted to matters that are less life and death, especially body odour, to which the Japanese are especially sensitive.

Cosmetics giant Shiseido recently commissioned a study to demonstrate that the odour given off by a person under stress smells like... onions. —AFP ■

Myanmar secures bronze in Jimo International Friendly Futsal Cup

MYANMAR national futsal team won in the third place of the Jimo International Friendly Futsal Cup by beating Qingdao Football Association Team (8-4) in Qingdao, the People's Republic of China (PRC) yesterday.

The goals for Myanmar were scored by Pyae Phyo Maung, Naing Lin Tun Kyaw, Kyaw Soe Moe, Aung Zin Oo and Nyein Min Soe. The win was secured in large part to the Myanmar keeper, who blocked multiple kicks on goal from the Chinese team, and the efforts

of Myanmar's brilliant players Pyae Phyo Maung and Naing Lin Tun Kyaw, who scored double goals in the match that ensured the Myanmar futsal team of third place of the tourney.

On the other side, Qingdao Chen Xi team won their championship title when they beat Shen Zhen FC 5-4 in the final match of the tournament.

Jimo International Futsal Cup 2018 was held in Zhonglain Lohas Park Sport Center in Qingdao from 16 to 19 October.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Myanmar national futsal team's head coach U Htay Myint (right) seen with a trophy in Qingdao, China yesterday. **PHOTO: MFF**



Judo athletes show their skills at a conclusion ceremony of Judo course in Yangon yesterday.

PHOTO: SAW THEIN WIN

Judo course concluded in Yangon

WITH the aim of promoting the judo sport in Myanmar, a judo course, under the arrangement of the Myanmar Judo Federation (MJF), was concluded in Insein, Yangon yesterday.

At the conclusion ceremony, chairperson of the Myanmar Judo Federation U Tun Tun, awarded certificates to the trainees who passed the judo course.

A total of 33 interestees attended the judo course.

There are varieties of belts

in Judo and they are green belt, yellow belt and brown belt, black belt said a judo trainer.

The Myanmar Judo Federation was founded in 1958. The sport originated in Myanmar in 1941 with the effort of 30 men (Thirty Comrades) who went for military training in Japan, he added.

Judo was created as a physical, mental and moral pedagogy in Japan, in 1882, by Jigoro Kano. It is generally categorized

as a modern martial art which later evolved into a combat and Olympic sport.

Its most prominent feature is its competitive element, where the objective is to either throw or takedown an opponent to the ground, immobilize or otherwise subdue an opponent with a pin, or force an opponent to submit with a joint lock or a choke according to the Japan Judo Federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Shaw puts 'odd four years' behind him to sign new five-year Manchester United deal

LONDON (United Kingdom) — England left-back Luke Shaw believes he can be a catalyst for a turnaround in Manchester United's fortunes after signing a new five-year contract with the Premier League giants on Thursday.



England left-back Luke Shaw. **PHOTO: AFP**

Shaw, 23, was in the final year of the deal he signed four years ago when joining from Southampton as the world's most expensive teenager at the time.

However, his time at Old Trafford has been blighted by a horrific leg break in 2015 that forced him to consider retiring and public criticism from United manager Jose Mourinho.

"It's been an odd four years for me," admitted Shaw.

"There have been ups and downs. From signing today now it's all about looking forward and to how much I can help the team and become a success again.

"If you look at my situation in the last year and a bit, you'd have thought this could have been impossible. But I worked hard, I wanted to be here and I wanted to make sure my future was here to help this club."

Shaw has been rewarded for an excellent start to the season personally despite a difficult time for Mourinho's men as a team. — AFP ■

Pochettino happy with Spurs squad despite no signings

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino has no regrets over failing to add to his squad in the close season, saying his team's impressive start to the Premier League campaign justifies the decision.

Spurs, who became the first side not to make a summer signing since the transfer window was established, have equalled their best-ever start in the Premier League, with 18 points from eight games.

Chairman Daniel Levy hinted this week in a meeting with the Tottenham fans that he was content with the club's summer activity and Pochettino agreed with him.

"It was difficult to achieve the player we needed," Pochettino said. "That was impossible. I was happy and am happy with the squad that I have, 25 players.

"We have no regrets, we are happy. When we started the season with three games that we won and we were up at the top of the table people were talking in a different way, 'Oh how clever are Tottenham because they keep all the squad from last season'.

"After we lost some games all the alarms started to make a big impact in the perception. But I need to remind every-

one that this is our best start after eight games, it is the best start in the Premier League for Tottenham."

Tottenham resume their Premier League campaign with a trip across London to West Ham on Saturday and Pochettino's injury problems appear to be easing.

Midfielders Christian Eriksen and Mousa Dembele are fit again but Dele Alli, Danny Rose and Jan Vertonghen are still missing.

"It was a good time for us (the international break) because we are going to recover a few players like Christian and Mousa Dembele," Pochettino said.

"Still maybe 10 days more for Dele Alli and Danny Rose is the same, one week more. Jan Vertonghen is a little bit longer.

"But the most important thing is that we start to recover players. It will be a tough month of competition for us." — AFP ■

Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino says he is happy with the make-up of his squad. **PHOTO: AFP**

