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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 11 December 2017



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu coordinates storage and sale of paddy in Maungtaw District. PHOTO: NAY WIN TUN PHOTO: NAY WIN TUN

Work under way to put Maungtaw into national grid system

MAUNGTAW in northern Rakhine State which is recovering from the wounds of conflicts will be inclusive in the national grid next year, according to a district official.

Currently two diesel generators are supplying power to 1872 households in Maungtaw which has over 4000 households. If the town is connection with the national grid, all the households will get power. Villages including ethnic villages are receiving power for two hours every day from the two generators – a 1000-KVA generator and a 500-KVA generator. Apart from the two under operation the town has three reserve generators with capacities 500-KVA, 400-KVA and 300-KVA respectively.

The Ministry of Electricity and Energy is supplying power for nine hours a day after the October 2016 incident, Works have been started to supply power to 15 villages in Maungtaw Township and 11 villages in Buthidaung Township totaling 26 from the national grid.

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## Maungtaw sells up to 50,000 baskets of paddy to this date

CHIEF Minister of Rakhine State U Nyi Pu during his field tour facilitated the transfer of harvested paddy to winnowing stations in Maungtaw District yesterday.

First the chief minister and party inspected the use

of mechanized harvesters of Agricultural Mechanization Department-AMD at a village in Yathedaung Township and the buyers transporting the rice.

They looked into the requirements in preparing to transport the harvested paddy

in a number of villages and stressed the need to transfer the products soonest to the buyers.

Maungtaw District has sold up to 50,000 baskets of paddy harvested by AMD and packed by Agriculture Department to

Rakhine Rice Company.

At their meeting with ethnic peoples in Inndin village monastery, the chief minister sought opportunities to create farming and fishery businesses in the district. —Zeya Myint Maung ■



**BEST BANK IN MYANMAR**

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## Buddhist missionary presents provisions for monks

A Buddhist missionary in Yangon offered rice and other provisions for 1053 members of the Sangha in commemoration of the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sixth Buddhist Synod in Kaba Aye of the commercial city yesterday.

Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Obhasa administered the Five Precepts, followed by the recitation of Parittas by the monks.

The main sponsor of the donation ceremony Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kusala explained the purpose of the donation. The congregation including Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko presented the offertories to the monks.

The Buddhist missionary



Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko accepts donation from a Buddhist missionary to Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

presented K 20 million as a health trust fund for Sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nay-

aka Committee and K 30 million for other purposes including hill missionary services.

Then the provisions were presented.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Dr Win Myat Aye surveys construction site for rehabilitation center

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye surveyed the plot near December Thiri Gahar Housing yesterday afternoon to build a rehabilitation center.

Assistant director U Aung Zaw Myint of Urban and Housing Development explained coordinated measures for land survey, demarcation, road pav-

ing and fencing.

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is launching rehabilitation program for abandoned infants and mothers, victims of child molestation, child tramps, baggers, female victims of violence, and victims of human trafficking, the vulnerable aged, and the disabled enabling them to rejoin the society with

dignity, enjoy human rights and pursue an independent life.

Then, the ministry is also planning to open the vocational training schools and create job opportunities in cooperation with private entrepreneurs.

Similarly, the ministry is trying to develop the socio-economic lives of the citizens in

cooperation with related ministries by protecting the vulnerable including minors, women, elder persons, persons with disabilities from any kind of harm or dangers.

The Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center will be built on a 50-acre plot near December Thiri Gayhar Housing, east Dagon, Yangon.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Pyay in Bago Region introduces sugar-cane harvester

Pyay in Bago Region introduced a 380-horsepower Brazilian made sugar-cane harvester at the sugar-cane field of Shwe Pyi Myay Co.Ltd, yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, Bago Region Agriculture and Livestock Minister U Aung Zaw Naing pointed out the need to extend sugarcane plantation in Bago Region as it put only 27000 acres under the crop out of a total of 3.3 million acres. The country is taking legal measures for joint-venture business operations amidst the overtures foreign investments in the sector. Currently sugarcane plantation is through collective system, and the arranging the flow if capital for farmers.

The sugarcane harvester which is a type of Case A 8,000 can harvest about 200 tonnes of sugarcane per day, at a



A Brazilian made sugar-cane harvesting machine was introduced in Pyay of Bago Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

COST OF 8,000 kyats per ton. The machine can help increase yield as it can harvest the plant from its roots.

Officials from Bago regional government and departmental officials, Business Director from Caw New Holland Industry,

Officials from Shwe Pyi Myay Co.Ltd and invited person attended the ceremony.—Thant Zin Win ■

## The Hluttaw Developmental Fund allotted to village officials in Mawlaik Township

A ceremony to present Ks 100 million of the Hluttaw Developmental Fund was held at the meeting room of the General Administration Department in Mawlaik Township, Sagaing Region on 9 December afternoon.

At the ceremony, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Maung Win made an opening speech and the Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Daw Cho Cho Win explained allocation of the funds. Afterwards, the lawmakers and the township administrator presented the funds to the representatives of the village development committee from 29 village-tracts.

Developmental Fund will be spent on implementation of 39 development plans throughout the township.—Mawlaik Tharlay ■

## Chin State Hluttaw Speaker meets locals in Tiddim Township

Accompanied by the Chin State Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Mining, the Speaker of Chin State Hluttaw U Zo Bwe held a meeting with the town elders, members of township management committee and development affairs committee, representatives from political parties, INGO and CSO and local people at the meeting room of the General Administration Department in Tiddim, Chin State on 9 December.

At the meeting, the Chin State Hluttaw Speaker urged those present to carry out regional developmental tasks in joining hands with the government and local people, upholding the public interest in the fore. The chairman of Township Management Committee and a town elder reported on basic requirements for regional developmental tasks and the Chin State Speaker gave clarifications.—Nay Su (Chin Yoma) ■

## Senior General visits Nepal for promoting relations between two countries

At the invitation of Chief of Army Staff of the Nepali Army, Gen. Ranjendra Chhetri, a delegation led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services departed for Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal from Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Senior General and party arrived at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal yesterday afternoon and were welcomed by Nepal's Chief of Staff Lt.Gen Heman-

ta Kunwar and wife, Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal U Tun Nay Lin and wife, Myanmar Military Attaché(Army, Navy and Air) Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and wife and other responsible officials at the international Airport.

In the afternoon, the Senior General and party were accorded a guard-of-honour welcome by the Chief of Army Staff of the Nepali Army.

Then, in the meeting hall, the Senior General and the Chief of Army Staff of the Nepali Army



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives the guard-of-honour welcome in Nepal. PHOTO: MNA

discussed the exchange of bilateral goodwill military visits and trainees and promotion of friend-

ly ties between the two armed forces. After that, the Senior General and party laid wreath

at Bir Smarak memorial to heroes in Army Pavillion, Tundikh. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Workers transporting concrete beams for installation of a power line in Maungtaw District. PHOTO: NAY WIN TUN AND HANLIN NAING

### Work under way to put Maungtaw...

#### FROM PAGE-1

Currently over 400 gallons of diesel are being burnt every day to supply power to Maungtaw, said the official.

A 66-KVA power line has

been erected in Ponnagyun, Yathedaung, Buthedaung and Maungtaw for electrifying the whole Maungtaw District. —Nay Win Tun and Hanlin Naing ■

## Myanmar to attend 1st Solar Scouts Jamboree Festival

12 member Myanmar Scout Delegation led Thiha Senior Scout U Aye Kyaw, U Tin Maung Latt, U Myint Sein and Daw Thit Thit of Myanmar Scout Association left for Thailand yesterday morning to attend "The 1st Solar Scouts Jamboree" festival. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by National Chief Scout Dr. Tin Nyo Chairman of Myanmar Scout Committee and Senior Scout.

The 1st Solar Scouts Jamboree" festival under the title "Let's save energy for a better World" will be held from 11 to 15 December at Vajiravudh Camp in Thailand.

15000 scouts of Thailand, 100 scouts from international Scout Federations including Myanmar will take part in the



The 12 member team of the Myanmar Scout Delegation seen before their departure for Thailand at the Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

event. At the Event, representatives will hold discussions under three titles "Solar for Life", "Solar for Health" and Solar for Environment" will make practical activities.

They will also attend the Birthday ceremony of Thai King' Daughter.

Myanmar Scout representatives will share their experiences and knowledge with young Myanmar scouts in the interest of the people for launching mass movements towards a better world through energy saving measures. —Myanmar Scout Association ■

## Ferries ready for Literary Conference 2017



People waiting in front of Yangon's City Hall for ferries to travel to the Literary Festival. PHOTO: ZAR NI MAUNG

TRANSPORT will be arranged for the would-be participants of the Literary Conference 2017 at Myanmar Convention Centre in Yangon from 13 to 16 this month.

Ferries will leave the gathering point in front of the City Hall for two times at 8 am and 8.15 am.

Held under the theme — free voice, free literature — the conference starts at 9.45 am and ends at 5 pm daily.

"A Literary conference is not just for the men and wom-

en of letters. It is a forum that calls for the participation of the entire people who love books. It is an occasion people should come and listen. So we arrange transport for all interested persons. There will be three stopovers along the way — Myenigon, Hledan and 9th-Mile, said," writer Daw Thanda Khin.

The conference will be welcomed by literary talks, poem recitations, fun fairs and games in front of the city hall from 8 am to 11 pm daily between 8 and 12

of this month.

Meanwhile the third day of the pre-literary conference saw a large number of people enjoying the talks given by prominent writers.

The conference will involve 50 round-table literary talks by over 200 men and women of letters in six parts including periods for public participation. Over 700 writers, poets, cartoonists, publishers and international literati will take part in it.—Aye Min Thu ■

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able to publish "Letter to the Editor"  
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you submit a text longer than 500 words  
please be aware that your letter will be  
edited.

## Areca nut exports to India continue to decline

INDIA imported US\$0.569 million worth of areca nut weighing about 700 tonnes from Myanmar in the week between 18 and 24 November through border points of entry, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar-India border exports of areca nut continue to decline. According to border traders, the country exported more than 1,200 tonnes of similar products to its second largest neighbouring country from the Tamu and Reed border gates in the previous week before 18 November.

This week saw a significant decrease in export of areca nut from the two cross-borders. The country exported \$0.068 million worth of areca nuts weighing 77 tonnes through Tamu border station and 622 tonnes of those nuts worth \$0.501 million from Reed border gate within the aforementioned week.

In addition, other com-



Women workers preparing areca nut for export. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

modities including 15 tonnes of cigarette worth \$0.486 million was also exported from the Republic of India at the Tamu border gate, whereas the coun-

try exported 94 tonnes of food, cigarettes, clothes and blankets through the Reed border gate, earning \$0.288 million.

About 150,000 acres of areca

nut plantation have been cultivated in the country, particularly in Taninthayi and Ayeyawady regions, and Mon State.

—Khin Khant ■

## Income from sugar re-export drops this FY from late cut-off date for re-export licence

EARNINGS from re-export of sugar from 1st April to 24th November this FY was down by US\$316 million compared to similar period of last FY because cut-off date September 22 for re-export licence is late when there was abundant stock in the market.

Additionally, Myanmar's merchants have to deal with the problems like China's con-

fiscation on the imported sugar as China is considering this trade as illegitimate.

Myanmar re-exported more than 16,920 tons of sugar to China through Muse gate during the week of 18-24 November and the volume was up by 3,883 tons compared to that of previous week. In the similar period, re-export of sugar through Chinshwehaw

checkpoint showed decrease of 920 tons against last week.

During that week, Muse depot gave sugar price Ks40,000 a ton more than last week's price, with China's purchase price increasing from 3,940 to 4,140 Yuan, according to the news recently released by the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar's merchants import sugar mostly from Thai-

land and India and also from Brazil, Qatar and UAE and then it is re-export to China through Sino-Myanmar checkpoint as Myanmar sugar millers are unable to produce quality sugar which meets export criteria for the lack of advanced refining machinery. About 2 million tons of sugar is annually traded under re-export system.

— Ko Khant ■

## Twelve foreign investment proposals seeking MIC approval with capitals of US\$650 mil

TWELVE foreign enterprises have submitted their investment proposals to Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) with capitals of about US\$650 million, according to a report of Myawady Daily last Saturday.

U Aung Naing Oo, the director-general of the Directorate of Investments and Company Administration (DICA) said that 12 foreign businesses are seeking approval from MIC to be engaged in manufacturing, real estate, livestock and

fishery, mining, electricity and service sectors.

In addition to foreign enterprises, 16 domestic companies also submitted proposals to MIC with estimated investments of Ks236 billion.

According to new Myanmar Investment Law, region and state DICA offices are authorized to give approval to investment proposals with capital of not more than \$5 million. Land lease are also permitted from regional office. In addi-

tion, there is also tax relief for investments depending on the set investment zone.

Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) is conducting to disclose actual amount of foreign direct investments every three months in an attempt to have transparency in the record, based on MIC's report, statistics of the Central Bank of Myanmar and Myanmar Customs' import data.

During the past three months July to September, the

actual amount of Foreign Direct Investment for 2017-2018 financial year was US\$2.8 billion whereas the amount approved by Myanmar Investment Commission was over US\$4 billion.

Another three-month investment data from October to December will be unveiled. The report will be continued to release until March 2018.

The figure will be released on official website of MIC and media and social network. — GNLM ■



Prof Dr Aung Tun Thet sharing knowledge at the UMFCCI Convention 2017. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

## UMFCCI to submit 17-point suggestion from its convention to government

May Thet Hnin

A 17-point suggestion from the UMFCCI Convention 2017 will be submitted to the government, according to Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI). The UMFCCI held the convention at its headquarters in Yangon on December 9 for the first time after 25 years. The first convention took place in 1992. Prof Dr Aung Tun Thet, advisor of the UMFCCI, said the main aim of this activity is to let government listen to the voices of private entrepreneurs.

The 17-point suggestion includes creating a close cooperation with government in developing the country's economy; close collaboration between member organisations of the UMFCCI reach development that will be beneficial to all business entities; creating a strong link with other regional international chambers of commerce and development partners; and encouraging works in accordance with the SCR, UN Global compact and business for peace.

The suggestion also urges the government to ensure the emergence of a better economic

environment and genuine cooperation between the government and the private; to effectively carry out the strategic use of agreements of the AEC 2018 one-belt-one-road (OBOR), (look East-Act East) policy and the country's geographical location; and to ensure the realization of digital economy.

The UMFCCI also urges the authorities to support economic extension policy for home and abroad and the free and fair commercial policy, to encourage innovation of young entrepreneurs and to effectively take actions against illegal trans-border trade. Currently, the government is working to promote the role of private sector. The government will create an enabling environment while respective entrepreneurs will help support the smooth operation of markets, said Deputy Commerce Minister U Aung Htoo. "The duty of the government is to enforce rule of law. It also has a duty to fulfill public goods such as water, electricity and road transport facilities, and all development facilities that would help support the implementation of market-oriented system,"

he continued. The Myanmar's future economic growth banks on the development of private sector. The private sector development committee led by the Vice-President U Myint Swe monthly holds discussions with entrepreneurs to deal with difficulties. The collaborative efforts are being made between the government and private sector to reach a desired rank on the list of doing business index, said U Zaw Min Win, president of the UMFCCI, who believes that the government will consider the suggestion from the 2017 convention. U Myint, an economist, said: "I believe State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi can revive the country's economy. It needs clearly announce the fact that economic sector is put on the first priority list along with peace-making process, to draft an economic strategy agreeable to all stakeholders, to exchange views with members of economic committee, economic advisors and Union/state and region-level officials frequently and strive for the revival of economy under the leadership of the State Counsellor after seeking expert advices." ■

## Import of consumer goods increases by over \$500 million

MYANMAR's import of consumer products in the current fiscal year topped US\$2.9 billion, an increase of \$542 million against the same period of last year, according to official figures released by the Commerce Ministry. Over the past nine months, the private sector bought \$2.8 billion worth of

similar goods to foreign trade partners, while the imports of the government was valued at \$106 million. The country's total import value as of 1st December exceeded \$12 billion, including \$4.3 billion worth of capital goods and \$4.8 billion worth of intermediate materials. The figures are \$2.2 billion more than that

of the similar period of last financial year. According to the ministry's statistics, the country earned a total of \$9.361 billion from overseas exports this FY. In order to reduce the growing trade deficits, the government is finding the best solutions in cooperation with private businesspersons.—Swe Nyein ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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

**"Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပို (၈) မျက်နှာပါဝင်သည်**

<p><b>နေပြည်တော်</b> ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၇) နေပြည်တော်၊ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊ ဝိမ္မာရော့ဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၄၁၂၁၀၈</p> <p><b>နေပြည်တော်</b> နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)၊ ဝေယျာသီရိမြို့နယ်၊ ခရောင်လမ်း၊ နေပြည်တော်၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၂၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇၂၆၁၂၉</p> <p><b>ရန်ကင်း</b> The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၅၊ ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၁၀၆၀၅၅၂၊ ၀၉၉၇၄၄၂၄၁၁၄</p> <p><b>မန္တလေး</b> လမ်း (၂၀ x ၂၀) ကြား၊ (၈၂ x ၈၃) လမ်းကြား၊ မုလဲခွေရောင်ရမ်း၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၇၂၉၂၊ ၀၂၃၇၅၀၀</p> <p><b>တောင်ကြီး</b> ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၁၂၁၁၆၄၊ ၀၉၅၂၁၄၄၅၇</p> <p><b>မကွေး</b> နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈) တပ်နယ်ရေးအနီး၊ မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂</p> <p><b>တိုင်းတော်</b> မြို့ပေါ် (၃-၀) အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊ မြို့ပတ်လမ်း၊ ကျိုင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၄၉၂</p>	<p><b>တလေး</b> အောင်ဇေယျရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၀၃၃</p> <p><b>မြင်းကြီးများ</b> အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ရေခဲရပ်ကွက်၊ အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊ မြင်းကြီးများမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၄၂၂၄၆၂</p> <p><b>စစ်တွေ</b> ရွှာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊ မီးစက်ကြီးအနီး၊ မန်ကျည်းမြိုင်ရပ်ကွက်၊ စစ်တွေမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈</p> <p><b>လားရှိုး</b> ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း (၁၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ဆူဘုရားရွာ၊ အဝေရလမ်း၊ လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၂၄၀၆၇</p> <p><b>ခြောက်</b> မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းရောင်းရမ်း၊ ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊ ခြောက်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၀၃၃</p> <p><b>မော်လမြိုင်</b> ကြာအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၂၆</p> <p><b>မုံရွာ</b> နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတာဝါတိုင်အနီး၊ မုံရွာမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၅၊ ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၃</p>
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Myanmar is in progress in extending destinations as tourism is a promising business. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

## New tour destination to be created between Inle Lake and Loikaw

A new tour on boat will be created between Loikaw, Kayah State and Inle Lake, Shan State in cooperation with the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and inbound tour companies, according to a report from Myawady Daily.

Maintenance to strengthen retaining wall of Moe Bye dam constructed on the Balu creek in Kayah State and water route plan are being implemented.

It is 20 years that a water route between Inle Lake and Loikaw were shut down its operation due to the weakening retaining wall of Moe Bye Dam.

Those walls were repaired last year and now they are strong enough to be closed and opened. Therefore, water trip plan can resume there again.

Last year, Kayah State hosted more than 16,000 local trippers and over 6,000 tourists. More than 23,000 local travelers and over 6,500 tourists have visited Kayah State this year so far.

Upon the completion of this tour plan, more visitors are likely to enter the state through Inle Lake, one of the famous tourist attractions in Myanmar. — GNLM ■

## New project aims to benefit over 40 villages in Thaton Township

A NEW plan is underway to carry out regional development tasks throughout Thaton, a township in Mon State, which is expected to directly benefit more than 40 villages, according to a report of the Myawady Daily.

This is part of the rural development programmes of Mon State with the aim of reducing transportation barriers, establishing a complete water supply system and improving the socio-economic status of residents.

Mon State government has approved a Ks300 million budget to carry out the projects, including construction of water facilities, paving new roads and extending the town's old roads, for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Under the new plan, all development tasks must be finalised before the end of March 2018.

The state government will grant 50 per cent of the total cost in the initial stage to the respective ward/township

committees.

U Thein Win, head of Thaton Township General Administration Department, said that there are a lot of town development projects.

Because of budget limitations, priority will be given to the projects which are actually needed to implement. Authorities have already inspected areas prior to the new development schemes. The rest will be developed next fiscal year.— GNLM ■

## Dispute between employer and employees decrease this year

DISPUTE between employer and employee has decreased significantly this year compared with the previous years, according to a report of the Myawady Daily.

U Maung Maung, chairman of the Confederation of the Trade Unions-Myanmar, said almost 100 labour disputes including individual disputes were completely resolved in 2014-2015 financial year. The figures dropped to about 30 this year.

The number of labour strike has notably decreased this year. Despite a drop in the number of labour protests, some employers

fail to abide by the arbitration council's decisions and the labour law. Workers have yet to fully enjoy the rights enshrined in the labour law as there is no a clear-cut labour policy.

Negotiation approach is better than disputes for employers and employees, said an official of Myanmar Industrial Craft and Service Trade Union Federation.

Over five years, workers have chances to form labour organizations independently. These organizations can help in solving labour disputes. Last year, the number of labour disputes hit a record high.—GNLM ■

## Police search for mobile phone theft

POLICE say they are investigating the theft of mobile phones from Academy Link Mobile Phone Store in Indaw Township in Sagaing Region.

Hein Htet Oo, staff of the store, firstly found that the main door of the shop was destroyed by fire and immediately informed it to his boss.

Owner U Aung Lwin Oo confirmed 32 handsets worth more than Ks3.5 million were stolen while his mobile phone store located at Sipin Housing on Myakantha Street in Indaw Township was burgled on Saturday night.

Investigation is being made by township police in an effort to people in



**PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

connection with the case who will face legal charges under the existing Penal Code.—Maung Chit Lin ■

## Over 55 tonnes of illegal teak, hardwood seized in Bago Region in one week

MORE than 55 tonnes illegal teak and hardwood have been confiscated from traffickers across Bago Region in the first week of this month, arresting four traffickers, according to the region forestry department.

Between 1 and 7 December, the region forest authorities seized two trucks loaded with 14 tonnes of teak and over ten tonnes of hardwood in Bago District; nine tonnes of teak, other nine tonnes of hardwood and 160 tonnes of charcoal in a motor vessel in Taungoo District; and 0.228 tonnes of teak in Thayawaddy District and four tonnes of teak and six tonnes of hardwood in Pyay District.



**PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

According to the official statistics, the forest authorities seized more than 2,900 tonnes of illegal teak and hardwoods and 337 vehicles from January and November of this year, arrested 501 people connecting with illegal smuggling of the forest product.—Kyemon ■

# Interviews with Myanmar's entrepreneurs and the future of innovation

THE 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association Summit was held on 9 December at the Myanmar Convention Center -2 in Nay Pyi Taw. Some of the pioneering youths and the Chairman of the Myanmar Innovators Association sat down for interviews.

U Tun Tun Naing (Chairman of the Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association)

Our association was officially formed on June 2012. Myanmar business economy is developing and our objective is to prepare for a future with innovation as the cultural norm. We want to support young people to become successful. Associations like ours had already sprung up internationally 30 years ago and there are quite a few in ASEAN as well. We are also a member of the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Association which is made up of 10 other countries.

The first summit was held in 2016 and there we highlighted six systems necessary for young entrepreneurs. That project is estimated to take 2 years and only when it's completed will young entrepreneurs in Myanmar receive support from the government.



Dr. Theingi Win (Founder and Business development director, Global Assistance Co.Ltd)

Some policies and laws prevent themselves as obstacles for young entrepreneurs while a lack of certain laws means there is no security for them. A Competition Policy is needed because even though it's an open market, an elephant and a goat aren't equal competitors. There also needs to be a policy for the government to allot a fixed budget to startup enterprises.

Myanmar has a good standing both geographically and resource-wise and it is also surrounded by efficient neighboring countries. Together, we make up two thirds of the world's economy. I believe if we had the capacity and capabilities then our country could develop quite quickly.



Ko Pone Nya (Social Entrepreneur)

I want to tell all the budding entrepreneurs and business owners in Myanmar that our country's economy is in our hands; we cannot depend on external entities to support us all the way.

Dr Theingi Win (Founder and Business development director, Global Assistance Co.Ltd)

Our company is focused on medical services and packages. We have a modernized clinic in New Bagan City for both expats and local citizens.

We have plans to establish more clinics in other areas and probably one in Inlay next year. One of our services is planning medical trips to Bangkok and



U Tun Tun Naing (Chairman of the Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association)

Singapore for patients via various airlines.

I used to work in a hospital and there I saw a lot of requirements for medical tours.

I established this company to meet those requirements and to help develop the health sector in the country. I believe I received this award (at the summit) for providing satisfactory services to local clinic and people in Bagan.

There are many people who want to do a startup but they need a strong financial background and good plans for sustainability. I was able to grow my company to its current state within two years despite the challenges for a female entrepreneur.

Ko Pone Nya (Social Entrepreneur)

I started a startup some time ago for collecting waste products and using the profits from that to fund causes for children's education. At first it was a volunteering project but for future sustainability and expansion, I switched over to a kind of social enterprise. Currently we making these innovative garbage collectors that can be installed in houses, offices and schools. They're kind of like a storage space for waste that can be sold or donated for recycling efforts. It's my belief that for our country to develop we must employ new, innovative ideas to speed up development. I believe I got this award from MYEA for my innovation and this is a great morale boost for us. The future for us innovators and entrepreneurs is uncertain since many of the fields we are working in have new challenges never faced before. You need an unwavering dedication to succeed in your dreams. You need to take care of your health and keep researching and learning new technologies.

A message I want to give to young people is 'Innovate'. Try to be an inventor and an innovator and seize your accomplishments.—Myanmar News Agency

## Myanmar wins award at a Southeast Asian video festival

A contestant from Myanmar won an award for a children's film at the South East Asia Prix Jeunesse Video Festival (SEAPJ)'s national and regional level competitions held in Manila, Philippines. The event was broadcasted on MRTV (Yangon) TV channel yesterday.

The contestant Ma Kyaw Hnin Si won the Regional level award for her video clip "Let fragrance of ThaNaKha be lasted forever" in the category for Professional Video Maker (Fiction). SEAPJ focuses on showcasing films made to educate young people between the ages of 8 and 17 years old and included contestants from 10 ASEAN countries.

Ma Kyaw Hnin Si said her video clip was a documentary for raising awareness for underage rape cases. "When I was in Myanmar, I was quite confident that my video clip would be selected,"



Ma Kyaw Hnin Si, who won the Professional Video Maker (Fiction) award for her video clip "Let fragrance of ThaNaKha be lasted forever", accepts an award from MRTV Director General U Myint Htwe. PHOTO: KHIN MAUNG WIN (THE MIRROR)

said Ma Kyaw Hnin Si. "But when I arrived in the Philippines I saw the other contestant's films and I became nervous. If I didn't get any awards it was going to be embarrassing returning to Myanmar so I'm thrilled I won an award," she said.

The SEAPJ contest was divided into three categories

for professional video makers, amateur video makers above 18 and amateur video makers under 18. This was also the first time contestants from Myanmar entered the contest in the Philippines. The SEAPJ is open to contestants of all ages and next year it will be held in Singapore. —Khin Zarli

## 11<sup>th</sup> Mandalay Open Chess Championship continues in Mandalay

THE Mandalay Region Chief Minister's Trophy Inter-Township Chess Tournament and the 11<sup>th</sup> Mandalay Open Chess Championship kicked off at the Bahtoo Gymnasium in Mandalay on 5 December.

Aungmyethazan Township stood first in the Mandalay Region Chief Minister's Trophy Inter-Township Chess Tournament, followed by Amarapura Township and Meikhtila Township. 11<sup>th</sup>

Mandalay Open Chess Tournament continued at the same venue this morning.

President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin, Vice-President U Win Aung and Secretary of Mandalay Region Chess Sub-committee U Ne Win enjoyed the event.

A total of 99 athletes are taking part in the chess contest.—Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

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National roadmap that education will bring about!

At the Seminar on Implementation of Educational Development [Basic Education Sector] State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi expressed her expectations that Education can give, at length. The State Counsellor pointed out that we, the People, can liberate ourselves from poverty and work for the emergence of tranquility, freedom and rule of law, by eradicating the instability and differences through education. And, it was also highlighted that we could not only build up our country into a more consolidated, peaceful and highly developed nation but also bring about valuation, admiration and conservation of traditional culture of national ethnic races, through education.

To sum it up, the State Counsellor's address shows us that education can improve the socio-economic situation of every citizen so that all of us can live comfortable lives.

Children must be taught to know the country's history as well as world history.

The State Counsellor's instruction is to be applied not only in educational reform but also in reforming all other sectors of our country.

The State Counsellor's statement that children must be taught to know the country's history as well as world history, and also that they should have general knowledge about their homes, societies and the environment, not only their school lessons.

We feel that this point should be taken seriously by all teaching staff. The State Counsellor clarified that the Ministry of Education has been implementing educational transformations— access to higher learning, promoting educational qualifications, curriculum and syllabus, assessment of by examination, teaching methodology and reforms on educational management.

This really underscores the national commitment of the Union Government for transformation of the education sector. Finally, we would like to say that the State Counsellor's address, "Likewise teaching staff, students and parents should take part in fulfilling their respective qualifications," is the road map for the emergence of a bright future for our country which will see all-round development.

Physical development is important but equally important is educating our youths and future generations the importance of living in peaceful co-existence with people of different races and belief systems. The ability to live in harmony and understanding is the mark of a highly developed civilization. ■

# Dreaming Corruption Free Myanmar

Htun Tin Htun

DREAMING is important for all mankind to make a progress in peace, prosperity, happiness and liberty for the people of this planet in order to live with justice, law and order, peaceful co-existence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty. Red tape is the one of the root causes for bribery and corruption which may hinder the economic development and progress in any country. Efficiency of the capacity and intelligence of law enforcement forces as well as good and dutiful media are of great importance in helping to prevent and protect the corruption of government departments/ institutions/ corporations/enterprises in cooperation and partnership with the public. Ability is of little account without opportunity and the land of Pagodas is the land of Opportunities to develop and boost its economy through the peoples' active involvement and participation in combating the worst disease of bribery and corruption. Man matters most and mindset of the people in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar needs to be changed and improved in the reduction and eradication of bribery and corruption which is man-made disease based on the selfish greed, envy and niggardliness. Inter- and intra-Ministerial cooperation, collaboration and coordination needs to be built and enhanced to exchange the information and disclosures of the financial and operational information to make available to the public is of paramount importance for transparency and accountability. Nothing is impossible to the Ministry and its departments/enterprises with wish-to-do, work-hard, will and wisdom and therefore these qualities need to be improved through the capacity building initiatives. Good governance (Transparency, Accountability, Participation and Consensus, Efficiency & Effectiveness, Rule of Law) can truly make the society/government corruption free and equitable.

Corruption is defined as dishonest or illegal behavior, especially of people in power and authority. Countries free from corruption, bribery and malpractice are difficult to find these days. Cases of bribery and corruption may be found in many countries, the only difference being



Anti-corruption commission chairman U Aung Kyi welcomes NMC member Veteran journalist U Ohn Kyaing in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

that the extent of involvement may be large in some countries and small in others. Capacity of the Hluttaw (Legislation), the Jurisdiction (all Courts) and all Ministries (the Government) is of crucial importance in making check and balance efficiently and

of the cessation of the sufferings and sorrows of our lives. Unity is strength and strength lies within the body (country) and outside the body (country) and therefore strengthening the solidarity for the building of Myanmar free from corruption is our noble and

to be undertaken such selfish egoists from our societies/communities. It has been learnt that our country's corruption index is very high for many years and the time has now come to reduce and eradicate bribery and corruption through community-based action. One by one, moment by moment, little by little we must strive to reduce and eradicate this bribery and corruption in our society. No one is above the law and it must be noted that not only those who take bribes but also the ones who give bribes need to be arrested and punished.

Fear to do evil is one of the principles of guarding the mankind as well as the planet so that bribery and corruption is one of the worst evils made by man and therefore we all are responsible

### Prevention is better than cure is of great importance not only in the health care and improvement but also in the reduction and eradication of bribery and corruption in our country.

effectively in order to prevent and protect bribery and corruption in the country. Obedient staff in all organizations should cooperate in these measures of prevention and protection of bribery and corruption in their surroundings through the mass education whenever and wherever they discharge their duties in their duty station. Responsible businesses are also play a critical role in building corruption free country in order to avoid any action to persuade the government authority to obtain a favour especially in procurement, tendering, contracting and licensing processes. Right understanding, right thought, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration is to be learned and practiced not only for the attainment of supreme bliss but also for the day-to-day practice

national duty. Prevention is better than cure is of great importance not only in the health care and improvement but also in the reduction and eradication of bribery and corruption in our country (according to survey conducted by an overseas institution in 2016, Myanmar stood at position 136 out of 176 countries in all and similarly a survey conducted by the United Nations in 2014 also described the greatest hindrance for foreign countries to come to invest in the Union of Myanmar is corruption). Together Everybody Achieves More (TEAM) and every citizen are responsible for the building of corruption free society and therefore "Free from Fear" to keep our eye and ear open in order to see and hear the information about bribery and corruption and "corruption watch community/team" action need

for eradicating such malpractice as much as we can. Recognizing that corruption is a huge hindrance to national development and prosperity and it has also damage our national dignity. Efforts make the impossible possible and we strive on with diligence and vigilance to overcome such man-made barriers. Efficiency, effectiveness, experiences and efforts of the incumbent Anti-Corruption Commission recently newly-formed is of great importance for the emergence of a society free from bribery and corruption.

Myanmar is famous not only for her abundance of natural resources but also for the human resources with loving-kindness, compassion, sympathetic-joy and equanimity (Brahma Vihara) and five moral precepts (great charity to all beings) what the Buddha taught for the peace and bliss of all beings in this planet. You are the one who can participate in this important campaign of the eradication of bribery and corruption in our society and the relevant laws, rules and regulations should permit and support everyone in the society to participate in "Free from Corruption" measures and campaigns in their communities. Authority and power differ according to the ranks and positions and the vision and mission of the department/corporation/enterprise/institution may become damaged beyond repair; gradually facing a series of failures if there had been bribery, corruption and malpractices at all different levels. Niggardliness (Stinginess/Meany) and Envy are two worst

enemies for all mankind and these are also root causes for bribery and corruption and we therefore try our best to reduce these from our inner mind. Man makes mistakes and no one is perfect but practice makes perfect and mistakes will become lessons and the bribery and corruption can surely be eradicated through education and training as well as the enforcement of the rule of law. Always be active, brave, confident, diligent, endured and faithful in our endeavor in reducing and eradication bribery and corruption.

Right man in the right place is the good policy for any entity and the wrong/bad/mal-practiced officials and staff from the government departments / organizations/enterprises/institutions/corporations as well as from the private companies/enterprises who involved directly or indirectly in the bribery and corruption must be dismissed and punished according to the rule of law. Reality is that all the citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will enjoy the essence of clean government and good governance, which will guarantee rule of law, transparency and accountability.

May our dreams of "Corruption free Myanmar" come true in the days to come!!! May you all be free from dangers and sufferings from corruption!!! May Myanmar be free from corruption!!! May you all be healthy, peaceful, prosperous and happy!!! May all the people of this planet have a Happy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year 2018!!! ■



U Aung Kyi, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission receives a delegation led by Southeast Asia and Pacific representative from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). PHOTO: MNA



## ADB President Calls for Stronger Efforts to Fight Corruption

ASIAN Development Bank (ADB) President Takehiko Nakao has called for increased efforts from ADB staff, member governments, and other development partners to help fight corruption, money laundering, and other illicit activities that derail economic development and the achievement of social equity in the Asia and Pacific region.

Mr. Nakao led the celebration of International Anticorruption Day held at ADB headquarters in Manila today. Nikos Passas, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Northeastern University in the United States, and Sayed Ikram Afzali, Executive Director of Integrity Watch Afghanistan, delivered keynote addresses.

"Corruption, money laundering, and tax evasion damage economic development as well as fairness among people. There is also a growing consensus that these activities are threats to the basic fabric of society, including safety and security," said Mr. Nakao. "We have a professional obligation to fight these illicit activities. This fight is necessary to advance economic development in the Asia and Pacific region and to promote social equity." Global losses to corruption, money laundering, and tax evasion is estimated at \$800 billion to \$2 trillion every year—an amount that could instead be used by developing countries to achieve their Sustainable Development Goals commitments. Corruption also breeds organized crime and terrorism and poses a serious threat to safety and security, particularly for states considered fragile and conflict-affected, several of which are in Asia and the Pacific. To combat these activities, ADB has adhered to zero-tolerance policies to prevent corrupt practices from negatively impacting ADB-supported projects. For instance, ADB introduced new rules in 2015 for both its sovereign and nonsovereign operations to ensure integrity due diligence for project partners and tightened controls for corruption, money laundering, and terrorist financing. In 2016, ADB updated its Anticorruption Policy to include the prevention of cross-border tax evasion. ADB is also increasing its technical assistance to enhance the capacity of developing member countries to meet international standards for tax transparency, counter tax evasion, and protect themselves against aggressive forms of tax planning. In July this year, ADB established the Domestic Resource Mobilization Trust Fund with the support of the Government of Japan to help countries close tax loopholes in their financial sectors, enhance tax compliance, and develop transparent and effective tax administration.

ADB, based in Manila, is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. Established in 1966, ADB is celebrating 50 years of development partnership in the region. It is owned by 67 members—48 from the region. In 2016, ADB assistance totaled \$31.7 billion, including \$14 billion in cofinancing.—ADB ■

## Iraq declares final victory over Islamic State

BAGHDAD — Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi declared final victory over Islamic State on Saturday after Iraqi forces drove its last remnants from the country, three years after the militant group captured about a third of Iraq's territory.

The announcement comes two days after the Russian military announced the defeat of the militants in neighbouring Syria, where Moscow is backing Syrian government forces.

Iraqi forces recaptured the last areas still under Islamic State control along the border with Syria, the military said.

“Honourable Iraqis: your land has been completely liberated. The dream of liberation is now a reality,” Abadi said in a televised address. He was speaking with five Iraqi flags and dozens of servicemen from different branches behind him.

“We have accomplished a very difficult mission. Our heroes

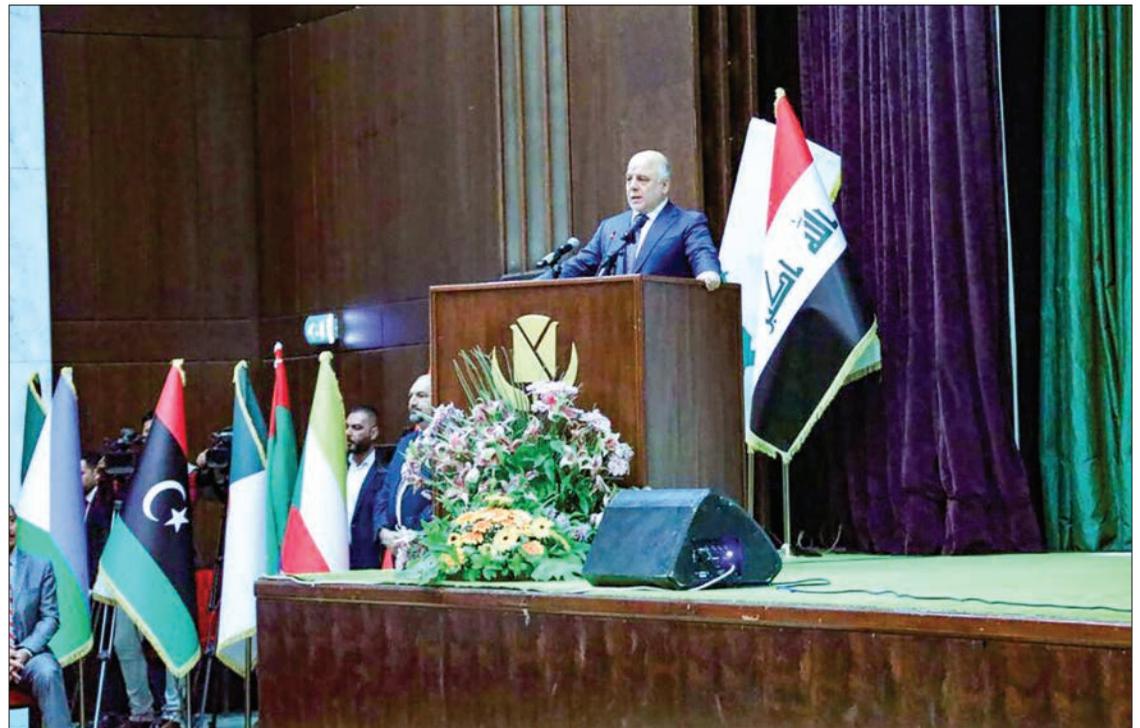
have reached the final strongholds of Daesh and purified it. The Iraqi flag flies high today over all Iraqi lands.”

Daesh is an Arabic acronym for Islamic State, also known as ISIS. Several squadrons of Iraqi helicopters flew over Baghdad carrying Iraqi flags at noon, in an apparent rehearsal for a victory parade that Iraq is planning to hold in coming days.

The government said the declaration meant Iraqi forces had secured the western desert and the entire Iraq-Syria border, and marked the end of the war against Islamic State.

Abadi declared 10 December a national holiday to be celebrated every year. State television aired celebratory songs praising government forces and militias, and showed scenes of celebration on the streets of Baghdad and other provinces.

The US-led coalition that has been supporting the Iraqi forces against Islamic State wel-



Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi speaks during an Arab media conference in Baghdad, Iraq, on 9 December 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

comed the news, as did Brett McGurk, the US Special Presidential Envoy to the coalition.

“We congratulate the Prime Minister and all the Iraqi people on this significant achievement, which many thought impossible,” he said in a series of tweets.

“We honour the sacrifices

of the Iraqi people, its security forces, and the Kurdish Peshmerga, and admire the unity in their ranks that had made this day possible.”

The US State Department also issued a statement of congratulation.

Mosul, the group's de facto

capital in Iraq, fell in July after a gruelling nine-month campaign backed by a US-led coalition that saw much of the northern Iraqi city destroyed.

Islamic State's Syrian capital Raqqa also fell to a US-backed Kurdish-led coalition in September. —Reuters ■

## Libya and Italy to set up operations room to tackle migrant smuggling

TRIPOLI — Libya's U.N.-backed government agreed with Italy on Saturday to establish a joint operations room for tackling migrant smugglers and traffickers as part of efforts to curb migrant flows towards Europe, according to a statement.

Libya is the main gateway for migrants trying to cross to Europe by sea, though numbers have dropped sharply since July as Libyan factions and authorities have begun to block departures under Italian pressure. More than 600,000 have made the journey over the past four years.

The agreement to set up the operations room was announced after a meeting in Tripoli between the head of the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA), Fayez Seraj, Libyan Interior Minister Aref Khodja, and his Italian counterpart Marco Minniti. A statement from Seraj's office said the centre would consist of “representatives from the coastguard, the illegal mi-



Migrants are seen on a capsizing boat before a rescue operation by Italian navy ships “Bettica” and “Bergamini” (unseen) off the coast of Libya in this handout picture released by the Italian Marina Militare on 25 May 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

gration department, the Libyan attorney general and the intelligence services, along with their Italian counterparts.”

No details were given on the location of the centre and how it would operate. In the past, migrant smugglers have worked with impunity in western Libya, where the GNA has little authority over armed groups that have real power on the ground.

The Italian navy already has a presence in Tripoli port, providing “technical” assistance to Libya's coastguard, according to Italian and Libyan officials.

The coastguard, which is receiving funding and training from the European Union, has become more assertive in recent months in intercepting migrants and bringing them back to Libya. —Reuters ■

## With foes absent, Venezuela's socialists to gain from local vote

CARACAS — Venezuela's ruling Socialist Party looked set to sweep Sunday's nationwide mayoral polls, deepening opposition splits and consolidating President Nicolas Maduro's position ahead of a likely 2018 re-election campaign.

Major opposition parties were boycotting the elections for 335 municipal mayors around the South American nation of 30 million people, in protest at a vote system they say is at the service of Maduro's “dictatorship”.

But some small parties in the Democratic Unity coalition have dissented and run candidates, confusing opposition supporters already disillusioned at the failure to weaken Maduro in months of protests earlier this year that claimed 125 lives.

On a roll after surprise wins in October gubernatorial elections, the socialists were pulling out the stops to increase their current roughly 70 per cent

share of mayorships.

“The opposition controls 76 mayorships: it's virtually impossible for them to keep half of those,” predicted local elections expert Eugenio Martinez, saying abstentionism was a gift to the government's already well-oiled election machinery.

The socialists also hoped to win a re-run of the October governorship election in western Zulia state. That vote was annulled after winning opposition candidate Juan Pablo Guanipa refused to swear loyalty to a pro-Maduro legislative superbody.

Manuel Rosales, a former Zulia governor who fled to Peru in 2009 after corruption charges levelled by the government of Maduro's predecessor Hugo Chavez, was running for the opposition this time. But Guanipa supporters and other sectors of the opposition boycotting Sunday's vote have called him a “traitor.” —Reuters ■



Russian army S-400 Triumph medium-range and long-range surface-to-air missile system rehearsal before the World War II anniversary in Moscow, on 7 May 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Nepal's Oli, most likely next PM, wins parliament seat

KATHMANDU — Former Nepali prime minister K.P. Oli on Sunday looked set for a return to power after winning his seat in parliament and his Communist UML party and Maoist allies on course to win a majority.

Counting is still under way following an election on Thursday that capped a near-decade long transition to democracy from monarchy and a civil war in which more than 17,000 people died.

Oli, 65, has vowed to form a government that lasts its full five-year term, something no prime minister has achieved since parliamentary democracy was established in 1990.—Reuters ■

### Israeli military says it demolishes Hamas tunnel that reaches Israel

JERUSALEM — The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) said Sunday that they have demolished a Hamas tunnel that originated in the central Gaza Strip and stretched to reach Israel. The IDF spokesperson Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus said the tunnel was of "significant length," and the detection, as well as the demolition, were enabled due to "significant developments ... in a new system that the IDF now has."—Xinhua ■

### Israeli security guard injured in Palestinian knife attack in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM — An Israeli security guard was seriously wounded Sunday by a Palestinian knife-wielder outside Jerusalem's central bus station, the police said.

The suspect, a 24-year-old Palestinian resident of the West Bank, stabbed the security guard and fled the scene, said a police statement, describing it as a "terror attack."

He was chased and arrested by a civilian and a policeman nearby, it added. Israel's Magen David Adom emergency medical service said that the 25-year-old Israeli guard sustained serious injuries and was rushed to hospital in a critical condition.—Xinhua ■

## Russia says it is fully committed to nuclear missile pact

MOSCOW — Russia said on Saturday it was fully committed to a Cold War-era pact with the United States banning intermediate-range cruise missiles, a day after Washington accused Moscow of violating the treaty.

The US State Department said on Friday Washington was reviewing military options, including new intermediate-range cruise missile systems, in response to what it said was Russia's ongoing violation of the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

The warning was the first response by President Donald

Trump's administration to US charges first levelled in 2014 that Russia had deployed a ground-launched cruise missile that breaches the pact's ban on testing and fielding missiles with ranges of 500-5,500 kms (310-3,417 miles).

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said those allegations were "absolutely unfounded".

"They are not supported by the technical characteristics of the launch installation which allegedly does not comply with the treaty, or by flight telemetry data. Nothing. And it is understandable why—because it

simply does not exist," he said in written comments published by the foreign ministry.

Echoing previous Russian statements, Ryabkov said Moscow was fully committed to the treaty, had always rigorously complied with it, and was prepared to continue doing so.

"However, if the other side stops following it, we will be forced, as President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin has already said, to respond in kind," he added.

The US allegation has further strained relations between Moscow and Washington, and the State Department on Fri-

day hinted at possible economic sanctions over the issue.

Washington has already sanctioned Russian entities and individuals, including people close to Putin, for Moscow's 2014 seizure of Crimea from Ukraine and its alleged interference in the 2016 US presidential election. The Kremlin has repeatedly denied interfering in the election. Ryabkov said the "attempts to frighten us with sanctions" were laughable.

"It's time for American politicians and diplomats to understand that economic and military pressure on Russia will not work," he said.—Reuters ■

## France's conservatives choose leader to rattle Macron's perch

PARIS — In his first seven months in office, President Emmanuel Macron has faced little opposition. But come Sunday, the once-dominant Republicans elect a new leader they hope might recover the party's voice.

Frontrunner to lead the party of former presidents Jacques Chirac and Nicolas Sarkozy is Laurent Wauquiez, an ambitious 42-year-old who like Macron passed through the elite ENA school and promises to shake up the political establishment.

There are few policy parallels between the two men, however. Wauquiez is a relentless critic of the 39-year-old presi-



Laurent Wauquiez, the front-runner for the leadership of French conservative party "Les Republicains" (The Republicans) attends a political rally in Saint-Priest, near Lyon, France, on 7 December 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

dent, dismissing him as out of touch with rural France, weak on security and too much in favour of closer European integration.

In his campaign to lead the party, Wauquiez has charted a rightward path to attack Macron's social and economic reforms.

"The Right is waking up. It is back and I want to be clear: we're not going to be told what we can say or think any more," Wauquiez told Reuters.

"The future of France's democracy cannot be a centrist swamp that gathers both Socialists and right-wingers around Macron." —Reuters ■

## UN envoy ends North Korea visit with apparent lack of progress



UN Undersecretary General for Political Affairs Jeffrey Feltman (2nd from R) arrives in Beijing, on 9 December 2017, after a rare visit to Pyongyang for talks with senior diplomats. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

BEIJING — The UN political affairs chief on Saturday ended a rare visit to North Korea after holding talks with senior diplomats, but apparently with a lack of major progress in stopping the country's accelerating nuclear weapons and missile programmes.

Shortly after Jeffrey Feltman, undersecretary general for political affairs, departed from Pyongyang, North Korea's official news agency put out a report summarizing his visit saying the country told him the United States is totally responsible for the current tense situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Feltman later arrived in Beijing but did not make any comments to a horde of journalists waiting for him. The United Nations has not given any details about what the two sides discussed.

On Thursday, Feltman, the most senior UN official to have visited Pyongyang in more than six years, met with North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho,

who told reporters in New York in September that his country could test a powerful hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean.

During the discussions, the Korean Central News Agency said, the diplomats noted that "the present tense situation of the peninsula is entirely ascribable to the US hostile policy and nuclear threat."

The UN side, meanwhile, voiced "its readiness to make a contribution to the relaxation of the tension on the peninsula under the UN Charter" and both sides agreed to communicate through visits at various levels on a regular basis, according to KCNA.

Feltman had a separate meeting with Vice Foreign Minister Pak Myong Guk on Wednesday. Feltman also visited a factory and several hospitals sponsored by UN agencies while he was in the North Korean capital, with KCNA saying he recognized that a series of sanctions imposed by the international community on Pyongyang are

"negatively affecting" its humanitarian assistance.

The report may suggest that inviting him to North Korea had an ulterior purpose of highlighting the plight of its ordinary citizens affected by the sanctions.

North Korea has faced multiple rounds of UN sanctions over its tests of nuclear and ballistic missile technologies.

The United Nations has no plans to provide information about the outcome of Feltman's trip until he returns to New York. According to diplomatic sources, he is scheduled to brief the UN Security Council on Tuesday afternoon in a possibly closed-door meeting.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said the political chief had not met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as of Friday.

Guterres disclosed this in a group interview with the Japanese media in New York ahead of his visit to Tokyo next week, his first since taking office in January. —Kyodo News ■

## Japan, US, South Korea to hold missile tracking drill amid North Korea crisis

TOKYO — The United States, Japan and South Korea will hold two days of missile tracking drills starting on Monday, Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force said, as tensions rise in the region over North Korea's fast-developing weapons programmes.

The United States and South Korea conducted large-scale military drills last week, which the North said made the outbreak of war "an established fact".

North Korea has fired missiles over Japan as it pursues nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles in defiance of UN sanctions and international condemnation. On 29 November, it test-fired an intercontinental ballistic missile which it said was its most advanced yet, capable of reaching the mainland United States. This week's exercises will be the sixth drills sharing information in tracking ballistic missiles among the three nations, the defence force said. It did not say whether the

controversial THAAD system would be involved. The installation of the US Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system in South Korea has angered China, which fears its powerful radar could look deep into China and threaten its own security. North Korea's missile test last month prompted a US warning that North Korea's leadership would be "utterly destroyed" if war were to break out. The Pentagon has mounted repeated shows of force after North Korean tests.

The United States has also pressured China and other nations to cut trade and diplomatic ties with North Korea, as part of international efforts to dry up Pyongyang's illegal cash flows that could fund its weapons programmes. On Sunday, South Korea said it would impose new unilateral sanctions on 20 institutions and a dozen individuals in North Korea, barring any financial transactions between those sanctioned and any South Koreans. —Reuters ■

## Philippines' Duterte to seek one-year extension of Mindanao martial law

MANILA — Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte will ask Congress to extend martial law in the volatile southern island of Mindanao to quell an insurgency, cabinet officials said on Sunday.

Duterte placed the restive region of 22 million people under military rule on 23 May after Islamist militants took over parts of the southern Marawi City in what was the Philippines' biggest security crisis in years. Martial law is due to expire on 31 December.

The Philippine leader will formally request on Monday a one-year extension of martial law, Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea told reporters.

The 23-member Senate and the 296-member House of Representatives will vote once they convene in joint session. Lawmakers are due to go on recess on from 16 December to 14 January 2018.

Military rule should be extended in Mindanao given threats from Maoist guerrillas, Islamist militants and separatist groups, Presidential Communications Secretary Martin



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte participates in the opening session of the 15th ASEAN-India Summit at the Philippine International Convention Center in Manila, Philippines, on 14 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Andanar said.

Militants linked to Islamic State, which tried to gain a foothold in Southeast Asia by capturing parts of Marawi City, are strengthening their recruitment programs, Andanar said.

"There were intelligence reports saying they are planning to attack another city," Andanar told a radio interview.

The request comes nearly

two months after Duterte declared the liberation of Marawi City. More than 1,100 people - mostly militants — were killed and 350,000 displaced by the Marawi unrest.

Continuing martial law beyond the initial 60-day limit requires lawmakers' approval, but the constitution does not restrict how long it can be extended. —Reuters ■

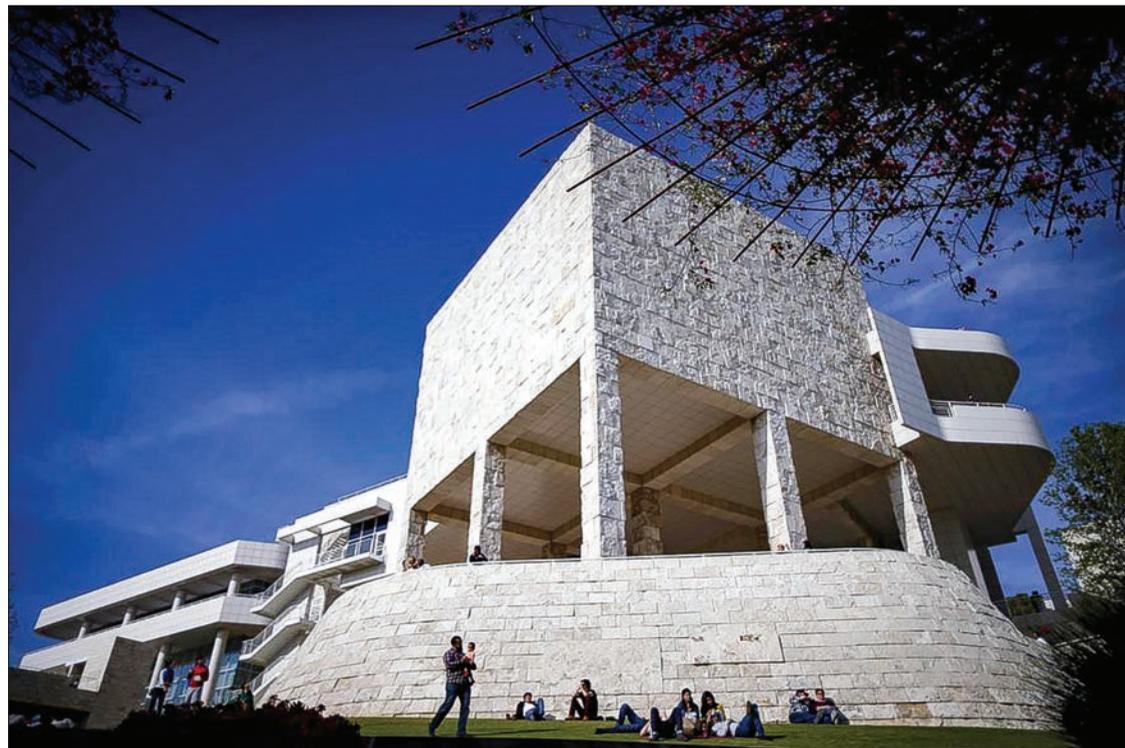
## California's Getty museum survives wildfire, ready for quakes

LOS ANGELES — Southern California's Getty Center, one of the world's wealthiest art institutions, said it had survived a wildfire tearing through Los Angeles thanks to a disaster plan that has it ready for earthquakes as well.

Fires that have chased almost 200,000 Californians from their homes covered the Getty's hillside location in smoke this week. Perched above the busy 405 freeway, an artery of California's traffic system, the Getty is among the most visited US museums and reopened on Friday after two days closed.

The Getty's design, and a plan developed with insurers eager to keep the valuable collection safe, helped shield from damage art including Edouard Manet's "Spring," for which it paid more than \$65 million in 2014.

More than 5,700 firefighters have battled six large wind-stoked fires and several smaller ones that erupted since Monday. More than 200,000 people have been forced to evacuate.



People walk around the Getty Center art museum and tourist landmark in Los Angeles, California, US on 27 March 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

As gray clouds swept onto the campus earlier in the week, a high-tech air filtration system pushed air out of buildings, mak-

ing it harder for smoke to seep inside, said Linda Somerville, assistant director of insurance and risk management for the J.

Paul Getty Trust, which oversees the Getty Center and has nearly \$12 billion in assets, including art. The museum has its own wa-

ter tanks and has landscaped the complex in order to keep flames at bay. "By putting all these bells and whistles in, we are able to wet down our hillsides, close intake valves and keep smoke and debris out," Somerville said.

Getty representatives meet quarterly with US commercial property insurer FM Global, the Getty's insurer, to review everything from brush on the property to sprinkler system design, Somerville said.

The Getty, which opened in 1997, also works year-round at preventing potential earthquake damage, Somerville said.

Art and display cases throughout the museum sit atop systems that absorb the energy of earthquake vibrations, known as base isolators. And experts who repair art and artifacts in the Getty's conservation labs must secure the items to stable surfaces in case an earthquake hits.

"Everything is latched down at all times," Somerville said. —Reuters ■

## A-bomb survivor urges N Korea, US to never use nuclear weapons

OSLO — An atomic bomb survivor who played a role in the award of this year's Nobel Peace Prize to a group campaigning to ban nuclear weapons urged North Korea and the United States on Saturday — ahead of the prize awarding ceremony in Oslo — to never resort to using nuclear weapons.

Setsuko Thurlow, 85, who survived the 1945 US atomic bombing of Hiroshima and now lives in Canada, also criticized the Japanese government for not joining the landmark nuclear weapons ban treaty promoted by the prize winner, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

Amid the heightening tension between Washington and Pyongyang, Thurlow said at a press conference in Oslo: "I repeatedly and strongly urge the leaders (of the United States and North Korea) never to use nuclear weapons," and urged them to negotiate without issuing military threats.

She also said Japan has "a moral responsibility," as the only country to have suffered atomic



Setsuko Thurlow, 85, who survived the 1945 US atomic bombing of Hiroshima, speaks at a press conference in Oslo on 9 December 2017, a day before the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

bomb attacks, to work to eliminate nuclear weapons. Thus it was "unfortunate," she said, that the government of Japan has not joined the UN treaty despite being prodded to do so by atomic bomb survivors and its citizens.

ICAN won this year's peace prize for work that led to the adoption in July of the UN treaty

outlawing nuclear weapons. But Japan did not vote in support, likely due to its reliance on the protection provided by the US nuclear deterrent.

Thurlow said that the atomic bombings were "unacceptable human suffering," and highlighted the need to convey the memories of atomic bomb survivors,

or hibakusha, so as not to repeat their tragedy.

Japan is the only country ever to be attacked with a nuclear weapon. The United States dropped a first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on 6 August, 1945, and a second on Nagasaki three days later, during the final stages of World War II. ICAN Executive Director Beatrice Fihn and Thurlow are expected to make speeches at the ceremony on Sunday. Thurlow said she will give an account of the horrors in Hiroshima in her speech.

Norwegian state broadcaster NRK reported that the Russian and Chinese ambassadors to Norway will not attend the award ceremony. That means no ambassador from any of the five major nuclear powers will be there as the United States, Britain and France also are not sending their ambassadors. Normally most ambassadors to Norway attend the annual event. But the nuclear powers are believed to be boycotting the peace prize ceremony due to the nuclear weapons ban treaty promoted by ICAN.—Kyodo News ■

## Cambodia reports new outbreak of H5N1 bird flu

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia has discovered a new outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N1 bird flu in the country's eastern province of Kompong Cham, according to the government.

In a report filed by the Agriculture Ministry to Prime Minister Hun Sen, a copy of which was seen Saturday, it said 200 chickens were found dead in Koh Svay village.

The report dated Friday said the chickens were found on 28 November, and based on samples tested on Wednesday, it was confirmed that they had succumbed to the H5N1 bird flu virus, which can be fatal to humans.

The report, meanwhile, said the relevant authorities have taken precautions in the area.

Cambodia reported its last bird flu outbreak in January this year with the deaths of some 300 chickens and ducks in the eastern province of Svay Rieng.—Kyodo News ■

# Grand Final and Awarding ceremony of Peace music Festival held in Yangon



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint awards first prize to the winner. PHOTO: MNA



Grand final competition of peace music festival in progress. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint awards second prize to the winner. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

THE grand final event and awarding ceremony of 2017 peace music festival was held yesterday night at People's Park, Dagon Township, Yangon. The 2017 Peace music festival was supervised by Ministry of Information, supporting nation peace process.

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint and wife, Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho and wife, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye and wife, Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai The Lwin and wife, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min

Thein and wife, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun and wife, Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint, cabinet member ministers and wives, Yangon Region Attorney-General U Han Htoo, departmental officials, invited guests and music lovers were in attendance.

Before the competition started, donors and well-wishers handed over the cash for holding the festival successfully to U Myint Htwe Director General of Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) who accepted the cash and returned the certificates of honors to the donors.

In the competition, Phyu Hla, a singer from Sittway competed with the song of composer Kai Zar "U Ma Kwe Theik Ma Pyet", Kyu Kyu Khaing from Kalay competed with the song of composer Shwe Tai Nyunt "Thiri Yadana", Sa Paung from Hpa-An competed with the song of composer Kaung Zaw "Sit Ma Pyit Nae" and May Thu Kyaw from Yangon competed with the song of composer Naung Naung (SF) "Chuin Chet Ma Shi".

Then, Sa Paung and May Thu Kyaw competed with the duet song "Say Yaung Chal Par" composed by Min Chit

Thu and Phyu Hla and Kyu Kyu Khaing competed with the duet song "Pan Tai Mwe Par Saw" composed by Myat Lay.

The winner, May Thu Kyaw (PMF10) was awarded Ks 30 million and the first runner up, Kyu Kyu Khaing (PMF09) was awarded Ks 20 million by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint. The second runner up, Phyu Hla (PMF03) was awarded Ks10 million and the third runner up, Sa Paung (PMF07) was awarded Ks 5 million by Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein. The seven consolation winners were awarded Ks3 million each by the officials.

The Peace Music Festival was supervised by Ministry of Information and held by MRTV across the nation with the aim of arousing public awareness and support of and cooperation in the national reconciliation, the national unity, the internal peace and the democratic federal state.

The well-known singers, Myanmar classic singer Yi Yi That, Zaw Paing, R Zarni, Aung Htet, Acid, Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein, Yadana Mai, Chan Chan, Ni Ni Khin Zaw and seven consolation winners also attended and entertained. —Zaw Gyi, Min Thit ■



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein awards third prize to the winner. PHOTO: MNA



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein awards fourth prize to the winner. PHOTO: MNA

# 70<sup>th</sup> International Human Right Day celebrated

The 70<sup>th</sup> international Human Right Day celebration was held yesterday morning on 68<sup>th</sup> Street between 26<sup>th</sup> Street and 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung, the patron of Mandalay Region Women's Affair Committee Dr Yu Yu May and Region cabinet members and human right activists attended the celebration.

In his speech, the Chief

Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung-stressed legal action to promote and protect the human right of Myanmar citizens. Then, U Aung Myo Min from Equality Myanmar explained the background of human right.

Then the chief minister cut ceremonial ribbon to open the event. Led by the chief minister over 400 cyclists wearing costumes in uniformity distributed human rights awareness pamphlets in Chanayethazan



PHOTO: THIHAKOKO (MANDALAY)

Township.

Myanmar Human Right Commission also held a workshop to postpone the death pen-

alty for the criminals and submitted proposals to the President after examining the prisons of Nyaung U, Myingyan, Htone Bo

and Yamethin in Mandalay Region and reported to their respective departments.—ThihaKoKo (Mandalay) ■

# Pyin Oo Lwin Photographic Society launches opening ceremony



Opening ceremony of Pyin Oo Lwin Photographic Society (PPS) was held in front of the PPS' hall situated near National Races village of National Kandawgyi Park in the morning of 10 December.

Attendees at the ceremony are Dr Aung Khin and U Aung Min from Mandalay Region Hluttaw, U Arkar Lin, Township administrator and PPS's chairman U Ye Win Naing and executive members.

PPS aims to portray culture of national races and ancient cultural sites through photos and hold photo galleries featuring photos which can bring about political, economical and social, cultural and environmental de-

velopment. It is also kind of photo library with photograph albums.

There are a group of patrons including U Lu Maung, U Soe Lin, U Khin Maung Win, U Kyaw Kyaw Soe, U Wai Myo Aung, executive members with chairman U

Ye Win Naing, vice chairman Ko Richard and secretary Ko Zaw Min Htway, joint secretary Ko Tun Tun (Dream) and 17 members.

Workshop meetings will be held with expert photographers. PPS will lead photo competition of Pyin Oo Lwin Flower Festival which will kick off on 16<sup>th</sup> December in cooperation with Htoo Companies Group, said U Ye Win Naing, chairman of PPS.—02 ■

## WEATHER

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

**BAY INFERENCE:** According to the observations at (15:30)hrs M.S.T on 10 December the low pressure area over the West Bengal and adjoining Bangladesh Coasts still persists. Weather is generally fair over the West Central Bay and partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017:** Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan, Chin and Rakhine states, scattered in Napyitaw, Ayeyarwady Region and Kachin State, isolated in Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi regions. Degree of certainly is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about (5 - 7)feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Continuation of likelihood of rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Shan and Chin states.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainly is (80%). **FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainly is (60%). **FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2017:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainly is (80%).

# Lotaya, Yamon win Tharaphu Magazine's Mr & Miss Crown 2017

To mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tharaphu (Crown) Magazine, Mr and Miss Crown 2017 final contest was held at National Theatre on Myomakyaung Road in Yangon on Sunday on a grand scale.

The Crown Magazine organises this kind of contest every five years, giving a chance to young man and woman who won photogenic awards in the magazine's monthly programme. This year's contest allows 15 male and 15 female totalling 30 contestants from across the nation.

Among finalists in men's event, Lotaya won the Mr Crown Award while Miss Crown Award went to Yamon. They were awarded Ks1 million each by the organising body.

After the contest, Best Designer Award went to Designer Kyaw Htet Aung, Mr Citi Fashion



PHOTO: ZAR NI

Award to Zar Ni Aung (Yangon) and Miss Citi Fashion Award to May Thada (Yangon); Mr Cool Award to Lotaya (Yangon) and Miss Cool Award to Lae Yamin Oo (Yangon); Mr Note Award to Lotaya (Yangon) and Miss Note Award to Yamon (Yangon); Mr

Best Body Award to Hsai Ratt (Myitkyina) and Miss Best Award to Sandi Kay Khine Thin (Yangon); and Mr Photogenic Award to Aung Kaung Pyae (Yangon) and Miss Photogenic Award to May Thada (Yangon). —Aye Min Thu ■

## Myanmar U-21 football team in Viet Nam

Kyaw Zin Lin

In competing for the Viet Nam's International U-21 Thanh Niên Newspaper Cup, Myanmar U-21 national football team departed for Viet Nam from Yangon international airport yesterday evening.

Myanmar will play round robin format with host team's U-19 and U-21, Thailand U-21 and Japan's well known Yokohama Club.

The International U-21 Thanh Niên Newspaper Cup is an annual football tournament held in Vietnam.

The tournament was officially launched in 2007 by Thanh Niên News in cooperation with the Vietnam Football Federation, with the aim of improving youth football in Vietnam.

In addition to improving the quality of football in the country, the tournament also



Myanmar U-21 footballers with team's officials seen at the Yangon International Airport before their departure for Viet Nam. **PHOTO:MFF**

serve to help VFF selectors build up the next generation of players who would represent Vietnam at the senior and U23 levels.

During the first edition of the tournament, which lasted from 24 to 28 October 2007, host nation Vietnam competed against four visiting teams from

Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand. Vietnam won the first edition of the tournament, with Thailand finishing as runners-up. ■

## Chelsea stunned by West Ham, Tottenham return to form

LONDON — Chelsea's hopes of retaining the Premier League title suffered a severe blow as West Ham United upset the form book to win the London derby 1-0 on Saturday and give David Moyes his first victory since taking over as manager. Marko Arnautovic's early goal and a gritty rearguard action by the Hammers inflicted a first league defeat in eight games on third-placed Chelsea who are 11 points behind leaders Manchester City ahead of their game against second-placed Manchester United on Sunday.

Tottenham Hotspur returned to form with a first win in five league games, thrashing Stoke City 5-1 with Harry Kane scoring twice as Spurs moved back into fifth place.

Burnley are level on 28 points with Tottenham and Arsenal after beating 10-man Watford 1-0 at a wintry Turf Moor thanks to Scott Arfield's goal on the stroke of halftime.

Watford were reduced to 10 men from the 39th minute after Marvin Zeegelaar was shown a straight red for a wild tackle. Christian Benteke missed a stoppage-time penalty that would have given Crystal Palace victory over Bournemouth but they had to be content with a 2-2 draw as Jermain Defoe scored twice for the visitors at Selhurst Park. Swansea City climbed off the bottom, above Palace, with a 1-0 home victory over West Bromwich Albion that ended a near two-month run without a victory. —Reuters ■

## New, innovative players selection made by Shan United in Taunggyi

Kyaw Zin Lin

Young, new, innovative and talented footballers were selected by Shan United FC at the Shan State Sport Stadium on 7 December.

Sixty nine players of under 19 and 25 players of under 25 came and showed their respective football skills so as to be selected in the morning of that day.

The judges acted for the player selection were U Aung

Tun Tun of U-19 Shan United team, U Min Thu of U-21 Shan United team and Goal Coach U Yawai Zin.

The final decisions for the player selection will be released soon according to the Shan United FC website. Kanbawza FC was a founding member of the Myanmar National League in 2009, and represents the Shan State. It finished fourth in the league's inaugural cup competition, the Myanmar National

League Cup 2009.

Shan United FC or The Shan Warriors is a Myanmar football club representing of Shan State, based in Taunggyi, Myanmar.

The Shan Warriors is founded by the name of Kanbawza FC in 2005 played as an amateur club in Myanmar League, the highest football league in Myanmar. In 2015, KBZ FC name changed to Shan United FC.

The first professional man-

ager is Aye Maung Gyi, who also guided as a head coach for Kanbawza FC, a former Club of Shan United.

Former Myanmar national football team's captain, Soe Myat Min is being acted as the team's head coach.

Shan United gave great happiness to its fans by winning two titles even in a year, the 2017 Myanmar National League Champion and Champion of 2017 General Aung San Shield. ■

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