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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Wednesday, 29 November 2017

Pope asks for peace and equality

POPE Francis delivered a speech at the Myanmar International Convention Center-II (MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, urging Myanmar leaders to redouble their efforts to justice and equality for all.

“The future of Myanmar must be peace, a peace based on respect for the dignity and rights

The full text of the speech of Pope Francis is on **Page-7** and the speech of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is on **Page-6**.

of each member of society, respect for each ethnic group and its identity, respect for the rule of law, and respect for a democratic order that enables each individual and every group — none excluded — to offer its legitimate contribution to the common good,” the pope said.

The pontiff’s speech came immediately after an address by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in which she said “the road to peace is not always smooth”.

Yesterday’s event was attended by First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, wife of Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Dr. Shwe Hl-wam, Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, the Vatican City Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin,

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Pope Francis and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attend the meeting with members of the civil societies and diplomatic corps. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



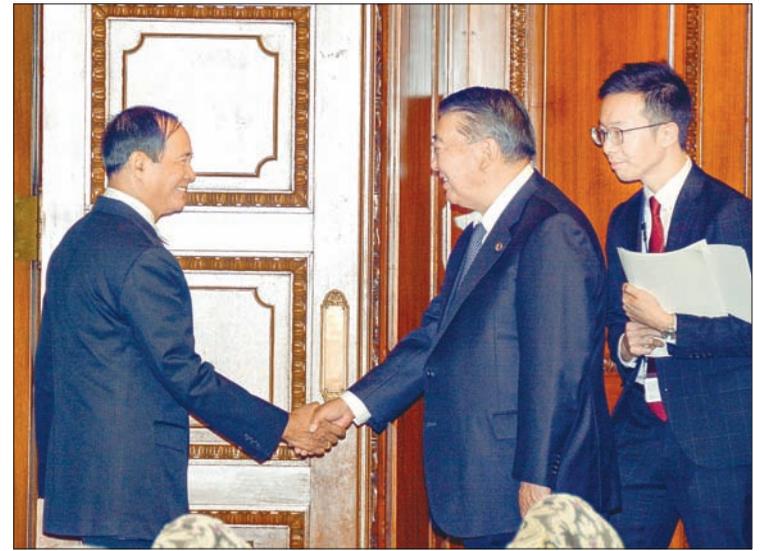
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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker holds talks separately with Japanese Speakers



Speaker U Win Myint (Fourth from Left) poses for photo with Mr Date Chuichi, Speaker of House of Councillors of the National Diet of Japan. **PHOTO: MYNMAR NEWS AGENCY**



Speaker U Win Myint is welcomed by House of Representatives of Japan Mr. Tadamori Oshima. **PHOTO: MNA**

At the invitation of H.E. Mr. Tadamori Oshima, U Win Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw who is now in Japan, and party arrived at the Building of House of Representatives of Japan at LST 10 am on yesterday, welcomed by H.E. Mr. Tadamori Oshima. Afterward, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and party met with Speaker of House of Representatives of Japan and party at the Special Guest Room.

In the meeting, upgrading friendship and cooperation

between Japan and Myanmar Parliaments, continual promotion of investments designed for Myanmar's development, democratic transition of Myanmar, Internal Peace and National Reconciliation and matters on legislation of the parliament were respectively discussed.

After that, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and party inspected round the Building of the House of Representatives, explained by responsible officials.

At LST 10:45 am the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and party met with H.E. Mr DATE Chuichi, Speaker of House of Councillors of the National Diet of Japan at the Special Guest Room, negotiating matters on upgrading friendship and cooperation between Japan and Myanmar Parliaments and matters on legislation of the parliament.

Following that, U Win Myint and party inspected round the parliament building.

At LST 6:30 pm Speaker of

House of Representatives gave a special dinner party to Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw in honour, at the former's grand residence.

At 2 pm, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and party arrived at Keidanren (Japan Business Foundation), discussing with Mr KOBAYYAAHI Ken.

Together with U Win Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, U Win Myint Aung, secretary of the committee on citizens' fundamental rights, Pyithu Hluttaw, U En Hton Khar Nawsum,

secretary of the committee for implementation of national affairs and internal peace, U Tun Tun, committee member of the government's guarantees, pledges and undertakings, U Tun Myint, committee member of citizens' fundamental rights, U Thet Swe, Pyithu Hluttaw representative and U Thurein Thant Zin, Myanmar ambassador to Japan and responsible officials from the Office of Pyithu Hluttaw. —Myanmar News Agency

Senior General separately receives Saw Mutu Sae Poe of KNU, Belarus mily delegation

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing separately received Karen National Union (KNU) Chairman Saw Mutu Sae Poe and Myanmar-Belarus joint military-technical cooperation committee Belarus side chairman, State Military Industrial Committee of The Republic of Belarus First Deputy Chairman Maj. Gen. Igor Demidenko and party at Bayint Naung reception hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In the meeting with KNU Chairman, matters relating to status of works conducted for progress of peace process and future works for permanent peace were discussed.

In the meeting with Maj. Gen Igor Demidenko, increasing military-technical



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomes Saw Mutu Sae Poe of KNU. **PHOTO: MNA**

cooperation between the armed forces of Myanmar and Belarus, communication with relevant departments for non-military technical

cooperation and increasing bilateral relations between the two militaries were discussed, it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency

17th ASEAN Senior Official Meeting on Minerals held

17th ASEAN Senior Official Meeting on Minerals, a related meeting of 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals was held yesterday morning at Irrawaddy Grand Ballroom, M Gallery Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw.

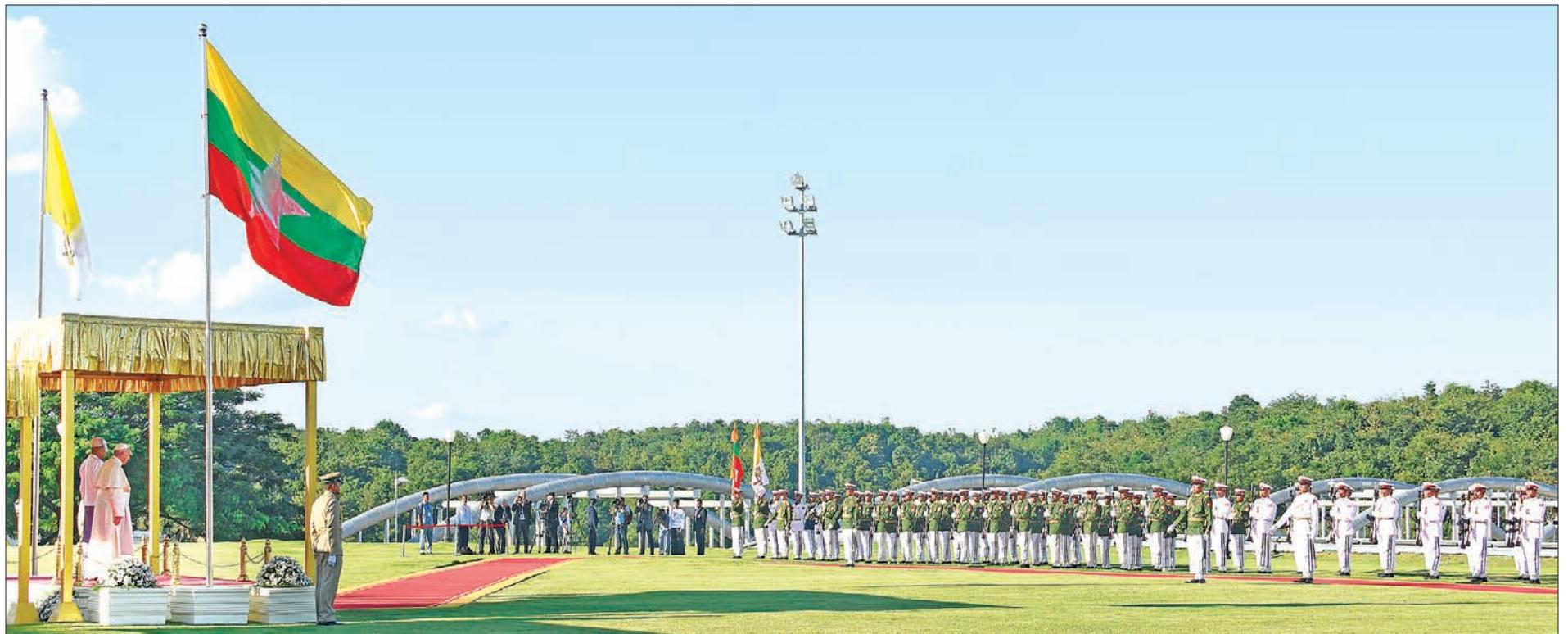
At the meeting Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Department of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration Director-General Dr. Ye Myint Swe, Department of Mines Director General U Khin Latt Gyi, Department of Mineral and Geoscience Malaysia Director General Mr. Shahr Effendi Abdullal delivered the opening speeches.

Myanmar and Philippines took the responsibility of chairman and vice-chairman respectively and discussions under the titles of Trade and

Investment, Capacity Building, Mineral Information & Database and Sustainable Mineral Development were conducted together with ASEAN member countries, AFMA and CCOP groups.

3rd BOJ Meeting was simultaneously held in Maykha Room where Indonesia was the chairman and private companies from Laos, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand discussed about ASEAN Mineral Award.

10th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Official Meeting on Minerals will be held in the same hotel on 29 November and the Sixth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals will be held on 30 November it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency



President U Htin Kyaw and Pope Francis attend the welcoming ceremony at the Presidential Palace grounds in Nay Pyi Taw, on 28 November. **PHOTO: MNA**

President welcomes Pope Francis

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Pope Francis, who has been in Yangon on an official friendly visit, was welcomed with a Guard of Honour by President U Htin Kyaw yesterday evening at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

Pope Francis arrived at the Presidential Palace at 3:45 pm and was cordially welcomed by the President.

Afterwards, the President and Pope Francis received the salute from the Guard of Honour. Then the President greeted Pope Francis along with members present at the ceremony.

Present at the welcoming party were Union Ministers Lt General Kyaw Swe, Dr Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, U Thant Sin Maung, Dr Myint Htwe, U Kyaw Win, U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Vatican City State U San Lwin and responsible officials.

After the welcome ceremony, Pope Francis signed the Special Guest Record Book and posed for documentary photos with the President.

Following the ceremony, President U Htin Kyaw and Pope Francis met in the lounge for envoys of the Presidential Palace.—Myanmar News Agency



President U Htin Kyaw holds talks with Pope Francis in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 November 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

Appointment of Singapore ambassador agreed

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Ms. Vanessa Chan Yuen Ying as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Singapore to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Ms. Chan was born in 1966. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Law (Honours) from the University of Cambridge, England in 1988. She obtained a Profes-

sional Qualification for the Board of Legal Education, Singapore in 1990 and practiced law in Singapore from 1991 to 1995.

Ms. Chan joined the Singapore Foreign Service in 1995. Her portfolios covered North America, Southeast Asia and International Organizations. She served at the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations in New York from January 1999 to August 2002 and at the Embassy of Singapore

in Yangon from October 2007 to January 2011. She was the Director-General of the International Organizations Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from January 2012 to June 2017. She also served as the Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the United Nations Development Programme Global Centre for Public Service Excellence in Singapore from 2013 to June 2017.—Myanmar News Agency

Pope asks for peace and equality

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Archbishop of the Myanmar Roman Catholic Church Cardinal Charles Maung Bo, Myanmar Catholic Church bishops, ambassadors and charge d'affaires of foreign embassies in Myanmar; representatives of UN organisations, representatives of civil societies, officials from ministries and invited guests.

Yesterday's event was the pontiff's second day in Myanmar. Today, Pope Francis will hold a Mass for the public in Kyaikkasan, Yangon, meet with the State Sangha Nayaka Committee in Kaba Aye Hill and with Myanmar Catholic bishops at St. Mary's Cathedral. The Pope will depart for Bangladesh tomorrow. — Myanmar News Agency

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CBT to be implemented in seven villages in Ayeyawady Dolphin Conservation Area

BEGINNING this high season, a community based tourism (CBT) project will be implemented in seven villages situated within the Ayeyawady Dolphin Conservation Area, according to Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Mandalay Region).

The CBT project will be implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. The project will be carried out with an aim to increase the number of tourists' arrivals.

"Fishing with the assistance of Ayeyawady dolphin is unique to Myanmar. The cooperative fishing practice between fishermen and dolphins attracts tourists. The local people also earn more income from demonstration of fishing with dolphins," said U San Yu, the assistant director of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism (Mandalay Region).



Two Ayeyawady dolphins jump in Ayeyawady River. PHOTO: WCS

The project will be implemented in seven villages including Myitsein, Myitkangyi, Hsethe, Seinpangon, Ayegyun and Myaeson villages which are located between Mingun and Kyaukmyaung section of the Ayeyawady River. The authorities will transport the tourists using water vessels with bed rooms from Mandalay jetties to Ayeyawady dolphin conservation

area. The tourists have to sleep on the vessel for overnight trips.

"Previously, people are asking the water vessel to watch the dolphins. Now, we will send the limited number of water vessels for the tourists. We don't have any guest house at the villages. Therefore, the tourists have to sleep and eat on the water vessels, said U Han Win, in-charge of Ayeyawady Dolphin Conser-

vation.

There are 26 dolphins in the Dolphin Conservation Area in Mandalay Region. The authorities are also promoting the local business such as pottery business, edible oil production and bamboo hats production business in those villages with an aim to create more job opportunities for the local people.—Aung Thant Khine ■

Death toll climbs to six in Minbu coal mine blast

FOUR more bodies were pulled out of a coal mine in Minbu, Magway Region yesterday, bringing the death toll to six after a pipe injecting oxygen into the tunnel exploded on Monday.

The blast occurred at about 3 p.m. on Monday, injuring four and trapping eight underground. Rescue operations for the eight trapped miners commenced immediately.

Two were found dead at about 7:16 pm. At about 6:50 pm yesterday, four more were found dead. Rescue operations for the remaining two miners is still underway.



PHOTO: PHO PYAY

The two bodies recovered on Monday were Aung Htoo, 22, of Ohmyaytwin Vil-

lage, Ngaphe Township and Aung Htway, also known as Ant Bwe, 36, of Kutkai

Township.

The bodies of Ko Kyaw Min, 32, and Ko Win Htay, 40, of Ohmyaytwin Village, Ngaphe Township were recovered at about 2:50 pm yesterday, while the body of Ko Kyaw Myint, 42, of Mogok Township was recovered at 3:30 pm.

The body of Ko Kyaw Soe, whose age and hometown were not available, was recovered at 6:50 pm.

Rescue operations for Ko Po Chan of Ohmyaytwin Village, Ngaphe Township and Chen Chang Sui, a Chinese national, is ongoing.—Pho Pyay (Minbu) ■

Comprehensive Motor Insurance should be compulsory for commercial used cars

THE fact that Comprehensive Motor Insurance should be obligatory for vehicles used in commercial purpose should be embodied in by-law of New Motor Vehicle which is soon to be instituted, according to Myawady Daily.

In order to cover liability

of damage caused by car accidents, Comprehensive Motor Insurance should be compulsory for commercial used cars.

"Commercial used cars have more possibilities for getting into accident as they spend significantly more time on roads.

Drivers usually flee the scene when they get into accident as they cannot afford to compensate the cost of accident. Similarities, the owners are also faced with the difficulties to repair the vehicles.

Comprehensive Motor Insurance will cover the liabil-

ity of accident if they have insurance, an official from Myawady Daily.

Comprehensive Motor Insurance is available to be purchased at Myawady Insurance and 12 private insurance businesses.—GNLM ■

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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

Myanmar's trade with EU hit over US\$1.2 billion in first half of this FY



PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

MYANMAR'S trade with members of European Union in first half of current FY amounted to over US\$1.2 billion, comprising \$789 million worth of export and \$412 million worth of import, according to the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce last Friday.

Since April, Germany was ranked first among EU countries having the largest trade value of \$297 million with Myanmar, followed by Britain at the second place with about \$178 million. France was listed at the third place with trade values of about \$151 million while Italy stood at the fourth place with estimated \$112 million and Myanmar's trade with the Netherlands reached about \$99 million.

Value of bilateral trade with

Spain was about \$91.6 million while that with Belgium was \$85 million. Trade with Denmark fetched more than 55.7 million.

Trade values with Czech Republic, Greece, Cyprus, Sweden, Poland, Finland, Bulgarian, Romania, Luxembourg, Austria, Hungary, Estonia, Ireland, Portugal and Malta was less than \$50 million each. Beyond regional trade regime, Myanmar has established trade links with EU member countries.

The country mainly exported rice, pulses, tea leaf, coffee, apparel from garment sector on Cut-Make-Pack basis and fisheries while cosmetic, food and beverages and consumer goods were imported into Myanmar.

Myanmar reinstated EU's Generalized Scheme of Pref-

erence starting from 19th July 2013. Myanmar can enjoy GSP for export of fisheries, rice, pulses, agro products, bamboo and rattan finished products, forestry products, apparels and finished industrial goods.

Trade value with EU countries was about \$1.5 billion in FY 2016-2017, \$676 million in FY 2015-16, \$655 million in FY 2014-2015, \$553 million in FY 2013-2014, \$408 million in FY 2012-2013 and \$412 million in FY 2011-2012.

EU member countries put investments of US\$5.6 billion from 2013 to end of Sep 2017, especially in petroleum and natural gas enterprises, manufacturing, transportation, hotels and tourism, livestock businesses. — Ko Htet ■

Export increases by US\$1.36 billion from last FY

MYANMAR'S export earnings from 1st April to 17th November in the current fiscal year was US\$8.6 billion, an increase of \$1.36 billion from last year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

The government sector carried out exports with an estimated worth of \$2.99 billion, whereas export income from the private sector was about \$5.64 billion

Only forestry exports shows a slight decline of \$14.7 million, while other export sectors increased in trade value. Exports from finished

industrial goods attained the highest earning of \$3.9 billion, followed by agro products with an estimated export value of \$1.8 billion. Minerals exports received revenue of \$895 million. Fisheries export income hit \$385 million and export value animal products were about \$14 million. Other products worth \$1.49 billion were also traded. Myanmar exports the goods via sea routes and border trade gates. Exports through sea routes fetched \$5.7 billion, while nearly \$3 billion worth of export goods flowed into neighbouring countries via border

trade gates. Myanmar's agro products, natural gas, livestock, forestry products, minerals, fishery products and finished industrial goods are exported to foreign trade partners.

Capital goods such as machinery, construction tools including steel, products used in telecommunication, vehicles and auto parts, raw industrial materials including petroleum products, plastic raw materials, fertilizer, chemicals, and consumer products such as pharmaceuticals and cosmetics are imported into the country.— Mon Mon ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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

"Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာ ပါဝင်သည်

နေပြည်တော်
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ် (၇) နေပြည်တော်၊ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊ စီမံခန့်ခွဲရေးဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၄၁၂၁၀၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)၊ ဇေယျာသီရိမြို့နယ်၊ ဓမ္မစေတီလမ်း၊ နေပြည်တော်၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကင်း
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊ ဝါးတပ်ကြီးတရားလမ်း၊ ဝဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၁၀၆၅၅၅၃၊ ၀၉၉၇၄၄၂၄၀၀၄

မန္တလေး
လမ်း (၂၀ x ၂၁) ကြား၊ (၈၂ x ၈၃) လမ်းကြား၊ မုလဲဇွေရောင်ရမ်း၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂၃၂၅၅၀

တောင်ကြီး
ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၁၂၁၀၆၄၊ ၀၉၅၂၁၄၄၅၇

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

တချင်းတုံ
မြို့ပင် (၃-၁) အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊ မြို့ပင်လမ်း၊ ကချင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၄၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်ဇေယျာရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြစ်ကြီးနား
အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ရေရပ်ကွက်၊ အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊ မြစ်ကြီးနားမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၄၂၂၄၆၂

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

လားရှိုး
ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း၊ (၁၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ဆွေဘုရားရွှေ၊ အဝေရာလမ်း၊ လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၂၄၀၆၇

ခြင်္သေ့
မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းချောင်းရေ၊ ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊ မြိုင်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၁၀၃

မော်လမြိုင်
ကြားအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၂၆

မုံရွာ
နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတံတိုင်းအနီး၊ မုံရွာမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၁၂၆၅၅၅၊ ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၃

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APOSTOLIC VISIT OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO MYANMAR

Address by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor
of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

*Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar International Convention Centre
Tuesday, 28 November 2017*

**Holy Father Pope Francis,
Distinguished Guests,**

It is a great joy and a great honour for me to welcome you to this gathering that reaffirms our faith in the power and possibility of peace and loving kindness. Let me begin by thanking His Holiness for being with us today. *Grazie per essere arrivato qui da noi.*

Your Holiness, you bring us strength and hope in your understanding of our need, our longing, for peace, national reconciliation and social harmony. Our national anthem, adopted at the time of our independence, begins with the words: Never swerving from just freedom, “reflecting the strongly held conviction of the founding fathers of our nation that true freedom cannot survive without justice. These words resonate with us today, just as they did with those who fought for independence that our people might be able to realize their full potential. It is incumbent on us to continue the task of building a nation founded on laws and institutions that will guarantee each and everyone in our land justice, freedom and security.

Your Holiness, the challenges that Myanmar faces are many, and each challenge calls for strength, patience and courage. Our nation is a rich tapestry of different peoples, languages and religions, woven on a backdrop of vast natural potential. It is the aim of our Government to bring out the beauty of our diversity and to make it our strength, by protecting rights, fostering tolerance, ensuring security for all. Our most cherished endeavor is to carry forward the peace process based on the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement that was initiated by the previous Government. The road to peace is not always smooth but it is the only way that will lead our people to their dream of a just and prosperous land that will be their refuge, their pride, their joy. The quest for peace has to be reinforced by the attainment of sustainable development, that the future of coming generations might be assured.

Of the many challenges that our government has been facing, the situation in the Rakhine has most strongly captured the attention of the world. As



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gives a speech during a meeting with the Pope and members of civil societies and the diplomatic corps in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

The road to peace is not always smooth, but it is the only way that will lead our people to their dream of a just and prosperous land that will be their refuge, their pride, their joy.

we address long standing issues, social, economic and political, that have eroded trust and understanding, harmony and cooperation between different communities in Rakhine, the support of our people and of good friends who only wish to see us succeed in our endeavours, has been invaluable. Your Holiness, the gifts of compassion and encouragement that you bring to us will be treasured and we take to heart your words in the message for the celebration of the fiftieth World Day of Peace on 1st January 2017:

“Jesus himself offers a “manual” for this strategy of peacemaking in the Sermon on the Mount. The eight Beatitudes (cf. Mt 5:3-10) provide a portrait of the person we could describe as blessed, good and authentic. Blessed are the meek, Jesus tells us, the merciful and the peacemakers, those who are pure in heart, and those who hunger and thirst for justice.

This is also a programme and a

challenge for political and religious leaders, the heads of international institutions and business and media executives: to apply the Beatitudes in the exercise of their respective responsibilities. It is a challenge to build up society, communities and businesses by acting as peacemakers. It is to show mercy by refusing to discard people, harm the environment, or seek to win at any cost.”

Your Holiness, we are proud and happy that you have come to our country a mere six months after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Holy See and Myanmar. This is not only the opening of a new era of close relations, it also constitutes a revival of old ties that I, and others of my generation, remember with affection and appreciation. I began my education at the St. Francis Convent in Rangoon which makes me fancy that I am entitled to special blessings from your Holiness. But all the blessings you confer will be

shared by all of us that we may be able to spread goodwill and joy throughout our land.

Your Holiness, each age in the life of a nation brings its own responsibilities just as it has to bear the legacies of the past. We today who have been given the opportunity to effect changes that could open new vistas of progress for our nation, will strive to discharge our duties with probity and humanity we would like to leave to the future a land that has been nurtured with care and respect, a healthy land, a beautiful land. We would like to leave to the future a people united and at peace, secure in their capacity to grow and prosper in a changing world; a compassionate and generous people, always ready to hold out a helping hand to those in need; a people strong as strong in skills and whole in spirit.

Your Holiness, the children of your Church in this country are also the children of Myanmar, loved and cherished. We thank them, as we thank you, for praying for our nation and all the peoples of the world. The road ahead is long but we will make it with confidence, trusting in the power of peace, love and joy.

Your Holiness,
Continuiamo a camminare insieme con fiducia.
I thank you all.

APOSTOLIC VISIT OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO MYANMAR

Address to Government Authorities, Civil Societies and the Diplomatic Corps

*Myanmar International Convention Center, Nay Pyi Taw,
Tuesday, 28 November 2017*

**Madam State Counsellor,
Honourable Government
and Civil Authorities,
Your Eminence, My Brother
Bishops,
Distinguished Members
of the Diplomatic Corps,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am grateful for the kind invitation to visit Myanmar and I thank you, Madam State Counsellor, for your kind words. I am very grateful to all who have worked so hard to make this visit possible. I have come, above all, to pray with the nation's small but fervent Catholic community, to confirm them in their faith, and to encourage them in their efforts to contribute to the good of the nation. I am most grateful that my visit comes soon after the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between Myanmar and the Holy See.

ed with great natural beauty and resources, yet its greatest treasure is its people, who have suffered greatly, and continue to suffer, from civil conflict and hostilities that have lasted all too long and created deep divisions. As the nation now works to restore peace, the healing of those wounds must be a paramount political and spiritual priority. I can only express appreciation for the efforts of the Government to take up this challenge, especially through the Panglong Peace Conference, which brings together representatives of the various groups in an attempt to end violence, to build trust and to ensure respect for the rights of all who call this land their home.

Indeed, the arduous process of peacebuilding and national reconciliation can only advance through a commit-



Pope Francis makes a speech during a meeting with members of the civil societies and diplomatic corps in Nay Pyi Taw, on 28 November 2017. PHOTO: AUNG SHINE OO

ment to justice, peace and human development worldwide, and to resolve conflicts through dialogue, not the use of force.

In this sense, the presence of the diplomatic corps in our midst testifies not only to Myanmar's place in the concert of nations, but also to the country's commitment to uphold and pursue those foundational principles. The future of Myanmar must be peace, a peace based on respect for the dignity and rights of each member of society, respect for each ethnic group and its identity, respect for the rule of law, and respect for a democratic order that enables each individual and every group – none excluded – to offer its legitimate contribution to the common good.

In the great work of national reconciliation and integration, Myanmar's religious communities have a privileged role to play. Religious differences need not be a source of division and distrust, but rather a force for unity, forgiveness, toler-

ance and wise nation building. The religions can play a significant role in repairing the emotional, spiritual and psychological wounds of those who have suffered in the years of conflict. Drawing on deeply-held values, they can help to uproot the causes of conflict, build bridges of dialogue, seek justice and be a prophetic voice for all who suffer.

It is a great sign of hope that leaders of the various religious traditions in this country are making efforts to work together, in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect, for peace, for helping the poor and for educating in authentic religious and human values.

In seeking to build a culture of encounter and solidarity, they contribute to the common good and to laying the indispensable moral foundations for a future of hope and prosperity for coming generations.

That future is even now in the hands of the nation's young people.

The young are a gift to be

cherished and encouraged, an investment that will yield a rich return if only they are given real opportunities for employment and quality education. This is an urgent requirement of intergenerational justice.

The future of Myanmar in a rapidly changing and interconnected world will depend on the training of its young, not only in technical fields, but above all in the ethical values of honesty, integrity and human solidarity that can ensure the consolidation of democracy and the growth of unity and peace at every level of society.

Intergenerational justice likewise demands that future generations inherit a natural environment unspoiled by human greed and depredation. It is essential that our young not be robbed of hope and of the chance to employ their idealism and talents in shaping the future of their country and, indeed, our entire human family.

**Madam State Counsellor,
dear friends:**

In these days, I wish to encourage my Catholic brothers and sisters to persevere in their faith and to continue to express its message of reconciliation and brotherhood through charitable and humanitarian works that benefit society as a whole.

It is my hope that, in respectful cooperation with the followers of other religions, and all men and women of good will, they will help to open a new era of concord and progress for the people of this beloved nation.

“Long live Myanmar!”

I thank you for your attention, and with prayerful good wishes for your service to the common good, I invoke upon all of you the divine blessings of wisdom, strength and peace. ■

It is a great sign of hope that leaders of the various religious traditions in this country are making efforts to work together, in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect...

I would like to see this decision as a sign of the nation's commitment to pursuing dialogue and constructive cooperation within the greater international community, even as it strives to renew the fabric of civil society.

I would also like my visit to embrace the entire population of Myanmar and to offer a word of encouragement to all those who are working to build a just, reconciled and inclusive social order.

Myanmar has been bless-

ment to justice and respect for human rights. The wisdom of the ancients defined justice precisely as a steadfast will to give each person his due, while the prophets of old saw justice as the basis of all true and lasting peace. These insights, confirmed by the tragic experience of two world wars, led to the establishment of the United Nations and the universal declaration of human rights as the basis for the international community's efforts to

Visit of Pope Francis to Myanmar

THE world's smallest country is being endowed with lots of characteristics of great virtue. Compared to other nations, its population is infinitesimal, only some 1000 people. The world's smallest country is a fully independent nation-state. To be exact, it is the ecclesiastical state. It is called Vatican City, the State of the Vatican City, which is the Seat of the Roman Catholic Church. The State of the Vatican City has an area of about 100 acres. It is situated in the territory of Italy, but according to A Treaty of Conciliation signed on 11th November 1929, it stood as the ecclesiastical state. Though being the tiniest country in the world, it represents 1.2 billion Roman Catholic believers around the world.

The Head of the State of the Vatican City is Pope Francis, 266th Pope. Currently, Pope Francis is in Myanmar on a

The Papal Visit representing 1.2 billion Roman Catholic followers around the world to Myanmar is not only to meet the believers in Myanmar but also to pay a friendly visit to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka and simultaneously to meet individuals and societies representing the nation including the Myanmar President and the State Counsellor.

Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Services. The Papal Visit representing 1.2 billion Roman Catholic followers around the world to Myanmar is not only to meet the believers in Myanmar but also to pay a friendly visit to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka and simultaneously to meet individuals and societies representing the nation including the Myanmar President and the State Counsellor. The visit of the Pope to Myanmar clearly exemplifies how freedom of religion is being practiced in Myanmar and the friendly and generous nature of the people of Myanmar.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

By U Khin Maung
(A retired diplomat)

Introduction

What is law?

Law is the regime that orders human activities and relations through systematic application of the force of politically organized society or through social pressure, backed by force, in such a society. It is the legal system¹. Under Myanmar culture and civilization, law is everybody's concern, everybody's business. There is an old-saying in Myanmar. If freely translated, I think it may read: "a man may not live hundred years long, but he may be faced with over hundred cases or problems². Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines the term "law" as follows:

"Law is the whole system of rules that everyone in a country or system must obey". Thus, there is a legal maxim or principle: "Nobody is above the law", "equality before the law."

Significant legal maxims and principles

Law is so wide, so delicate, so demanding, so difficult a subject that nobody could claim that he knows all the best about the laws. As such, may I, with some sort of legal background, present to you some of the significant legal maxims and principles as follows:

- (1) **The rule of law, law and order**
- (2) **Equality before the law, nobody is above the law.**
- (3) **The letter of the law, spirit of the law.**
- (4) **Ignorance of law is no excuse**
- (5) **Conflict of laws**

1. The rule of law, law and order

The incumbent government is a democratically elected government, or in other words, the incumbent government is "government of the people, by the people, for the people." Together with the people, our government is carrying out a



Significant legal maxims and principles

variety of tremendous tasks. And one of those tremendous tasks, I would like to present to you, with pride and glory as an ordinary citizen is, about our democratic people's government's noble aim and vision to set up a democratic federal union. And in connection with this article, may I present to you a relevant quotation as follows: "The first essential condition for making democracy secure in our lives" is to base all our activities, firmly on the rule of law. There are never two sets of law, one for those within and another for those outside the ruling party. Whoever breaks the laws, must take the consequences. The rule of law and equality before the law must prevail. Law and order is often equated with the rule of law, and in this equation the punitive and deterrent functions of law tend to be over emphasized".

2. Equality before the law. Nobody is above the law

Regarding this legal maxim, I would like to quote a British author Fielding Hall's impression of Burmese (Myanmar) people, mentioned in his book "The soul of a people". The learned author observed that "the Burmese are a community of equals", in a sense that has probably never been known elsewhere". And according to our traditional justice system, "the King was the mighty fountainhead of justice, though he was not himself above the law".

Well, in explaining this legal maxim, "equality before the law" may I also mention its definition in Black's Law Dictionary" as follows:

"Equality before the law" means the status or condition of being treated according to regularly established norms of

justice" ¹. And many constitutional laws prescribe the notion that all persons are subject to the ordinary law of the land; administered by the ordinary law court and officials are not exempt from the general duty of obedience to the law³. And with reference to this legal maxim, may I present to you from the collection of my memories something about diplomatic immunity. Diplomatic immunity is the general exemption of diplomatic agents from the operation of local law, or the law of the country where he is serving. But this immunity or exemption means only from procedural matters and not from legal liabilities. So, if a diplomatic agent had committed offences in the receiving state he would be declared as a "personanon-grata" and he would be called back by the sending state and then legal action would be taken

against him. In essence, nobody is above the law.

3. The letter of the law, spirit of the law

"The letter of the law" means the strictly literal meaning of the law, rather than the intention or policy behind it.

Spirit of the Law means the general meaning or purpose of the law, as opposed to its literal content.

So, learned lawyers would like to advise and assert that when studying and applying the law, both the letter and spirit of the law should be studied and applied

4. Ignorance of law is no excuse

As stated in the introduction, law is everybody's business, everybody's concern. Nobody could argue that I have committed such an act or such

an offence, just because I do not know the law. Lack of knowledge about a legal requirement or prohibition is never an excuse in a criminal charge. In Latin, "ignorantia juris non excusat".

5. Conflict of laws

A difference between the laws of a state or between the laws of different states or countries is known as conflict of laws. If there is a conflict of laws within a state, the later law shall prevail over the earlier law. And if there is a conflict between the laws of a state party to a convention and the stipulations of the convention, then those of the convention shall prevail.

Conclusion

To sum up, I would like to quote some relevant words of wisdom of our legal and literate giant Dr. MaungMaung who mentioned in his book "Law and Custom in Burma and the Burmese Family" as follows: "Law is founded on morality and morality finds its foundation in the moral integrity of the individual. Law is not or must not be reduced to mere words in statute books and legal decisions, but law is or should be an active, ceaseless social process that runs like a nerve system in the living society, and the blood stream of law needs to be constantly renewed and nourished so that it may accommodate change in its continuity, and the blood stream of law needs to be constantly renewed and nourished so that it may accommodate change in its continuity, youth in its age." Our incumbent democratic government is carrying out tremendous tasks, together with the people. These noble tasks include to set up a democratic federal union.

Reference:

- (1) Black's Law Dictionary By Bryan A. Garer
- (2) အသက်တစ်ရာပန်ဆူ၊ အမှုတစ်ရာမကတွေ့ရတတ်သည်။
- (3) Law and custom inBurma and the Burmese Family. Dr. Maung Maung, B.L (Rangoon), J.S.D (Yale), LL.D (Utretch), of Licolin's Inn, Barrister-at-law.

UN urges everyone to take action to end violence against all women and girls

ACTIONS are needed now more than ever to prevent and respond to violence against all women and girls, underscored United Nations representatives at the Asia-Pacific Regional Commemoration for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women held at Chulalongkorn University on 27th November.

This year's commemoration came at a unique moment, coinciding with the unprecedented mobilization of millions behind #MeToo and other movements in an escalating global protest against sexual harassment and violence against women. As the annual 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence campaign kicked off, UN agencies and partners called for seizing the opportunity created by the global outcry over sexual harassment and moving it towards concrete actions to better implement laws and policies to end violence against women once and for all.

Aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, speakers highlighted the importance of reaching the most underserved and marginalized women and girls who are particularly vulnerable to violence.

Ms. Anna-Karin Jatfors, Deputy Regional Director of UN Women Regional Office said: "The current #MeToo movement has revealed the silence of so many women and the long-lasting effects of violence. We have finally heard from women who were afraid to speak up, women who were silenced by powerful men and did not feel they could be heard. The world has seen that violence against women can happen to anyone, in any country, in any part of society. This movement has shown that everyone has a role to play in shaping our societies for the better. There is power in speaking out against harassment and violence in our homes, workplaces, universities and schools, and in the media. In the Asia-Pacific region, we see that violence can be prevented and that change is happening."

Dr. Kingkarn Thepkanjana, Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Chulalongkorn University and Director of the BALAC Program shared that violence against women is an issue that affects millions worldwide. "By educating the next generation and involving young people in anti-violence initiatives, we can work to challenge violent behaviours and norms, and create a safer, fairer society for everyone," said Dr. Thepkanjana.

The event, attended by over 300 students, civil society representatives and government officials, also underlined the crucial role that youth can play to prevent violence against women. Youth have the ability to question outdated thinking about gender roles and establish respectful relationships promoting gender equality.

The Asia-Pacific commemoration was coordinated through the Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, co-chaired by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and UN Women. This event was supported in part by the Australian Government.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence campaign, which mobilizes governments and public alike, is commemorated by the UN under the Secretary-General's campaign UNITE to End Violence against Women by 2030. Throughout the 16 Days of Activism, the UNITE Campaign's Spotlight Days will focus on the far-reaching consequences of violence within some of the most marginalized and underserved groups of women and girls.—ESCAP News

Plan to cultivate 24,123 acres of summer paddy and 459,219 acres of winter crops in Rakhine



Agricultural officials visit a winter crop field in Sittway as they assist farmers in growing peas. **PHOTO: WIN MIN SOE**

A total of 24,123 acres of summer paddy and 459,219 acres of winter crops were planned to be cultivated in Rakhine State for fiscal year 2017-2018.

Rakhine State has a total of 9,088,053 acres of farm lands and there are 1,287,236 acres of cultivated lands.

For fiscal year 2017-2018, 204 acres of summer paddy and 26,810 acres of winter crops were planned to be grown in four townships in Sittway Dis-

trict; 3,426 acres of summer paddy and 143,199 acres of winter crops were planned to be grown in four townships of Mrauk-U District; 20,246 acres of summer paddy and 107,707 acres of winter crops were planned to be cultivated in two townships of Maungtaw District, 100 acres of summer paddy and 78,782 acres of winter crops were scheduled to be grown in four townships of Kyaukpyu District and 147 acres of summer paddy and 102,721

acres of winter crops in three townships of Thandwe District, said Daw Hla Theingi, assistant Director of State Agriculture Department.

Due to the heavy rains monsoon paddies and crops were damaged in the townships of Rakhine State. Growing of monsoon paddies and other crops were also delayed. In some townships, cultivation of the paddy and winter crops is also delayed, she added.—Win Min Soe (IPRD)

Sharing Hygienic Knowledge to be prioritized in Maungtaw

Dr May Win Myint, Chairperson of the Central Women Committee, of the National League for Democracy and the Parliamentarian said that sharing hygienic knowledge will be prioritized for the local populace in Maungtaw region, in Rakhine State.

At the ground breaking ceremony of the rural dispensary for Mro local people to be implemented in Kaigy (Mro) New village, Dr May Win Myint disclosed the statement.

The dispensary in accord with the designated standard will be included in the new-village implementation project—Kaigy (Mro) village.

At the ground breaking ceremony held in the afternoon Dr Daw May Win Myint and party, Maungtaw district Deputy administrator U Ye Htoo and responsible officials drove stakes into the ground.

Dr May Win Myint said, “At the monthly meeting, U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister invited the Yangon Re-



Dr May Win Myint gives talks on health knowledge to local ethnic people. **PHOTO: MIN HTET**

gion government to take part in the rehabilitation of Maungtaw region. We also want to help in a corner necessary. So we came here. Being a medical doctor, I came to donate K 17 million for the sector of health. On emerging as a rural dispensary, we will take part in helping a dispensary to become abundant with drugs and other equipment.

Especially, supply of drugs and sharing medical knowledge

will be prioritized. The present dispensary will be beneficial not only for Mro village and but also for nearby villages.”

Present at the ceremony were U Ye Htoo, Maungtaw district Deputy Commissioner and responsible officials, members of NLD Central Women Committee and parliamentarian Dr Shwe Hmone and Daw Aye Aye Mu (a) Daw Shar Mi.—News Team

Sai Din Bridge to be completed in March

THE Department of Bridges under the Ministry of Construction is building several bridges that will help regional development in Rakhine State, officials said yesterday.

The bridge projects include the Sai Din Bridge, which is nearly half done and will facilitate travel between Ponnagyun and Buthidaung when complete. It has been learnt that arrangements are being made to finish the bridge in March.

The construction of Sai Din Bridge began in December 2016. The bridge is a two-way concrete bridge measuring 600 ft in length, 24 ft in width and 9 ft in height. The bridge is being constructed with 150 labourers to complete the project within the designated time.

“It was targeted to complete the construction in March, at the end of the open season prior to monsoon season. On completion of the bridge, development along the region will remarkably be gained. In the past, local people used to depend only on waterway. On completion of the Ponnag-

yun-Yathedaung-Buthidaung Road, regional development will rise up remarkably. Transport plays an important role for the regional development”, said U Myint Naing Oo, deputy director of the bridges department.

There are four other bridges being constructed — Yathedaung Bridge, Thauung Bridge, Nga San Paw Bridge and Ywa Haung Bridge. The spans are targeted to be completed in March, the end of the budget year and before the monsoon reason.

According to the Bridge Department, the Sai Din Bridge will cost an estimated Ks2.73 billion.

Daw Pu Ma Nyo, a local woman living in Phon Nyo Leit village, opposite of the Sai Din Creek said, “Now we are plying Buthidaung by waterway. So, it is not convenient to travel by waterway all the time, Upon completion of the bridge, it will be convenient for all of us. We find it difficult to sell our crops by waterway. So we thank a lot for the construction of this road”. —News Team



Sai Din Bridge is under construction in Maungtaw. **PHOTO: MIN HTET**

Two IEDs found in Maungtaw

WHILE clearing debris away from the gutted place in Myoma Kanyintan ward in Maungtaw with a bulldozer, a thing suspected to be home-made mines attached with two wires (red and black) packed with a blue Cellotape was found.

An 8-year-old Hindu child named Rauchan found the mine while collecting old used commodities in the gutted ground, half of which was seen on the ground.

On receipt of the information, local police examined

the material, discovering the material measuring 8 inches in length and 5 inches in diameter to be a home-made mine attached with two wires (red and black).

Then, the team led by Captain Nay Zaw Shine of the battle field company (engineer) arrived, searching for other explosives nearby in combination with the police force. In the search, another local-made mine measuring 6 ½ inches in length and 3 inches in diameter was found. —News Team



Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta shakes hands with Chief Justice David Maraga as he takes the oath of office during his swearing-in ceremony at Kasarani Stadium in Nairobi, Kenya on 28 November, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Kenya president sworn-in as police block rival opposition meeting

NAIROBI — Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta was sworn-in for a second five-year term in front of a rapturous crowd on Tuesday as riot police sealed off an area where the opposition planned a rival gathering and tear-gassed people trying to reach it.

Kenyatta won a repeat presidential election on 26 October that was

boycotted by opposition leader Raila Odinga, who said it would not be free and fair.

The Supreme Court nullified the first presidential election, in August, over irregularities.

The extended election season has divided Kenya, a Western ally in a volatile region, and blunted growth in East Africa's richest economy. Odinga's

supporters, many drawn from poorer parts of the country, feel locked out of power and the patronage it brings. Political arguments often have ethnic undercurrents, with Odinga's supporters pointing out that three of the country's four presidents have come from one ethnic group, although the country has 44 recognized groups.—Reuters ■

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Dated 29 November 2017

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Ministry of Planning and Finance
Modernization of Public Finance Management, *Credit No. 54020-MM/Grant No. TF017910*
IFB No: MM-MOPF-31520-GO-RFP
IFB Title: Supply, Implementation and Support of an Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) and related linkages

- This Invitation for Bids (IFB) follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this project that appeared in Development Business, on February 27, 2014.
- The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing in the amount of Credit for US\$30 million from the World Bank and a Grant for US\$25 million from UK and Australian governments towards the cost of Modernization of Public Finance Management Project (MPFMP) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the agreement(s) resulting from this IFB: **Supply, Implementation and Support of an Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) and related linkages**¹.
- The Ministry of Planning and Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as the implementing agency for the project now invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the **Supply, Implementation and Support of an Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) and related linkages**. Internal Revenue Department serves as the implementing agency for the project and for the specification, customization, supply, implementation, commissioning and handover of the above system and linkages, to include:
 - Confirmation/specification of user requirements and documentation of technical functionality;
 - Implementation of integrated packaged software to cover the required functionality of the ITAS and components of the system;
 - Sizing of the required hardware, system software, middleware and associated system management tool set;
 - Development, testing, integration and implementation of the required application software functionality and linkages;
 - Provision of remote access capability for participant facilities (target site locations/branches) for system participants/users, and integration of the application software with participants' in-house systems as applicable;
 - Linkages to other systems at external institutions as specified in Bidding Document, Section VI (Technical Requirements);
 - A high level of consulting services to assist the Purchaser with the business aspects of introducing the systems, including activities such as developing operating rules and procedures and the pricing policy for system usage based on immediate user and location specifications and expected target sites and future user population;
 - Full implementation services including installation, testing, documentation, training, commissioning and handover, and integration with existing ICT environments at participating institutions as necessary;
 - On-site support of the systems for a period of at least two years after completion of warranty period.
- Bidding will be conducted using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) Two stage Bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits* and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines that meet the following minimum qualification criteria:
 - Bidder's Financial Capability** - The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence that it meets the following financial requirement(s): average Annual Turnover within the last three (3) years of not less than **USD 10,000,000**; and access to financial resources such as lines of credit, etc. of at least **USD 1,000,000**.
 - Bidder's Experience and Technical Capacity** - During the past five (5) Years, the Bidder must have completed at least one (1) successful contract involving the supply, implementation and support of an integrated tax administration system and components of the system and related linkages, and preferably in a developing country environment similar to that of Myanmar; such contract shall have the value greater than USD 5,000,000. The Bidder shall also provide the name and contact information of the user.
 - Bidder's Legal Requirements** - The Bidder shall be legally registered in its country of origin.
 - Minimum required experience of proposed staff** - The Project Manager and all other team members must have substantial experience in their specific areas. The Bidder must provide a detailed staffing plan including resumes for the project manager, business analysts, subject matter expert, programmers, quality assurers, system administrator and DB administrator.
The minimum qualifications for all staff are at least two years of experience working in implementing fully functional COTS based revenue administration management solutions. More information on qualification of bidders is specified in the bidding documents, Bid Data Sheet, Page 55.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Ministry of Planning and Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 09:30 – 12:30 and 13:30-16:30 hours, Monday to Friday, except public holidays. As an alternative, the set of bidding document may be sent to interested Bidders upon submission of a written application to Ministry of Planning and Finance of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar by email: mmt.budget@gmail.com, cc_zawnaing652011@gmail.com, sukumarshep@gmail.com.
A pre-bid meeting will not be held.
In case of any difficulty in obtaining the bidding documents, interested parties may contact U Zaw Naing, Director General at the address given below at the end of this notice.
- First stage bids must be delivered/submitted to the address below on or before **8 January 2018 at 14:00 hours Myanmar time**. Electronic submission of bids is not allowed. **Late bids will be rejected**. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration in the format given in the Bid document. **Late bids and electronic bids will not be considered**.
- The attention of prospective Bidders is drawn to the fact that (i) they will be required to certify in their bids that all software either is covered by a valid license or was produced by the Bidder and (ii) violations are considered fraud, which can result in ineligibility to be awarded World Bank-financed contracts.

¹ The term "linkages" refers to the capabilities of the ITAS system to easily interface with external systems for data transfer with third-party systems as necessary and currently operational or expected to be operational in the future.

Address for bid submission:

Attention: Mr Zaw Naing
Address: Ministry of Planning and Finance, Building Number (26), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Telephone: 095-067-410046; Facsimile number: 095-067-410189
Electronic mail address: mmt.budget@gmail.com, Cc_zawnaing652011@gmail.com

Irish deputy PM under pressure to quit and avoid election

DUBLIN — Irish Deputy Prime Minister Frances Fitzgerald was under intense pressure from her own party to resign on Tuesday to avoid a snap election that is hours away from being called, a crisis that is casting a shadow over next month's Brexit summit.

Opposition party Fianna Fail, which has been propping up the Fine Gael minority government, said the deputy prime minister's refusal to quit would force the country to the polls in December, a position that hardened on Monday.

Ireland will play a major role in the Brexit summit, telling European Union leaders whether it believes sufficient progress has been made on the future of the border between EU-member Ireland and the British province of Northern Ireland.

In public, Fitzgerald's ministerial colleagues continued to back her. She had resisted calls to go on

Monday from the majority of opposition parties following the release of fresh documents about her disputed handling of a police whistleblower who alleged corruption in the force.

"There is certainly not a need for her to resign, the position of Fine Gael remains the same and the position of the Taoiseach (prime minister) remains the same," Simon Harris told reporters.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Leo Varadkar, whom analysts say risks being badly damaged by the affair, said late on Monday the government stood behind her.

But a journalist from the Sunday Business Post newspaper said on Twitter that he was told Varadkar had asked Fitzgerald to consider the matter overnight.

The front pages of the Irish Times, Irish Examiner and Irish Independent newspapers also quoted unnamed Fine Gael lawmakers as saying Fitzgerald

had to resign.

One minister, who spoke to Reuters on condition of anonymity as senior ministers were due to meet on Tuesday, said Fitzgerald was coming under serious pressure from within the party to resign and would have to go. Another lawmaker agreed.

National broadcaster RTE quoted Fine Gael backbencher Hildegard Naughton as saying it will be difficult for Fitzgerald to stay, while two cabinet ministers who sit in parliament as independents said the situation was "very grave".

Another Sunday Business Post journalist quoted an Independent Alliance source as saying: "They're not backing her, she needs to go." "We will make our views known to the Taoiseach at cabinet this morning," the Independent Alliance group's Finian McGrath told reporters, refusing to comment on Fitzgerald's position.—Reuters ■



ZALA 421-20 unmanned aircraft. PHOTO: TASS

Kalashnikov plans to launch unmanned aircraft fleet operator

MOSCOW — Russia's concern Kalashnikov (an affiliate of Rostec) is creating a provider of a variety of services in the unmanned aircraft market segment, the concern's press-service told TASS.

Kalashnikov has plans for manufacturing drones and provide the full range of maintenance and repair services to any customers interested.

The specialists of the yet-to-be created company plan to use drones for handling tasks that require

remote-controlled aircraft: aerial photography, map-making, telecommunications, cargo delivery, monitoring of viral diseases, protection of forests and private properties, weather watching and others," the press-service said.

Kalashnikov's CEO Aleksey Krivoruchko said the concern was certain the market was very much interested in a company that would provide the full cycle of remote-controlled civil aviation-related services, from leasing to repairs

and maintenance, to both private and public clients. "This will make the services of drones far more available and less costly for the clientele," he said.

Kalashnikov-affiliated drone manufactures have already accumulated certain experience of providing unmanned aircraft services to private companies. The group of companies ZALA offers an effective and economically beneficial method of surveying oil and gas pipelines from the air.—Tass ■

German court rules against overpricing phone calls for prisoners

BERLIN — Germany's constitutional court ruled on Tuesday against overpricing phone calls made by prison inmates, saying that disregarding the economic interests of prisoners violates their constitutional right to rehabilitation.

A detainee in a correctional facility in the northern state of Schleswig Holstein filed a lawsuit in July, 2015 against the prison for significantly increasing the costs of phone calls.

The Federal Constitutional Court in Tuesday's ruling called on the institution to select private providers that offer phone service at fair market prices.—Reuters

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(18/ 2017)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	DMP/L-078(17-18)	Spares for CAT D-333 C Lighting Set Engine (45) Items	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-079(17-18)	Spares for Gas Filtration & Pressure Regulating System (6) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-080(17-18)	SAE VG 15 W 40 Engine Oil & ISO VG 100 Engine Oil (2) Items	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-081(17-18)	Special Tools for CAT G-3516 C & CAT G-3512 Lighting Set Engine (15) Items	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-082(17-18)	Spares for 55 Ton Hitachi Sumitomo Crawler Crane (14) Items	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-083(17-18)	Instrument and Hand Tools for Gas Control and Metering Station (11) Items	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-084(17-18)	Spares for National 55 Drive Group (12) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time- 28-12-2017, 16:30 pm

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 29 November 2017 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411206

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C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
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Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 29 November 2017
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HOTLINE
09-974424114

Police say blast in China's Ningbo was accident with illegal explosives

BEIJING — Police in the Chinese port city of Ningbo said on Tuesday that a blast on the weekend that killed two people was an accident during a scrambled attempt to disassemble an illegal explosives man-

ufacturing operation.

The explosion early on Sunday in the Zhejiang province city, south of Shanghai, also wounded 19 people and destroyed the roofs of two buildings, state media reported.

Investigators believed it was an accident triggered during the disassembling of an illegal explosives manufacturing operation, Ningbo police said on their official social media account.

An individual surnamed Shan was suspected of manufacturing, buying and selling explosives and was believed to have been the owner of the explosives, police said.

Shan was detained in

Hubei province on Monday after escaping police custody on Saturday, they said.

It was not possible to contact Shan or his family for comment.

Blasts and other

accidents are common in China due to patchy enforcement of safety rules, although the government has pledged to improve checks to try to stamp out such incidents.

—Reuters ■



Eruption of Mount Agung as seen from Kubu village in Karangasem, Bali, Indonesia on 28 November, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Tourists, authorities feel the heat as Bali volcano keeps airport closed

KARANGASEM (Indonesia) — Indonesia on Tuesday extended the closure of the airport on Bali as ash from a volcano swept the island, stranding thousands of tourists as authorities tried to persuade villagers to leave their homes near the erupting mountain.

"Aircraft flight channels are covered with volcanic ash," the transport ministry said in a statement, citing aviation navigation authorities.

Bali's airport, about 60 km (37 miles) from the Mount Agung volcano, will be closed until 7 am on Wednesday (2300 GMT on Tuesday), it said.

Frustration at the country's second-busiest airport were starting to boil over, with an estimated 2,000 people attempting to get refunds and re-schedule tickets.

"There are thousands

of people stranded here at the airport," said Nitin Sheth, a tourist from India.

"They have to go to some other airport and they are trying to do that, but the government or authorities here are not helping."

Others were more relaxed.

"No, there's not a lot of information ... very little. (But) it's all right. We're on holidays so it doesn't matter. We don't know what's going to happen but we can get back to the bar and have another drink," said Matthew Radix from Perth.

Ten alternative airports have been prepared for airlines to divert inbound flights, including in neighbouring provinces, the airport operator said, adding it was helping people make alternative bookings and providing food and entertainment

for stranded travellers.

The airport on Lombok island, to the east of Bali, had been reopened, authorities said, as wind blew ash westward, toward the southern coast of Java island.

Agung towers over eastern Bali to a height of just over 3,000 metres (9,800 feet). Its last eruption in 1963 killed more than 1,000 people and razed several villages when it spewed out pyroclastic material, hot ash, lava and lahar. On Tuesday, however, life went on largely as normal in villages surrounding Agung, with residents offering prayers as the volcano sent columns of ash and smoke into the sky. Some villagers who fled in September, when the alert was last raised to the highest level, have gone home despite government warnings.—Reuters ■

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Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
hh@kcyangon.com

Dated 29 November 2017

Pope Francis in Nay Pyi Taw

ပုဂံရဟန်းမင်းကြီး ဗရန်ခစ် မိန့်ခွန်းပြောကြားသည့်အခမ်းအနား

Speech by His Holiness Pope Francis

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နေပြည်တော်



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Pope Francis stand on stage with children during a meeting with members of the civil society and diplomatic corps. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



Pope Francis signs a guestbook during a meeting with President U Htin Kyaw at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw, on 28 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets Pope Francis in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



Pope Francis blesses a child as he arrives with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to attend a meeting with members of the civil society and diplomatic corps in Nay Pyi Taw, on 28 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



Pope Francis is welcomed at the Nay Pyi Taw Airport, on 28 November 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

National objectives for the 2018, 70th Anniversary of Independence Day

1. All nationalities to collectively preserve and protect non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national unity; and perpetuation of national sovereignty.
2. To strive hard to draw up a constitution suitable for the Union in accordance with democratic principles and norms for the emergence of a Democratic Federal Union.
3. To strive hard and exert our utmost efforts to implement the peace process as quickly as possible.
4. For all nationalities to work together with the State to achieve the goal of "lasting peace" through political dialogues.
5. By encouraging the private sector which is the main engine of growth for the economy, to collectively exert our efforts for improving and advancing the socio-economic life of the people.



လူငယ်
ဘက်စုံဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးပွဲတော်

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Victoria Beckham's fashion business raises \$40 million for expansion



Designer Victoria Beckham in the Manhattan borough of New York on 9 November, 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

LONDON — Victoria Beckham, the former Spice Girl turned luxury fashion designer, has raised 30 million pounds to expand her stores and e-commerce channel via a new funding round from NEO Investment Partners.

The Business of Fashion website said the deal valued the business at 100 million pounds.

Founded in 2008, Victoria Beckham Limited sells through 400 stockists and in more than 50 countries. It is privately owned by Victoria, her husband David and agent Simon Fuller, and manufactures the majority of its clothing in Britain.

"NEO is the perfect partner to now accompany us on the next step of our journey," she said in a statement. "They understand my vision and my wish for the company to retain its independence, as well as my commitment to continuing to develop the brand with a unique, forward thinking approach."

Victoria Beckham shot to fame as one of the Spice Girls, a

1990s girl-band that sold 85 million records to become one of the best selling pop groups of all time. Nicknamed Posh Spice, she married footballer David Beckham in 1999 creating Britain's most high-profile celebrity couple. Having initially struggled to be taken seriously by the fashion industry, Beckham's collections now show in New York and have earned critical acclaim. Beckham and her clothing designs grace newspapers around the world, with some of her pieces costing up to 2,000 pounds.

Private equity firm NEO, also founded in 2008, backs brands including the interior design group Tom Dixon, menswear group AMI Paris and bakery chain Paul.

"Victoria Beckham ... has built a unique, differentiated luxury brand with a strong identity and very high potential," said David Belhassen, founder and managing partner of NEO. "I am delighted to be working with her and her team to reach the brand's full potential." —Reuters ■

New amphibious bus tour launched in Tokyo Bay

TOKYO — A new Tokyo Bay amphibious bus tour was launched Monday to service the expected influx of foreign tourists drawn to the city ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

Fuji Kyuko Co operates the 12-metre-long bus named "TOKYO NO KABA" (Tokyo's Hippo). The cruise takes it under the Rainbow Bridge that

spans Tokyo Bay after winding through the office buildings and entertainment complexes in the nearby Odaiba area. The bus seats 38 and offers tour information in English, Chinese, Korean, Thai and Indonesian. It was designed by Eiji Mitooka, known for his train and other industrial designs including the luxurious cruise train "Seven Stars in Kyushu" operated by

Kyushu Railway Co. Fuji Kyuko operates a 45-minute tour seven times daily, six days a week. The fare is 3,500 yen (\$31) for an adult, 1,700 yen for a child aged at 4 or older; and 500 yen for those at 3 or younger. The company expects 60,000 customers per year. Hinomaru Jidousya Kougyo Co also provides a similar bus tour in the area. —Kyodo News ■

Australian university marks centenary of Japanese language teaching

SYDNEY — From 2017 to 2019, the University of Melbourne, in Australia's southeastern state of Victoria, is celebrating 100 years of Japanese language education.

Although Japanese is the most widely taught foreign language in Australian schools today, the university is only one of two tertiary institutions in the country with such long-running Japanese programs.

In 1917, Senkichi "Moshi" Inagaki began teaching Japanese to private students — including high-profile individuals such as the then-director of military intelligence — at the university's Trinity College.

In 1919, Inagaki, who arrived in Australia in 1897, and the Rev. Thomas Jollie Smith officially began teaching at the university, pioneering Japanese studies.

The centenary will be celebrated over three years to acknowledge these consecutive milestones.

World War II brought Jap-



Photo taken on 25 April, 2014, shows a Japanese language textbook used by Senkichi "Moshi" Inagaki at the University of Melbourne. Inagaki began teaching Japanese in Australia in 1917. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

anese tuition to a temporary halt at the university, and by 1942 Inagaki was placed in an internment camp, along with other Japanese nationals living in Australia. After the war, in 1946, Inagaki returned to Japan. Mariko Kubota, a former lecturer at the university and

author of "Moshi and Rose," a novel based on the life of Inagaki and his Australian wife, said she was grateful to Inagaki for introducing Japanese education to the university when he did.

"Inagaki worked hard, struggling against dominant teaching ideologies," Kubota said. "But it's because someone was working so hard that the program has been able to continue for 100 years."

Since its inception, Japanese has been the most popular language subject taught at the university, with a record 1,634 students currently enrolled. According to Akihiro Ogawa, a professor of Japanese studies in the university's Asia Institute, international students, particularly from China, make up a large percentage of the student body.

"With the increase of international students, the goals of Japanese language education have changed," Ogawa said. —Kyodo News ■



Chile's coach
Juan Antonio
Pizzi. PHOTO:
REUTERS

Pizzi appointed Saudi Arabia coach

BANGKOK — Juan Antonio Pizzi has replaced Edgardo Bauza as head coach of World Cup-bound Saudi Arabia, sources at the country's football federation have told Reuters.

Argentinean Pizzi would represent Saudi Arabia at the World Cup draw in Moscow on Friday, they added.

Pizzi is the third coach to fill the position in the last three months after Bauza was hired to replace Bert van Marwijk, who qualified the country for their first World Cup finals since 2006.

Van Marwijk left the post after failing to agree a new contract with the Saudi federation while Bauza was fired last week

after just five games in charge, including back-to-back losses against Bulgaria and Portugal.

Pizzi was most recently in charge of Chile, who he took to the final of this year's Confederations Cup, but the 49-year-old resigned after failing to steer the country to the World Cup finals.

Saudi Arabia have qualified for their fifth World Cup, with the country's best performance coming in their debut appearance at the finals in 1994 in the United States, when they reached the Round of 16.

The country has been eliminated in the group phase of the competition on each occasion since. —Reuters ■

Myanmar national futsal team awarded Ks30 million and US\$5,000

Kyaw Zin Tun

THE Myanmar national futsal team was awarded Ks30 million and US\$5,000 as they advanced to the 2018 AFC Futsal Championship for the first time.

Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) patron U Aung Ko Win contributed Ks10 million, MFF's chairman U ZawZaw contributed Ks10 million, the MFF contributed US\$5,000, U Htun Htun Lin contributed Ks5

million and U MyoThura contributed Ks5 million.

It is the first time Myanmar has advanced to the AFC Futsal Championship. The 16 teams that qualified for the AFC Championship are: hosts Chinese Taipei, Viet Nam, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, South Korea, China, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Tajikistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan. Myanmar is the only team among this year's

squads to qualify for the first time. Bahrain and Jordan are second time advancing teams. According to the previous appearances in the tournament, only two teams, Iran and Japan, have won all the championships since 1999. Japan won in 2006, 2012 and 2014, and other years were won by Iran, statistically the best futsal team in the world.

The 2018 AFC Championship will be hosted by Chinese Taipei from 1 to 11 February.

Arsenal will not sell Ozil and Sanchez in January — Wenger

LONDON — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has ruled out selling Mesut Ozil and Alexis Sanchez in the January transfer window “unless something unbelievable happens.”

Both players are out of contract in the summer and have been the subject of repeated speculation that they may leave, with Ozil a reported target for Manchester United and Barcelona, and Sanchez the subject of a failed bid from Manchester City last summer.

Speaking ahead of Wednesday's game with Huddersfield Town, Wenger was asked whether he thought both would

still be at the club when the January transfer window closes.

“Yes, of course,” he said. “I rule it out. I don't think every day about that.”

“As long as they are here they give their best for the club. In my head they stay until the end of the season, unless something unbelievable happens I don't see that changes.”

If neither player signs a contract extension, each could begin negotiating with other clubs in January ahead of a summer move.

When asked whether he thought the pair would remain at the club long term, Wenger

said: “I am not the only one to decide that. They have to decide that as well.”

Wenger also spoke about the future of Jack Wilshere, who has also been linked with a move after failing to nail down a regular first-team place this season.

“I always considered his interests because he has been an Arsenal player since a kid,” said Wenger. “My first priority is what is best for him. “I have to consider the interests of Jack Wilshere and Arsenal. If I think its in his best interest to stay here, I will fight 100 per cent for that.”—Reuters ■

Palace boss Hodgson calls for calm heads for Brighton clash

LONDON — Crystal Palace manager Roy Hodgson expects his players to avoid the hype of a derby and keep their emotions under control when they visit south-coast rivals Brighton and Hove Albion in the Premier League later on Tuesday.

Basement side Palace travel to Amex Stadium for the first time in four years, seeking their first point on the road this campaign.

“It's important as a manager that you don't add to the hype, because you need players to play with their head and their heart,” Hodgson told a news conference.

“If you put too much emphasis on the heart, maybe you don't have the head.”

“I'm hoping to see a good performance tomorrow and that we're going to continue playing in the style we've been

playing. You hope that something unfortunate doesn't happen to you and that you get the rub of the green.”

Having lost eight consecutive league games without scoring at the start of the season, Palace have kickstarted their campaign in recent weeks, with eight points from six matches.

The manager said Palace will need to improve significantly to climb out of the relegation zone but said they are on the right path.

“I think the fans are starting to see a team that they can identify with better than the team they saw at the start of the season,” Hodgson added.

“I think they are getting some sort of belief that even though we've given ourselves a mountain to climb, there's some chance we'll be able to do that.” —Reuters ■



Crystal Palace manager Roy Hodgson. PHOTO: REUTERS