

Counting the cost of violence

The family of Ko Linn Linn, a Muslim teashop owner whose business was destroyed by a mob on March 27, gathers in their home in Bago's Minhla township on March 29. Rioting spread from Meiktila in Mandalay Region to western Bago Region last week, with a curfew put in place in several townships, including Minhla. Full story page 4. Pic: Kaung Htet



Than Shwe's former PSO involved in Nay Pyi Taw land dispute

By Pyae Thet Physo

TWO men involved in a land dispute in the Nay Pyi Taw area with former Senior General Than Shwe's right-hand man have been accused of criminal intimidation and trespassing and could soon face court.

Ko Soe Pe, acting on behalf of Major General Soe Shein, filed three charges against U Ko Ko Naing and U Maung Win on March 12, alleging that they had illegally occupied land in Lewe township's Pinthaung village owned by Maj Gen Soe Shein, Senior General (retired) Than Shwe's former personal staff officer (PSO).

The men have cultivated the 50 acres, which is part of a 400-acre site now allegedly owned by Maj Gen Soe Shein, for more than 20 years.

Officers from the police station in nearby Ayelar village investigated the complaint on March 23.

"Three charges were filed. The case has been submitted to the township law office. We don't know whether they will be formally charged," an officer from Ayelar police station told *The Myanmar Times*.

Ko Pho Htaung and Ko Than Maung from Aungthukha village paid K1 million bail for the two accused, who say they have done nothing wrong.

"Though I was litigated, I didn't do anything wrong," said U Ko Ko Naing.

The men say the land was incorrectly classified as vacant land and Maj Gen Soe Shein applied for ownership to Pinthaung village's land record clerk, U Htay Zaw Oo, in the 2010-2011 financial year.

In July 2011 a sign was put up in the area asserting Maj Gen Soe Shein's ownership. Farmers from Pinthaung say that when Maj Gen Soe Shein applied to register ownership of the land he did not declare that there were any objections.

The farmers, who are using the land to grow crops like sugarcane, sesame, pigeon pea and perennials such as lime and banana, filed a complaint letter to the President's Office on November 21, 2012.

But bulldozers arrived to begin clearing some of the land on March 3, they said.

"His signboard said he had been awarded 160.32 acres but the real figure is more than 400 acres," U Ko Ko Naing said.

- Translated by Thit Lwin

'Well-trained terrorists' behind Meiktila: 88 Gen

By Ei Ei Toe Lwin

88 GENERATION leaders have criticised the Ministry of Home Affairs for taking no action as riots engulfed Meiktila, and claimed the violence was the work of "well-trained terrorists".

Min Ko Naing said it was "very clear" that the riots did not represent a communal conflict between Buddhists and Muslims.

"It is sure that a group, comprising well-trained terrorists, made the riots by instigating the people intentionally ... they are strangers and not local residents," Min Ko Naing said at a press conference in Yangon on March 29.

"[The terrorists] drove cars around the town and yelled out the places where they will instigate violence later on. Everybody heard the voices and the security forces

also heard it but they just watched on without taking action," said Min Ko Naing. "Although the security forces could control the violence in time, they didn't."

The violence broke out on March 20 following a dispute over a golden hairclip. More than 40 people died and 12,000 were injured in Meiktila, while the unrest has since spread to townships in Bago Region.

88 Generation members

travelled to Meiktila with Shwe Nya War Sayadaw and Ashin Sayadaw Wirathu shortly after the violence began and urged members of both communities to exercise restraint.

88 Generation leaders said the incident showed the urgent need for rule of law around the nation, adding that they believed the Ministry of Home Affairs

More page 4

Dunlopillo moments **TALASILVER LATEX MATTRESS**
 THE FIRST TO GIVE YOU SUPERIOR NANO SILVER PROTECTION WHEN YOU SLEEP

CasaBella Luxury Home Furnishing Centre ☎ 664 363, 660 769
 No. 22, Pyey Road, 9mile, Mayangone Township. Email: casabella@mm.com.mm

NatRay Co., Ltd.
 www.dunlopiloworld.com

(Constitutional) change is in the air

With talk of constitutional change ramping up, MP **U Ye Tun** analyses the changes different stakeholders are eyeing



InDepth
with
Ye Tun

BARELY two years since a political system based on the 2008 constitution was established, voices to amend the constitution have come loudly to the fore.

Ethnic minorities would like to amend the constitution to gain genuine federalism, while the National League for Democracy (NLD) wants to urgently amend the qualifications prescribed for the selection of a president. As President U Thein Sein regards some of the amendments the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw would like to make as not conforming to the provisions of the constitution, he has indicated that the constitution could and perhaps should be amended, which has also increased interest and debate around the issue. Recently, the issue got further impetus when senior members from U Thein Sein's party, the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), submitted a proposal to parliament calling for a constitutional review.

The sections that groups want to amend differ based on the particular interest they want to protect. I would like to share my view with readers, not as one who represents a political party but as a political analyst. I also want to make clear that my view does not necessarily reflect that of my party, or those held by most parliamentarians.

The constitution is a set of rules about how a nation should be ruled. The

constitution clearly states how power is distributed among the legislature, executive and judiciary and how these three powers communicate with each other. In this way, it describes how a government should be elected, formed and assigned to rule. It also aims to guarantee the fundamental rights of the people.

Union Solidarity and Development Party

When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw recently amended the Auditor General Law and Constitutional Tribunal Law, President U Thein Sein said that the changes were unconstitutional. To make them legal, the hluttaw should try to amend the original provision in constitution, he said. This does not mean that the president agrees with the outcome of the amendment but is just pointing out the right process of making the law. However, only last week did the USDP make any move to amend provisions within the constitution.

Until then, the party's MPs had only tried to amend laws because it is not clear what the result of attempting to amend the constitution would be. Assuming all USDP representatives vote together and MPs from other parties joined them, they would also need at least a few votes from the 25 percent of Tatmadaw MPs, as more than 75pc of votes are needed to amend the constitution. It is not clear what the commander-in-chief's policy on the amendment of constitution is, but it is likely that his consent would be required for military MPs to vote for a change. His support

would therefore be vital. Furthermore, it is debateable whether the amendment can get enough votes from all USDP MPs because of the lack of party unity.

National League for Democracy

The NLD has openly said that there are points it wants to amend in the constitution. Recently Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said that the main point the party wants to amend is the qualifications prescribed for the selection of the president. Since the present qualifications were imposed to ban Daw Aung San Suu Kyi alone, they are unfair and should be repealed, she said. Amending these points would be difficult because it would require the consent of the commander-in-chief and most USDP parliamentarians. However, politics is volatile and can change overnight so I wouldn't dare say it is impossible.

Ethnic parties

The portion of the constitution ethnic parties want to amend is different from those of the two major parties. Instead, they place emphasis on the devolution of more legislative power to state and region hluttaws and more executive power to state and region governments.

The form of federalism the ethnic minorities want to get would see the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Union Government delegate state and region bodies all powers except defence, foreign relations, currency, foreign trade, and legislative and

executive powers related to resolving territorial disputes between states and regions and so on.

However, ethnic parties are also divided on the issue. For example, the Shan Nationalities Democratic Party (SNDP) accepts the current setup of seven states and seven regions but the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy has called for eight or nine states, with one or two "regions" becoming "Bamar states", such as lower Bamar state and upper Bamar state. However, the SNDP demands a federal union system in which there is equality and each nationality has the right to determine its own destiny.

Ethnic minorities argue that centralised power control should be eased for economic development and this is likely to be supported by regional legislatures and governments too. Such a change is likely to be a step forward for national unity so changes along these lines to the constitution are expected to some extent, if not fully.

Democratic Party (Myanmar) and National Democratic Force

The provisions in chapter nine of the constitution on the electoral system is the portion that the Democratic Party (Myanmar) and NDF want to amend because they have little chance of winning seats in the 2015 election under the current first-past-the-post system. Instead, they would prefer to adopt a proportional representation system for the election. Under the current system, the winner does not always represent the majority of voters; a representative

can be elected with as little as 25-30pc of the vote where the constituency has four or five competitors. These parties prefer a system whereby elections are not contested so much by individual candidates but by parties and MPs are elected on a pro rata basis after counting all votes.

However, to introduce this system would require changes in chapter nine of the constitution. While 75pc of support would still be needed, it would not require a referendum to make these changes. The parties that are able to contest across the country but are unlikely to win would benefit under a proportional representative election system, so it could also be supported by the National Unity Party and USDP. The NLD opposes this system because under first-past-the-post system it can expect to win a majority in the current political climate. Ethnic parties oppose it to because they are unable to contest throughout the country.

In this context, it is possible that there will be a fusion of proportional representation and first-past-the-post. For example, in selecting a Pyithu Hluttaw MP for a township, first-past-the-post will be used. Meanwhile, the 12 Amyotha Hluttaw seats for each state and region will be allocated based on the proportion of votes for parties across the particular state or region. A mixed system will to some degree meet the demands of all stakeholders.

(Ye Tun is the Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Hsipaw from the Shan Nationalities Democratic Party.)

'Politics is volatile and can change overnight so I wouldn't dare say that changing the constitution is impossible.'



Fly now with our fabulous fares.

Economy class starting from:

Moscow	USD 1,029	Milan	USD 1,216
Rome	USD 1,180	Paris	USD 1,322
Frankfurt	USD 1,194	London	USD 1,357

To book your ticket, visit qatarairways.com/mm

Book between 25th March 2013 and 06th April 2013 • Travel must commence between 16th April 2013 and 06th August 2013 • Minimum stay is 3 days. Maximum stay is 1 month • Seats are limited and subject to availability of the selected booking class • Fares are for return tickets and include all applicable fees, taxes and airport charges • Fares may vary due to currency fluctuations • Fares/taxes are subject to change without prior notice • Ticket is Non-refundable and non-changeable in case of No-show • Charges permitted with a penalty of USD100 • Standard child/infant discounts apply • Other terms and conditions apply. Please review at the time of booking.

World's 5-star airline.



After bloodshed, attempting to peer behind the curtain



In Depth
with
Kyaw Hsu Mon

WHAT is the root cause of last week's communal riots? That's the question that has occupied many people over the past week, with some observers speculating that groups wanting to rebuild the military's role in governance are behind the violence.

Others suggest that the diversity of people living in Myanmar is the issue, that "terrorists" are inciting the riots or that the motivation is simply personal enrichment.

The violence broke out in Meiktila on March 20 following a dispute in a gold shop between Muslims and Buddhists. This prompted riots that mostly affected Muslims, which some estimate make up about 30 percent of the town's population. Violence between the two sides, which are demarcated along religious lines, has since spread to some other townships, including western Bago Region.

Presidential spokesperson U Ye Htut told *The Myanmar Times* that he didn't believe the conflict was instigated or controlled "by people who want to take us back to the past".

He suggested it might instead be some people who are unhappy at the extent of the government's efforts towards reconciliation and the country's improved standing in the international community.

"It is like some people used immigration disputes in some areas and they tried to change [these disputes] to be religious affairs that could spread out nationwide," he said.

The perception that individuals or groups are behind the incidents is widespread, and has prompted some to draw links with 1988.

But U Saw Myint, a 65-year-old Mayangone resident, said the unrest was completely different because it was between groups of civilians, rather than civilians and the army.

"The riots are based on religious issues, not politics so it does not look like 1988 but some people involved in that uprising want to use the same theory. I think they are trying to test the government and people," he said.

Ko Zaw Naing, 30, from Pazundaung township, agreed there were no parallels with 1988.

"I don't see any dispute between the army and people ... it happened because we have a lot of diversity in our country, we have different perspectives, opinions, those all lead to many disputes among the people," he said.

Editor of the Burmese section of *The Irrawaddy*, Ye Ni, also stressed the differences between the

recent violence and the events of 1988.

"In 1988, students organised peaceful demonstrations and they did not hide who they were or what they were doing. But nobody knows who is stirring up the current situation, which is just a riot that most people do not support," he said.

"We can also say that the 1988 uprising was not riots, it was a people's uprising to call for a change [in government]," he said.

"I think the [recent violence] is a reflection of our society, which lacks tolerance for different religions and cultures."

Nevertheless, concerns of an escalation in the violence have been expressed both at home and also abroad, including by the United Nations. (See adjoining report.)

Some steps have been taken to reduce the likelihood of this happening, with Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe warning political parties not to get involved in any disputes, and Yangon residents forming neighbourhood watch teams. (See reports page 6.)

But some police officials have clearly been reluctant to intervene in the violence and attempt to restore order, a stance that has drawn criticism from the 88 Generation. This could be partly a consequence of the heavy-handed crackdown on Letpadaung protesters on November 29, 2012, which drew strong criticism from the international community.

Many are also questioning what role the military should play in resolving the crisis. U Khin Maung Swe, chairman of the National Democratic Force, said in some cases the army's involvement is necessary.

"I don't mean I like the Tatmadaw, but for some violence we still need the Tatmadaw to be involved," he said.

In an address to the nation on March 28, President U Thein Sein said that while he does "not endorse the use of force to solve problems ... I will not hesitate to use force as a last resort to protect the lives and safeguard the property of the general public".

"The police forces ... must perform their duties decisively, bravely and within the constraints of the constitution and by-laws," he said.

But his words will have done little to dissuade those who see the violence as an orchestrated, rather than spontaneous, series of events: he spoke of "the attempts by a small number of people to spread this violence to other parts of the country".

"[T]hose instigators, taking advantage of the disingenuousness of the public, attempted to engineer the situation to engineer violence in other parts of the country."



Police conduct night drills in downtown Yangon last week. Pic: Kaung Htet

UN warns of more violence unless govt acts decisively

By Nan Tin Htwe

MORE violence could break out in Myanmar if the government does not take stronger preventative measures, the United Nations has warned.

Riots in Meiktila last month saw 40 people killed and more than 12,000 people left homeless.

"There is a considerable risk of further violence if measures are not put in place to prevent this escalation," UN special adviser on the prevention of genocide, Mr Adama Dieng, said in a statement on March 25.

"Failing to do so can have serious future consequences which the international community has solemnly promised to prevent."

He also expressed his concern over spreading violence in other parts of the country. State media reported that houses and religious buildings have been burnt down in Pynmana and Lewe townships near Nay Pyi Taw.

As the violence spread to Bago Region, Gyobingauk, Okpo and Minhla townships were placed under a curfew on March 26. Meanwhile, another three townships were declared at risk on March 27, state media reported.

"The government of Myanmar must clearly demonstrate that it is serious about holding accountable those responsible for the past and present violence, regardless of their religious or ethnic affiliations," Mr Dieng said.

He said the government's primary responsibility was to address the situation as a matter of urgency, develop a comprehensive national strategy that upholds international human rights standards and promotes reconciliation and tolerance among the Buddhist and Muslim communities.

"As a country that has positively surprised the international community with its recent transformation towards democracy, Myanmar needs to demonstrate that the rule of law will prevail and that all those living within its borders are and will be protected from violence and discrimination, particularly on the basis of religion or ethnicity," he said.

He also urged religious leaders to adopt a culture of respect for diversity and peaceful coexistence.

Following his visit there, Mr Vijay Nambiar, the UN Secretary-General's special adviser, said the Meiktila riot was "systematically" planned, the *Financial Times* reported on March 25.

"There is no doubt much of this violence was planned. Clearly the perpetrators were seething with hatred and there was some planning behind this. It was systematic," Mr Nambiar was quoted as saying. However, Mr Nambiar said his visit to affected people in camps gave him hope that reconciliation will be possible.

On March 25, Mr Nambiar met President U Thein Sein, Minister for Home Affairs Lieutenant General Ko

Ko and other ministers in Nay Pyi Taw where he said that he was deeply touched by the plight of the local people, state media reported on March 26. He also called for severe action against those who "instigated and inflamed" the violence.

Meanwhile, the International Crisis Group's Asia director, Jim Della-Giacoma, raised concerns about the implications of communal unrest for Myanmar's reform process in a blog post on March 28. Noting that it is "not unusual for countries emerging from authoritarianism to experience inter-communal strife", he wrote that if the riots "continue to spread, and escalate, they could do enormous damage to the country, beyond the immediate human costs".

He called on the government to "swiftly and visibly" bring the perpetrators to justice and for religious leaders to "come out forcefully at this time with messages of calm and peace".

Political leaders need "to rise to the challenge of shaping public opinion, rather than just following it".

"In particular, Aung San Suu Kyi, as the most powerful political and moral voice in the country, must be prepared to go further than she has been willing to up till now. She has said that she does not want to take sides in inter-communal conflicts - yet she must be prepared to vocally and unambiguously take the side of peace and tolerance," Mr Della-Giacoma wrote.

ENGLISH
Afternoon Tea
Lobby Lounge
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm daily
US\$ 14.00 per person
Include a selection of teas and coffees

Kandawgyi Palace
The Golden Teak Hotel on the Royal Lake

Weekend Theme Buffet Friday,
Saturday & Sunday
with Live Jazz and Classical Music.

April 13-April 17
Thingyan Buffet Lunch
US\$ 24.00 per person
Free Flow Soft Drink

April 17
Myanmar's New Year Buffet Dinner
US\$ 22.00 per person

US\$ 24.00 per person
6:30pm to 8:30 pm
Daily

Myanmar traditional cultural variety show with buffet dinner

TASTE PARADISE
Chinese Restaurant

"April Seafood Promotion"

"Eat All You Can" Dim Sum
inclusive of rice and noodles
11:00 am to 2:30 pm daily
US\$ 20.00 per person

Kandawgyi Palace Hotel Kan Yeik Tha Road, Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 249255-9, Fax: 382917, Email: reservation@kandawgyipalace-hotel.com

THE MYANMARTIMES

m m t i m e s . c o m

Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief (MTE)
Ross Dunkley
rsdunkley@gmail.com

Chief Executive Officer & Editor-in-Chief (MTM)
Dr. Tin Tun Oo
drtto@myanmartimes.com.mm

Chief Operating Officer - U Wai Linn
wailin@myanmartimes.com.mm

EDITORIAL

newsroom@myanmartimes.com.mm

Editor MTE - Thomas Kean
tdkean@gmail.com

Editor MTM - U Zaw Myint
editormtm@myanmartimes.com.mm

Editor Special Publications - U Myo Lwin
myolwin@myanmartimes.com.mm

Jessica Mudditt - jess.mudditt@gmail.com

Deputy Editor MTM - U Sann Oo

Business Editor MTE - Stuart Deed
stuart.deed@gmail.com

Business Editor MTM - U Tin Moe Aung

Property Editor MTM - Htar Htar Khin
property@myanmartimes.com.mm

World Editor MTE - Geoffrey Goddard
geoffrey@myanmartimes.com.mm

Timeout and Travel Editor MTE - Douglas Long
editors@myanmartimes.com.mm

Timeout Editor MTM - Moh Moh Thaw
mohthaw@gmail.com

Online Editor - Justin Heifetz
jscohei@gmail.com

Deputy News Editor - Kyaw Hsu Mon

Chief Political Reporter - U Soe Than Lynn

Contributing Editor - Ma Thanegi
ma.thanegi19@gmail.com

Head of Translation Dept - U Ko Ko

Head of Photographics - Kaung Htet

Photographers - Yadanar, Boothee

Book Publishing Consultant Editor - Col Hla Moe (Retd)
Editor: U Win Tun

Mandalay Bureau Chief - U Aung Shin
koshumgtha@gmail.com

Nay Pyi Taw Bureau Chief - U Soe Than Lynn
soethanlynn@gmail.com

PRODUCTION

production@myanmartimes.com.mm

Head of Production & Press Scrutiny Liaison - U Aung Kyaw Oo (1)

Head of Graphic Design - U Tin Zaw Htway

MCM PRINTING

printing@myanmartimes.com.mm

Head of Department - U Htay Maung

Warehouse Manager - U Ye Linn Htay

Factory Administrator - U Aung Kyaw Oo (3)

Factory Foreman - U Tin Win

ADVERTISING

advertising@myanmartimes.com.mm

National Sales Director
Daw Khin Thandar Htay
sales-director@myanmartimes.com.mm

Account Director - U Nyi Nyi Tun

Classifieds Manager - Daw Khin Mon Mon Yi
classified@myanmartimes.com.mm

ADMIN & FINANCE

Finance Manager - Daw Mon Mon Tha Saing
finance@myanmartimes.com.mm

HR Manager - Daw Nang Maisy
administration@myanmartimes.com.mm

Publisher - Dr Tin Tun Oo, Permit No: 04143

Systems Manager - U Khin Maung Thaw
webmaster@myanmartimes.com.mm

DISTRIBUTION & CIRCULATION

Circulation & Distribution Director - Jesse Gage
distingr@myanmartimes.com.mm
circulation@myanmartimes.com.mm

ADVERTISING & SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES

Telephone: (01) 253 642, 392 928
Facsimile: (01) 254 158
Email: administration@myanmartimes.com.mm

The Myanmar Times is owned by Myanmar Consolidated Media Ltd and printed by MCM Commercial Printing (licence provided by Swesone Media (08102) with approval from MCM Ltd and by Shwe Zin Press (0368) with approval from MCM Ltd). The title The Myanmar Times, in either English or Myanmar languages, its associated logos or devices and the contents of this publication may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the written consent of the Managing Director of Myanmar Consolidated Media Ltd.



Myanmar Consolidated Media Ltd.
www.mmtimes.com

Head Office: 379/383 Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Telephone: (01) 253 642, 392 928
Facsimile: (01) 392 706

Mandalay Bureau: No.178, 74th Street, (Bet. 31st & 32nd streets) Chan Aye Thar San Township, Mandalay.
Tel: (02) 24450, 24460, 65391, 65392
Fax: (02) 24460
Email: mdybranch@myanmartimes.com.mm

Nay Pyi Taw Bureau: No. 10/72 Bo Tauk Htein St, Yan Aung (1) Quarter, Nay Pyi Taw-Pyinmana.
Tel: (067) 23064, 23065
Email: capitalbureau@myanmartimes.com.mm



A woman walks through a damaged mosque in Bago Region's Minhla on March 29 that was targeted by rioters. Pic: Kaung Htet

'Outsiders' leave financial, emotional scars in Minhla



In Depth

with
Nan Tin Hlwe

IT was March 29 in Minhla, Bago Region, around 1pm. It was sunny and there few people in the streets. This was no ordinary day though: the roads were lined with destroyed shops, houses and a mosque.

Ko Linn Linn, 26, stood in the middle of a pile of rubbish that used to Point Café and Cold Drink. The business had supported the nine members of his Muslim household for 17 years.

"My father established this shop," he said, then suddenly stopped talking and turned his face away. It was a few minutes before he was ready to start talking again.

The shop, which he said used to make him about K80,000 (US\$90) a month, was filled with broken glass, pieces of wood that were once tables and stools, metal pots and even pieces of sugarcane. All that seemed to be untouched was a portrait of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi hanging on the wall, where it can typically be found in most houses.

While his eyes were filled with tears when I first saw him standing alone outside his shop, he seemed calm and almost relieved after sharing his

suffering. Despite the fact most of the mob appeared to be Bamar Buddhists, he said he did not consider the violence a "religious or racial problem".

Minhla was one of three townships in western Bago Region, along with nearby Gyobingauk and Okpo, that were placed under a curfew on March 26.

"The mob was around 1000 people. Most of them are not from Minhla but strangers. But there were some who were familiar to me and my customers. I was upset to see that," he said.

Maung Thura, a 16-year-old Bamar Buddhist, works at Ko Linn Linn's café. He said the man who led the mob, who he did not recognise, simply shouted, "Do it! Do it!" to a group of men wielding axes.

All the people interviewed by *The Myanmar Times* on March 29 in Minhla - both Buddhists and Muslims - agreed that most of the mob that destroyed part of their town came from nearby villages.

They all said the rioting was unusual and unexpected - some described it as the "first bad thing" that had happened in their normally peaceful town.

"Even in '88, nothing serious happened here, not like nearby towns," a Buddhist betel nut seller said.

Residents, including the administrator of No 6 ward, where 12 houses and one mosque

were destroyed, said the spark for the riot was a Muslim who publicly cursed Buddhist-Burmese women.

"Now he is on the run and I don't know where he is," said U Ohn Khaing, the ward administrator.

"I ran. I was scared," said Daw Harzahar, Ko Linn Linn's tiny, frail, 80-year-old aunt.

"They are my benefactors," said Daw San Win, a 54-year old Buddhist woman, as she sat on the floor of the kitchen in Ko Linn Linn's house peeling onions. "I feel very sorry for them. When it happened, I also ran with them."

"I will continue working here. I don't hate Muslims," said Daw San Win, who has worked for the family for nearly five years.

U Maung Aung, 37, also showed no signs of racial hatred, despite having his glass and gas-bottle shop completely destroyed on March 27. Since then, he has been living with a Bamar Buddhist friend, U Thet Win Maung, who is also hosting three other Muslims.

"A friend is a friend. We can have different faiths. We've been living together peacefully," said U Thet Win Maung.

U Maung Aung said the destruction had crippled his families finances.

"It was the only income for my family. I ran it by borrowing money with interest calculated on a daily basis. It's all gone now," he said. "How can I feed my kids?"

Some people interviewed said police officers stood by while the mob destroyed parts of the town.

One 40-year-old resident, who was a police officer for 13 years, said: "Police can only take action when there's an order." He said most people were just following the ringleaders, and there seemed to be no religious or racial element to the destruction.

When *The Myanmar Times* arrived at Sit Kwin village in Minhla township around 4pm on March 29, a partly destroyed mosque was the only sign of unrest. However, two shops owned by Muslims were later destroyed.

"We've been watching carefully at night so they came and did it during the daytime," U Saw Phyu, a police officer from Sit Kwin, said as he stood a few feet from the destroyed shops. "They weren't from Sit Kwin, they were from other places."

He said security had been tightened in Sit Kwin, with 30 policemen assigned to watch over the 6000 residents. "I don't think anything serious will happen again," he said.

In Sit Kwin's administrative office, a 50-year-old man wearing clothing with the 66th Light Infantry Division logo had few answers. "We don't know anything," he said.

Nearby, a young soldier added sharply: "We have been told to wait here, so we are waiting. We don't know anything else."

From page 1

88 Generation

needed to take more effective action to solve the issue. They said the lack of rule of law made the country more susceptible to outbreaks of violent unrest.

"The government should respond according to the

situation. They have to also ... recognise the difference between peaceful protesters and those who created the riots," said Ko Ko Gyi.

"We don't want to accuse those who make the violence without evidence," Ko Ko Gyi said. "But we urge the government to take

all necessary action to protect the lives and safeguard the property of the general public."

88 Generation leaders also requested the public to work together to ensure the issue does not escalate further, and in particular urged people not to respond to rumours with

violence. Ko Ko Gyi said 88 Generation members around the country are cooperating with local officials and civil society groups to ensure the violence does not spread.

"It is a trap to make our country go backwards," said Min Ko Naing.

Golden Myanmar to begin Singapore flights this week

By Zaw Win Than

GOLDEN Myanmar Airlines will launch its first international route this month with daily flights from Mandalay and Yangon to Singapore, and is eyeing flights to Bangkok, New Delhi and Hong Kong, the company's managing director says.

"We can confirm we'll fly the Singapore route ... starting from April 5. This marks the first international air route by Golden Myanmar Airlines," said U Aung Gyi, who is also a shareholder in the airline.

As befitting its "low-cost carrier" status, Golden Myanmar Airlines is launching the route with bargain basement airfares: one well-known ticketing agent in Yangon said promotion fares between April 5-8 would be just US\$45 one-way. Regular fares will be around \$100 one-way, the airline says, about half of what other carriers on the route charge.

Golden Myanmar launched in January with flights between Yangon and Mandalay. The airline is now looking at several potential new international routes in 2013, including Bangkok, New Delhi and Hong Kong, U Aung Gyi said.

"Currently we have only one A320 aircraft but we will add one more aircraft very soon before launching the Singapore route. We will also fly to Bangkok at the end of April. As we originally planned,

we will add more aircraft very soon and will fly to Delhi and Hong Kong in the near future," he said.

The flights will be Mandalay's first connection with Singapore, and continues international carriers' newfound interest in Myanmar's last royal capital.

While Yangon accounted for nearly all of the country's international passengers in 2012, the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation said in a report last week that much of the attention in recent months has turned to Mandalay and forecast that this trend would continue.

It is a dramatic turnaround for a city that had only one international route, a China Eastern Airlines service to Kunming in China, prior to Thai AirAsia launching Bangkok-Mandalay flights in October 2012.

The following month, Myanmar Airways International (MAI) launched thrice-weekly flights from Mandalay to Gaya in India.

MAI launched daily flights between Mandalay and Bangkok on March 31, the same day that Thai Airways International's sister airline, Thai Smile, launched a Bangkok service with five flights a week.

Meanwhile, Bangkok Airways has unveiled plans to operate four flights a week on the route from September 13 and MAI is considering more international routes from the city, including to Singapore.

Govt meets on SIM cards

By Aung Shin

THE government will distribute 350,000 low-cost SIM cards this month and will ensure there is "no market monopoly" on wholesale and retail sales, President U Thein Sein said at a coordination meeting on March 29.

Regional governments will be responsible for controlling prices of SIM cards and ensuring sales are equitable.

"We have to make sure prices are stable when selling these cheaper mobile SIM cards to the public. We will distribute cheaper SIMs continuously every month so people shouldn't worry; if they missed out this month, they can buy one next month instead," the president said at the meeting.

The government, however, did not announce when sales would start or how much SIM cards would be sold for, and those who attended the meeting were instructed to keep silent until the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology announces further details. (See related story page 26.)

"We don't know what the price will be or when they will be sold; the final instructions will come later. The government will announce all the details officially through media," said Mandalay Region Minister for Transport and Communication U Kyaw Hsan, who took part in the meeting.



Myanma Post and Telecommunication SIM cards. Pic: Boothee

"We just participated in the meeting to get awareness about telecommunications projects and mobile phone distribution plans through regional governments. The president told us to distribute them equally," he said.

The cheap SIM cards have been regular front page news in recent months as readers seek more details about their impending release. Rumours on the pricing have varied almost week-to-week, from K2000 to K5000 and "less than K10,000".

Daw Zarchi Linn, general manager of Lu Gyi Min Phone Villa, said the limited number of SIM cards available initially could lead to volatility in the market.

"People have been waiting for cheaper SIMs ... so prices can be higher in the market as demand is high," she said.

Ko Aye from Kokkosu Village in

Yesago township, Magwe Region, said he wanted to buy a cheap SIM card for his sister.

"I'm quite happy about this news as we have been waiting for months. I spent more than K300,000 on a mobile phone about three months ago and now I hope I can get one for my sister for less than K100,000," he said.

The cheap SIMs are part of a government effort to have telecom density hit 75 percent to 80pc in 2015-16, up from the current level of 7pc. The government will have 8 million phone lines installed in 2013-14 and 18 million in 2014-15, President U Thein Sein said at the March 29 meeting.

Myanmar introduced mobile phones in 1993 and GSM SIMs in 2000. Prices were then around K4 million on the black market but dropped to K500,000 in 2010 and K200,000 the following year.

Asia no.1
Quick Service Restaurant!

LOTTERIA

Korea, Japan, China, Vietnam, Indonesia and here,
Mingalaba, Myanmar!

PRE-OPEN : Apr.11
GRAND-OPEN : Apr.27
Opened during water festival

★ www.lotteria.com ★ www.facebook.com/lotteriamyanmar

Chief minister warns parties over violence

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe tells parties to stay away from conflict and cooperate with authorities

By Kyaw Hsu Mon

YANGON Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe last week warned leaders of Yangon-based political parties to avoid getting involved in recent communal conflicts between Muslims and Buddhists.

U Myint Swe told members of 29 parties at the March 26 meeting that the government had already taken steps to ensure security in the region.

The parties were invited to give their thoughts on the

conflict and U Nyan Win, a spokesperson for the National League for Democracy, said he told the meeting that his party had already formally instructed members not to get involved in the violence.

"The region government asked us to work with them if violence happens here, and then they told us not to get involved in any violence," he said.

He said the NLD head office had told members that if there is violence in their communities they should inform the local

authorities and work together with them to calm tensions.

"We'll not get involved directly in such kinds of conflicts," he said.

U Khin Maung Swe, chairman of the National Democratic Force, said region government officials seemed very concerned about the prospect of violence spreading to Yangon and told party leaders at the meeting that they had beefed up security in the city.

"This is the first time we met U Myint Swe since we founded our political party. He just warned

us not to get involved in the violence," he said.

Conflict between Muslims and Buddhists began in Meiktila, Mandalay Region, on March 20 and has since spread to some towns in western Bago Region.

U Kyaw, vice chairman of the New National Democracy Party, said parties were aware of the potential fallout if their members were found to be involved in the violence.

"Yangon region's election commission chairman said political party rules and

regulations state that if parties are found to be involved in this kind of violence, they can be punished, including being shut down completely," he said.

He said that at the meeting party leaders discussed how best to connect with local authorities to get accurate information, and also complained of the difficulty of contacting the Yangon Region government.

"The chief minister replied that he will appoint a person who can provide information about these issues," he said.

Yangon residents set up neighborhood watch teams

By Tim McLaughlin and Bill O'Toole

AS the violence that erupted in Meiktila on March 20 began to creep closer to Yangon last week, groups of citizens took to setting up late-night posts to protect their homes, neighbours and families from possible clashes.

Across the city, neighbourhood watch units were formed to man newly erected makeshift barricades on busy streets and junctions.

One group has been gathering nightly at the intersection of Aung Mingalar Road and Ba Nyar Da La Road in Tarmwe Township, which has a large Muslim population and many mosques, since March 24.

The intersection is also just a few blocks from the busy Yuzana Plaza shopping complex. The area has been mentioned in various media reports, including one in *The New York Times*, as a possible site of unrest.

Ko Win Myint Tun, 28, was one of the men standing watch last week. A Buddhist, he is originally from Rakhine State but has been living in Tarmwe township for the past 13 years. After graduating from university in Yangon four years ago, he began working as a sailor.

Ko Win Myint Tun admitted that he could not find one clear reason for

the recent "complicated" fighting, but said he believed that lack of education and poverty were two of the major driving forces.

"In the areas where people are fighting many are poor, many do not have a chance to gain an education," he said.

Like others gathered at the dimly lit intersection to ensure law and order, Ko Win Myint Tun said he is hopeful that fighting will not spread to Yangon. However, the team was taking all available precautions: at one point, a large SUV

'In the areas where people are fighting many are poor, many do not have a chance to gain an education.'

pulled up and delivered a dozen heavy wooden sticks, which appeared to be repurposed table legs. When asked what they were for, one resident said: "For protection."

Ko Ye Naing Lin is 24. He was born in Yangon and has lived in Tarmwe with his family for the past 10 years. He did not want to disclose his religion but during an interview with *The Myanmar Times* he spoke often of his "family" that resides in Tarmwe.

He said he feels safe

because people who have lived in Yangon for many years live with and often depend on their Muslim neighbours. He described Meiktila and Bago as a "different world", where members of different religions are more clearly separated. He also said he felt sure there would be no violence in Yangon. Despite this, he had decided to join in the effort to guard Aung Mingalar Road for three nights running.

When asked about the cause of the violence in the north, he agreed that education was a factor, saying that the social studies and history taught in government schools was often "wrong" and fed hatred between different groups.

Beside him, 16-year-old Ko Kyaw Min appeared to be the youngest of the assembled watchmen. A student at a high school in Tarmwe, he spoke the most openly about his fear of the violence and said he was glad the watch group had been set up. Talking about how the violence could affect Myanmar's reform efforts, he said: "I don't know what will happen to Myanmar in the future."

For Ko Win Myint Tun, the violence and his new job as a nightwatchman is a sign of how far the country still has to go. "Myanmar people do not understand democracy yet. ... They think that democracy means that they can attack people."



Members of a Tarmwe township neighbourhood watch team man a barricade late on March 28. Pic: Ko Taik

Meiktila students miss exams

By Yhoon Hnin

UNIVERSITY exams have been affected by the Meiktila riots, which broke out as students were preparing to sit for their finals.

"Exams started on March 18, and after four exams were complete, the whole town started to burn on March 22 so we went home. There is nobody at the university

now, even teachers, and it has been closed," Meiktila University geology major Ko Nay Myo Thu Ra said.

Meiktila Technological University third-year student Ko Aung Nay Paing said by phone on March 27:

"We continued to sit our exams until March 21, but the university was closed on March 22. There was no official announcement, but we were informed by the rector. They said they would let us know if the

conflict was over, so we could sit the exams again. But as far as I know, most students didn't turn up for the first day of the exams."

Another Meiktila Technological University student, mechanical engineering major Ko Aung Thu Ya Lwin, said: "We only took one exam before the university closed on 22 March."

This was confirmed by a teacher from the university.

GreatWall Hotel သင်္ကြန်အထူးဈေးနှုန်း

Special Sales for Thingyan Holiday! (from 12th to 16th April 2013)

Standard Room	Ks. 76000 for 2 persons	✦ Including International Breakfast & Buffet Dinner
Superior Room	Ks. 81000 for 2 persons	✦ Including International Breakfast & Buffet Dinner
Junior Suite	Ks. 96000 for 2 persons	✦ Including International Breakfast & Buffet Dinner

Extra Bed - 30000ks including International Breakfast & Buffet Dinner

Block (901), 78 Road, Between 42 St & Theik Pan St, Mandalay. Tel: 95-2-68460, 68461, 68463, 64709 Fax: 95-2-68462

Eight more publishers get daily newspaper licences

By Naw Say Phaw Waa

DAILY newspapers are likely to sell for between K100 and K200, publishers said last week as eight more publications were granted daily licences.

The Ministry of Information on March 25 approved applications from a number of major publications, including *The Daily Eleven*, *Yangon Times* and *7-Day Daily*.

Others approved included the National League for Democracy's *D Wave* – the licence for which was requested by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi – *San Taw Chein* (Three Friends

papers approved in the first round of applications, will go daily on April 1 and will be priced at K155 a copy, editor-in-chief U Phoe Thaut Kyar said.

"The newspaper will have 20 pages, 10 of which will be in colour. We have the capacity to add pages if necessary," he said.

"We intend to publish our newspaper freely – we are not aiming to make a profit. Myanmar has not had a free press for more than 50 years," he said.

U Myint Kyaw, a journalist with the paper, said readers would be the winners from the decision to allow private dailies. "But there will be some difficulties in distributing papers across the country, and not everyone will be able to buy a paper every day," he said.

The new dailies will have to compete with state-run papers, including the *New Light of Myanmar* and *Kyemon*, as well as *City* and *Myawaddy*, which are published by Yangon City Development Committee and the military respectively. Although they have a cover price of K50, they are sold on the street for K100 a copy.

"We only subscribe to one newspaper at home. Most houses read only one or two newspapers because most of the news is the same. However, if private daily papers appear, I will compare all of them and buy the one that I like. But price will be a major factor in my decision," said Daw Baby, a housewife from Botaung township.

Meanwhile, the Union Solidarity and Development Party published a trial version of its planned daily newspaper, *Pyidaungsu* (The Union), and distributed it free of charge in the Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw on March 18.



An employee monitors the printing of newspapers at a printing house in Yangon on March 26. Pic: AFP

US pledges aid for riot victims

THE United States will provide US\$100,000 for more than 10,000 affected families in Meiktila and neighbouring areas as emergency relief, it was announced last week.

In a press release, the US embassy in Yangon said the funding would be used to provide hygiene kits, blankets, kitchen utensils and plastic sheeting, as well as water and sanitation assistance.

"The US embassy remains deeply concerned about reports of continued violence against Muslim communities," the March 26 statement said.

The US welcomes the government's announced commitment to restore peace, hold perpetrators accountable and address the needs of victims, the statement said.

"We are also encouraged by reports of religious leaders and other citizens coming together in solidarity to take a stand against intolerance, stop the spread of violence, and promote inter-communal and inter-faith understanding," it continued.

"The embassy will continue to support efforts here to foster dialogue, tolerance, and mutual respect."

According to state media the rioting left 40 people dead and 12,000 homeless.

- Nan Tin Htwe

"We intend to publish our newspaper freely – we are not aiming to make a profit."

Construction), *Khit Thit Daily* (Dr Thin Tun), *Myanmar Dika* (U Myint Than) and *Union Athan* (Daw Win Khlar Swe).

Sixteen publications have been granted licences since March 1. Three more applications still being processed will be discussed at the next meeting of the Central Supervisory Committee for Registration and Distribution of Printers and Publishers to be held in April, state-run newspapers said.

Approved newspapers announced cover prices would be from K100 to K200, with monthly subscriptions ranging from K3000 to K6000.

Golden Fresh Land, one of eight

Law delayed until July: press council

Ministry invites press council to suggest amendments to print media bill submitted to parliament in late February

By Naw Say Phaw Waa

THE much-delayed draft print media law is not likely to be submitted to the parliament until July, after the Interim Press Council was given permission to write its own version for consideration.

The Ministry of Information's draft Printers and Publishing Enterprise Law was submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw on February 27. It was due to be discussed on March 18 but the debate was postponed following intense criticism of the draft from journalists and media freedom advocates.

Minister for Information U Aung Kyi invited five representatives

from the council to a meeting on March 23 to discuss the law and give suggestions on how the process should proceed, said *The Voice* editor U Kyaw Min Swe, who took part in the meeting.

The five council members said they disagreed with the section that gives a "head of registration" power over writers and publishers and want the bill withdrawn and redrafted.

U Aung Kyi said the ministry would not withdraw its law but invited the press council to draft their own law, from which amendments will be made to the ministry's bill.

"We got agreement to wait for the press council's draft law and find a win-win solution by

comparing the two draft laws," said U Kyaw Min Swe.

He said the press council's draft law will be finished before the water festival in mid-April. "We will discuss the law with the industry and get ideas and then finish writing it with legal help. After that we'll submit it to the ministry and hluttaw. We strongly disagree with the ministry's draft law," he said.

Also representing the press council at the meeting were chairman U Khin Maung Aye, U Pe Myint, U Phoe Thaut Kyar and Dr Myo Thant Tin.

The meeting came after weeks of heavy criticism of the draft that was submitted to the hluttaw, with the Myanmar Journalists Union, Myanmar Journalists Association

and Myanmar Journalists Network having already issued strong statements rejecting the draft.

On March 12, the Freedom of the Press Committee held a meeting at Yuzana Garden Hotel attended by about 150 people, all of whom agreed the draft should be withdrawn. Following the meeting, the committee released a statement calling for the bill to be scrapped.

In addition to these statements, the state-run *New Light of Myanmar* on March 17 carried an opinion article by U Pe Myint, a consultant editor at *Pyithu Khit* (The People's Age) stating his objections, which mostly focused on the role and powers of the head of registration.

Maung Wuntha, a correspondent editor for the journal, voiced his

opinion the same day in the state-run *Kyemon* newspaper.

"I see that many of the draft's aspects do not meet international standards," he wrote. "They have to amend the draft again because as it stands the registration office has more power than the censorship board ever had."

While most stakeholders were vehemently opposed to the law, the Myanmar Writers' Association issued a statement on March 14 saying that it had no objections. In the statement, the group said the draft law was more flexible for printers and publishers than existing laws, such as the 1962 Printers and Publishers Registration Act and 1931 The Press (Emergency Powers) Act.

SCI Cabinet Gallery

Have you found the best deals in Kitchen & Wardrobe ?

Welcomes you to Our Showroom Grand Opening Promotion

ဖက်ဖက်(၁၅/၁၁) ကျေးဇူးပြုပေးရမည်။ (ရန်ကင်းမြို့နယ်) သိမ်းပိုက်ရေးဥပဒေကိုမူလမြေပုံ မူရင်းပုံအတိုင်း ဖြစ်စေရမည်။

Hot Line : 09-73126382, 01-662234

Children in Rakhine the focus of polio immunisation campaign

By Yamon Phu Thit

MORE than 300,000 children under five years of age in Rakhine State were vaccinated against polio as part of an immunisation campaign from 26 to 30 March, an official from the Ministry of Health said last week.

The expanded five-day campaign targeted children who have failed to receive immunisation coverage during the inter-communal conflict that has caused widespread displacement and tension in Rakhine State since June last year.

About 335,680 children in 12 townships were to be reached with two drops of polio vaccine to protect them against the disease, Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung, assistant director of the Expanded Program on Immunisation told *The Myanmar Times*.

"We aim to reduce the immunity gap in these townships in which healthcare and immunisation coverage are weak due to the difficulties of transportation and safety during the conflict," he said.

The instability in the region has caused considerable damage to the health system, the United Nations Children's Fund said in a statement on March 27. About 44 percent of children under five could not be reached through routine immunisation. Children in 800 villages in 12 affected townships failed to receive the polio immunisation, it said.

The immunisation campaign was conducted by the Ministry of Health with funding from UNICEF and the World Health Organisation, and assistance from local NGOs.

A second round will follow at the end of April.

The ministry will use 1200 groups to reach every child who cannot go to the immunisation hotspots.

"There may be families who fail to come because of security fears, so we assign volunteer health staff to reach every the house of every child," Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung said.

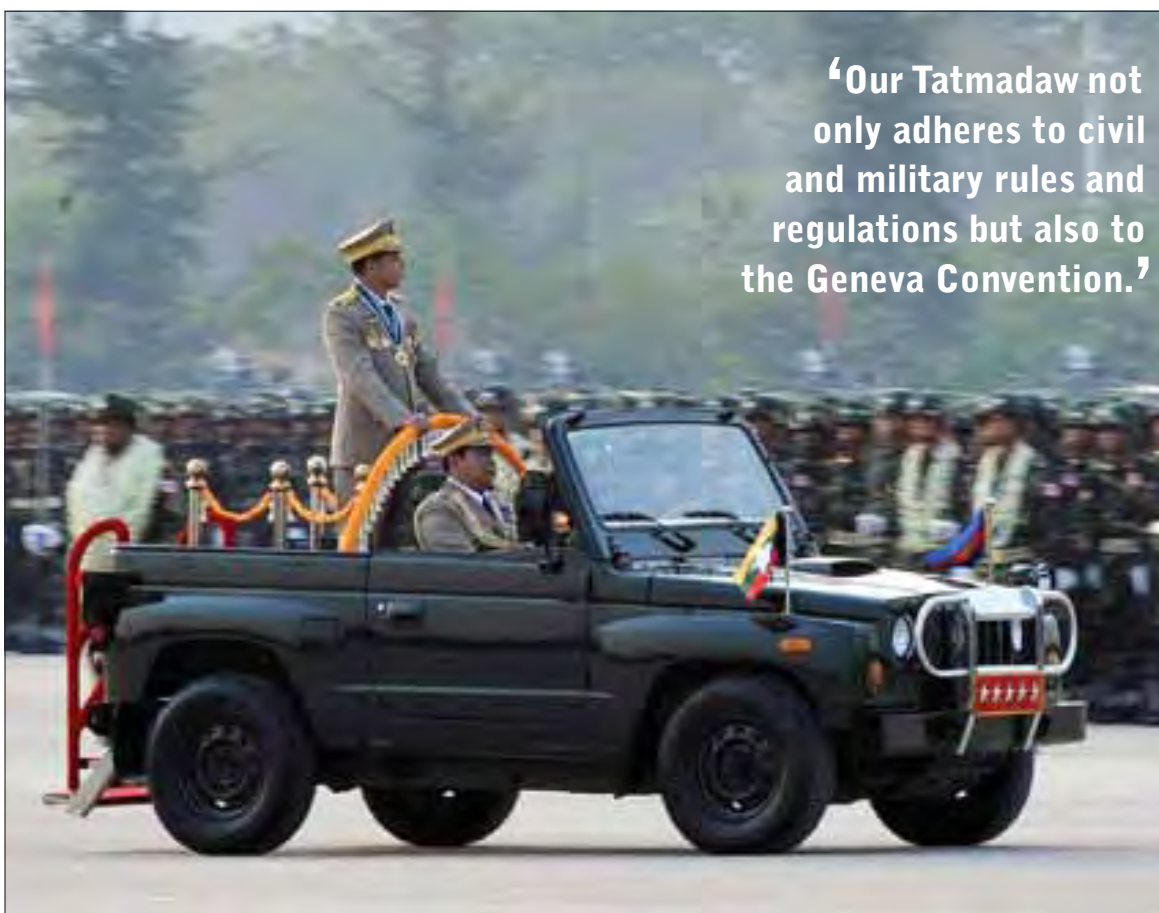
The ministry and UNICEF mobilised both communities and encourage parents to get their children immunised and engaged local leaders to support the campaigns. Preliminary reports from UNICEF indicated a good start on the first day of the campaign with participation from both communities to get their children polio drops.

UNICEF representative Mr Bertrand Bainvel stated that UNICEF would continue to support and monitor the campaign to ensure that children from all communities, including Buddhists and Muslims, are reached with vital polio doses.

"It is a ray of hope amid the prevailing tensions and mistrust between communities," he said.

Myanmar was largely free of polio cases between 2007 and 2010 until a vaccine-derived polio virus was detected in Mandalay Region. The country is striving toward polio eradication in 2014 along with other Southeast Asian countries.

"The polio campaign in Rakhine is a crucial step also toward the important goal of polio eradication," Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung said.



Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing reviews troops during a ceremony marking Armed Forces Day at a parade ground in Nay Pyi Taw on March 27. Pic: AFP

'Our Tatmadaw not only adheres to civil and military rules and regulations but also to the Geneva Convention.'

No genocide, insists new Senior General

By Soe Than Lynn

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF Min Aung Hlaing insisted in his Armed Forces Day speech that the Tatmadaw has "noble traditions" and has never perpetrated genocide against ethnic minorities, as Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the parade for the first time.

"Our Tatmadaw is a Tatmadaw which not only adheres to civil and military rules and regulations but also to the Geneva Convention. Our Tatmadaw did not commit any crimes and if any soldier broke the law, it has effectively taken legal action against him," said the commander-in-chief, who was recently promoted to Senior General.

"It does not bear any grudge against any ethnic minority and only wages war against elements that cause armed conflicts. There is no genocide in the history of our Tatmadaw," he said in a March 27 address in Nay Pyi Taw.

He stressed the importance of building a modern and patriotic army and quoted excerpts from a speech delivered on June 16, 1947, by General Aung San, in which the independence leader said: "The air force should have at least 500 airplanes. The army should have a strength of one million when fighting war. It must dare to respond to even the slightest provocations."

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said the Tatmadaw has prevented the country from splitting and plunging into chaos twice - when some states took advantage of the "flawed" 1947 constitution and tried to leave the union, and when the 1988 uprising occurred.

He also reiterated the Tatmadaw's role in national politics and said it was working to fulfil the wishes of the people.

"The Tatmadaw shall be for the

country. The country was not and will not be for Tatmadaw. During the time when the Tatmadaw took control of the country because the country needed it to do so, the Tatmadaw put the country on the path to democracy. When its democracy is nascent, it is important that the country should not suffer from events similar to those in the past. The Tatmadaw is actively participating in the tasks for lasting peace and development [implemented by] the president, who was elected by the people," Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said.

He said the Tatmadaw wants to attain peace as much as the government in order to accelerate

'The commander-in-chief may not know about everything that the lowest level soldiers are doing.'

national development. However, building peace is not a job that can be done by one side so other parties should come to the negotiating table, he said.

The Senior General's comments on ethnic conflict were not well received by some ethnic minority leaders.

"It has been nearly two years since the civil war started in Kachin State. In recent months, I have witnessed the Tatmadaw attacking by both air and land. Though I submitted a proposal in the hluttaw to bring this to an immediate halt, fighting continues. I witnessed them trying to annihilate Laiza, so what the people are feeling is that their people are being killed as in a genocide, until no one is left," said

Pyithu Hluttaw representative Daw Dwe Bu of Injangyang in Kachin State.

"The commander-in-chief is not doing this himself, and does not order it and probably orders them not to do it. But there are privates who are being sent to the front lines without even undergoing any kind of training - going there straight after enlisting. The commander-in-chief may not know about everything that the lowest level soldiers are doing. Nor will the officers give a detailed account of what has happened. The people can decide whether there are atrocities or genocide going on," she told *The Myanmar Times*.

Speaking during a meeting with residents of Nyaungbintha village in Pyu township three days before the parade, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said it was important to remember that Armed Forces Day was formerly called "Resistance Day".

"Our National League for Democracy always regards the day as 'Resistance Day' because we want to uphold the tradition. March 27 is the day on which resistance against the fascist Japanese was mounted," she said.

"We should not forget it because it shows the force of unity that the people were able to achieve such a formidable task in the end.

"The Tatmadaw later on called it the Armed Forces Day. We do not object to it. ... We want the Tatmadaw to secure a good relationship with the people.

"[General Aung San] was the father of the Tatmadaw and also the father of the people so the Tatmadaw and people are siblings. There should be trust and respect between the Tatmadaw and people ... love should grow and the spirit of bullying should disappear. ... It is so shameful that the strong do things as they want."

- Translated by Thit Lwin

Briefs

Former US president Jimmy Carter to visit

FORMER United States President Jimmy Carter will arrive in Myanmar this week after visiting Nepal, the Carter Centre Organisation said.

Former President Carter will lead a delegation to Myanmar and meet government and political leaders and civil society representatives, the organisation said.

A source close to the US embassy in Yangon said Mr Carter would arrive in Myanmar on April 3 and meet President U Thein Sein and National League for Democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The source said he was likely to give speech in Yangon on April 4 but the venue has not yet been confirmed.

During the visit, the delegation from the Carter Centre will explore ways to support Myanmar's democratic transition, the announcement said.

- Zaw Win Than

Grants program launched

LOCAL organisations working to protect the environment will now be able to apply for grants to support their work.

Last week, the UN's Global Environment Facility (GEF) established a program to allocate small grants in Myanmar, starting from July, said UNDP assistant resident representative U Min Htut Yin. The facility provides financial and technical assistance to projects that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods.

Mr Delfin J Ganapin Jr, global manager of the GEF's small grants program, said groups could apply for grants of up to US\$50,000.

"We estimate at least six organisations, [up] to a maximum of 15, could benefit from the fund," he said. - Aye Sapay Phyu

Government salaries to rise from this week

GOVERNMENT salaries will this week go up K20,000 a month following an agreement between the government and parliament.

Pensions and allowances will also rise in proportion starting from April 1, the first day of the 2013-14 financial year, Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw during budget discussions last month.

The increases are expected to cost the government K385.682 billion (US\$438.3 million) over the next 12 months, he said.

"Cost-of-living allowances and remote allowances that are being given will continue," U Win Shein said.

The government has up to 200,000 permanent employees, while the state also employs about 74,000 workers on a daily salary. Another 76,000 people collect a government pension.

To cover the cost of the pay rise, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw suspended or scaled back some government projects in the 2013-14 National Planning Law.

"Balancing cutting and increasing expenditure was done as much as possible," U Win Shein said.

Starting from April 1, 2012, a monthly cost-of-living allowance of K30,000 was paid to government employees and members of Tatmadaw, in addition to prescribed salaries and allowances.

- Translated by Thit Lwin

Govt rebukes Quintana over violence claim

YANGON – Myanmar on March 29 strongly rejected comments by a senior United Nations official linking the state with recent anti-Muslim riots that have left at least 40 people dead and seen mosques razed in several towns.

The UN's special rapporteur on human rights in Myanmar Tomas Ojea Quintana on March 28 said he had "received reports of state involvement in some of the acts of violence", prompting the rebuttal from presidential spokesman U Ye Htut.

"I totally reject what Quintana's saying about some sections of the state being involved in violence," U Ye Htut said in comments posted on his Facebook page.

"It is regrettable that Mr Quintana has commented on the situation, based on second hand information without correctly studying the situation on the ground."

Buddhist mobs have marauded through several

towns in central Myanmar since religious violence erupted on March 20, prompting the government to impose emergency rule and curfews in some areas.

The situation appeared to have calmed on March 29, a day after President U Thein Sein vowed a tough response to those behind the violence which he attributed to "political opportunists and religious extremists".

In his statement Quintana accused "the military, police and other civilian law enforcement forces" of "standing by while atrocities have been committed ... this may indicate direct involvement by some sections of the state or implicit collusion".

Security forces fired warning shots on March 27 to disperse rioters and dozens of people have been detained. But Muslim leaders have criticised the security forces for failing to stop the attacks.

– AFP

Upper house wins out on 80pc limit on foreign investment

In Depth

with
Soe Than Lynn



THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw last month approved a recommendation from upper house lawmakers that the maximum allowable foreign investment in restricted sectors be set at 80 percent, rather than the 49pc called for by the lower house.

The result of discussions on the Foreign Investment Law By-Law came as a surprise given the Amyotha Hluttaw has barely half the number of representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw, and the Joint Bill Committee had also supported the lower house's recommendation.

But when it was put to a confidential vote on March 18, the Amyotha Hluttaw's amendment was carried by 306 to 235, with 10 abstentions.

U Win Than of Thabaung, Dr Win Myint of Hlaing, U Win Myint of Pyay and Dr Khin Shwe, owner of construction firm Zaykabar, spoke out in support of the 49pc cap. Meanwhile, U Ne Win Tun, who owns mining company Ruby Dragon, and Dr Myat Nyarna Soe, as well as National League for Democracy representatives Dr Zaw Myint Maung and U Aung Kyi Nyunt, called on MPs to put an 80pc cap in place.

The Joint Bill Committee said the Pyithu Hluttaw's provision that

"if a joint venture is set up with a foreign investor in a banned or restricted business, foreign capital shall not exceed 49pc of the total investment" was appropriate under the present circumstances. It said the interests of citizens should be protected by reducing the capital ratio of foreigners instead of allowing them to invest in everything "taking into account the unforeseeable things that may come up in the future".

'A 51 percent limit constitutes a ban on small- and medium-sized business owners from working with foreign investors.'

U Ne Win Tun, however, said that the reasoning of the Joint Bill Committee was vague and dealt with the issue only on a "piecemeal basis" that was not befitting important legislation.

He said restricting foreign capital would shut Myanmar entrepreneurs out of business deals rather than protect them.

"If capital of a foreign investor cannot exceed 49pc, only Myanmar citizens who can afford to invest 51pc can enter into a business. If there are

10 citizens who can do this, the law is beneficial to these 10. If the minimum investment [for Myanmar citizens] is 80pc, the number of people able to participate will increase," he said.


"Those who run small- and medium-sized businesses will still be able to work with foreign investors in a timely manner and this will encourage economic growth and the share of technology and market knowledge."

He also said the authorities would have discretion to judge what the most suitable amount of foreign investment was for a particular project.

"The phrase 'not exceed 80pc' ... should not be perceived that our citizens can only own 20pc. We should focus on ensuring that our working class citizens benefit from economic growth and enjoy a quality of life of the kind that never materialised for them in the past," said U Ne Win Tun.

Dr Zaw Myint Maung agreed that smaller entrepreneurs should have the chance to partner with foreign firms.

"If it is imposed that citizens must invest 51pc in a business or project, it constitutes a ban on those who run small- and medium-sized businesses from investing in bigger ones and simply gives big entrepreneurs access to these projects. If we give small-scale proprietors the chance to work, we will get better economic results," he said. – Translated by *Thit Lwin*



Myjobs.com.mm
Myanmar's No.1 Job Site

Address - No.3, Mindama Road, ShweKabar Housing (5th Street), Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar. (5 Minus from MCC)


Ph: 01-4411361/4411362 .

Website : myjobs.com.mm, Email: info@myjobs.com.mm

facebook.com/myjobsmyanmar

URGENT

<p>Sales Manager (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 years Experience as Sales Manager - Fluent English Speaking - Can Motivate and Organize Sales Team - Salary 900 to 1,300 US Dollars <p>Finance Manager (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You must be CPA or ACCA - Experience in Construction or Manufacturing is an Advantage - Fluent English Written & Spoken - Salary 900-1,300 US Dollars <p>Cost Accountant (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cost Accountant Experience from a factory - Good English Skills - Salary 700- 1,200 US Dollars <p>Translator (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fluent English Spoken & Written - International Experience is an Advantage - Working with Foreign Manager - Salary 300-800 US Dollars <p>Marketing Manager (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 Years as Marketing Manager - Experience in FMCG, Pharmaceutical is an Advantage. - Salary Depend on Experience <p>Brand Executive Manager (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urgent Vacancy. Apply if you have Brand Experience or Brand Manager Experience. <p>Lawyer (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience in Corporate Law - Fluent English Speaker - Report Writing Experience is an Advantage - Salary 1,200 to 3,000 Dollars 	<p>Warehouse Manager (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience in warehouse or Distribution is an Essential - Salary 400-800 US Dollars <p>Head Chef (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience in Asian or European Food - Myanmar Person or Foreign Candidate - Salary 1,000 to 2,000 US Dollars. <p>Director of Culinary (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience in Culinary Senior Management, with Luxury Hotel. - Relevant degree educated (Advantage) - Excellent Salary - Negotiable. <p>Director of Sales</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Previous senior Sales Management Experience - Fluent English Skills - Must be presentable - Salary 1,200 to 2,500 US Dollars. <p>Office vacancy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good English Skills - Able to type & talk to foreign Customers - Full Training provided - Salary 300-800 US Dollars. <p>Pharmaceutical vacancy (many vacancies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Middle level or senior positions - Must have experience in Pharmaceutical or FMCG - Middle level - 400-800 US Dollars - Salary Senior - 1,000-3,500 US Dollars 	<p>HR Manager (M/F)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More Than 3 Years Experience - Fluent Written & Spoken English - Salary 1,000 to 1,500 US Dollars <p>Supply Planning supervisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor degree in Science with good knowledge in statistics and forecasting techniques - Using computers well, SAP is advantage - Able to communicate in English - At least 3 years experience in relevant field - Salary 500,000 ka. <p>Demand Planning Supervisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University graduate preferable in SC, Engineering, Science with fluent English communication skill - Using computers well, SAP is advantage - At least 3 years experience in relevant field - Salary 500,000 ka.
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



Myanmar's No.1 Job Site

Govt, PNLO sign nine-point deal

By Ei Ei Toe Lwin

NEGOTIATORS from the government and the Pa-O National Liberation Organisation last week signed a nine-point agreement following union-level peace talks in Yangon.

During talks at the Myanmar Peace Centre on March 22 and 23, negotiators focused on relief, social affairs, anti-drug activities, opening liaison offices and regional development.

The two sides signed agreements on the nine points on March 23, and also agreed to hold further discussions on political dialogue that would include all ethnic groups.

"We were nearly 100 percent successful when discussing the nine points of agreement," U Aung Min, head of the government negotiating team, said at a press conference at the end of the talks.

"Both sides agree to maintain the gains reached at state-level peace talks," he added.

The two sides signed a ceasefire agreement at state-level talks on

August 25, 2012, and have now continued their talks at the union level in line with the government's peace roadmap.

"The government told us to propose a draft for discussions at union peace talks. Now, they've accepted 80pc of our draft, with a few points remaining. We are satisfied with the talks," said PNLO chairman Colonel Khun Okkar.

PNLO officials said they had accepted some international assistance as a result of signing the ceasefire agreement, but said they needed more help from the government for regional development, especially demining and counternarcotics activities.

"Pa-O people don't want to plant drugs for their livelihood - they'd rather plant garlic, but their products can't reach the market. Most of it has to be thrown away. That's why they resorted to growing poppies. If the government really wants to eradicate drugs quickly, they should promote more support for alternative crops," said Colonel Khun Thurein, general secretary of the PNLO.

He also called for help on demining. "We can't solve these issues alone," Col Khun Thurein said.

U Aung Min pledged to help resolve the issues that trouble Pa-O people.

"We organised a Mine Action Centre at the MPC. Our experts are discussing with international organisations how to implement the demining process. The aim is not only to support demining in conflict zones, but also to help those injured by mine explosions," U Aung Min said.

PNLO has been in armed opposition to the central government since 1949. After signing the ceasefire agreement, they opened liaison offices in His Hseng and Mawmai in Shan State and are preparing to open offices in Thaton and Mawlamyine.

"We proposed to continue political dialogue with government, not alone, but as a member of the United Nationalities Federal Council," said Col Khun Okkar, referring to an 11-member umbrella organisation of armed ethnic groups.



Pa-O National Liberation Organisation chairman Colonel Khun Okkar (right) and chief government peace negotiator U Aung Min speak at a press conference at the Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon on March 23 following two days of talks. Pic: Ko Taik

Most acquisitions broke land laws, says commission

By Noe Noe Aung

MOST farmland in Myanmar taken from farmers by government bodies and private companies was not acquired properly, a parliamentary commission investigating land disputes said in its first report last month.

The commission identified six factors behind the land grab epidemic that has occurred since 1989, the most significant of which were acquisitions for the needs of the military and the government, said commission member U Aung Zin.

"The two biggest reasons are grabbing land for the needs of military and for government projects, especially for industrial zones and to extend city areas," U Aung Zin, a Pyithu Hluttaw representative, told *The Myanmar Times* on March 28.

According to the report, more than 117,000 acres has been acquired for urban growth, industrial zones and mechanised agriculture projects.

"For the military aspect, we discussed it during breaks at the hluttaw. Officials from the military promised they will give land back if it is not in use. But they said land which is really used for military needs is not easy to give back so we don't expect too much from it," U Aung Zin said.

He said that the commission received many letters reporting that the Ministry of Construction's Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development (DHSHD) had taken land from farmers.

The commission also identified 17 commonalities among the thousands of reported land grab cases. Most land acquisitions did not take place according to the existing laws, rules and regulations. Many government and private projects are still not finished, although laws require ownership to revert back to the original landowners if projects are not completed within a specific timeframe. The commission also found a lack of transparency between farmers and those who took the farmlands, whether it

was a government body or private company.

Ministries did not press organisations or companies who gained permission to use the land to complete projects, the commission said. Meanwhile, compensation for farmers was generally well below market rates, usually no more than K20,000 an acre. However, government departments often let farmers continue to cultivate land through contract farming.

In some cases, farmers tried to get back their lands with the assistance of activists even though they had already accepted compensation.

U Aung Zin warned the report would be meaningless unless

read that Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said that the military will give back land that is not in use. But we don't have much hope of that actually happening," U Hla Myint told *The Myanmar Times* on March 29.

He said that after the land investigation commission came to his village in December 2012, commission members told both the farmers and military unit that took their land not to do anything on the disputed land. However, the military did not obey the order, he said.

"They made a fence after the commission left, put up buildings and even rented land by the riverbank to businessman. So by the



A bulldozer clears disputed farmland in Alwan Sut village in Thanlyin township in May 2012. Pic: Ko Taik

government bodies, particularly DHSHD and Yangon City Development Committee, have the political will to resolve the disputes.

"There are three main sections in the report: findings, considerations and suggestions/proposals," he said. "We made a lot of effort but it won't have much effect if there is no action."

U Hla Myint from Alwan Sut village in Thanlyin township said the commission's report did not give farmers in his area much hope of their land being returned.

"After experiencing these problems, many farmers, including me, read journals regularly to get knowledge about this subject. We

time authorities checked how much land could be given back, it was already in use," U Hla Myint said.

Eighteen farmers from Alwan Sut village have been embroiled in a dispute with No 1 War Vessel Group since May 2012, after the Navy unit bulldozed their freshly sown farmland. The farmers have been unemployed since.

"The time for farming is getting close. Farmers have to get the farm ready for cultivation in Tagu [April]. But no solution has come out yet and we are worried because we weren't able to farm last year, so our life is getting more and more difficult."

Forest land to be returned to communities: minister



In Depth with Ei Ei Toe Lwin

VILLAGERS and farmers who live and work in government-designated protected land will soon get the chance to assume ownership, the government says.

Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun said the initiative was being carried out on the instructions of President U Thein Sein, in accordance with the farmland laws.

"We will give back land to those people who live and farm in protected areas in April," he told *The Myanmar Times* at the Myanmar Peace Centre on March 23.

According to its 30-year forestry master plan (2000-01 to 2030-31), the ministry is aiming to have 30 percent of the country's total area designated as protected forest.

The ministry occupied lands that met the criteria in the plan and declared them wildlife sanctuaries, nature reserves or protected landscapes to meet the 30pc target.

Under the law, anyone found cultivating or hunting in those lands faces criminal charges.

However, many people were already living in the areas and were unaware that they had been designated as protected under the law. Problems have arisen between residents and farmers, and government personnel, as a result.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has announced that it will undertake a registration process for all farmland this year but disputes over land ownership have arisen because forest land is administered by the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry.

Ko Kyaw Kyaw Aung, a farmer in Yay Chan Su village, Pyin Oo Lwin, said he missed out on the chance to register his land with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation because it had been

classified as a forest area.

"Members of the committee went to the villages and investigated farmlands and distributed registration forms. They didn't give us one because our lands were under the control of Sakan Gye Forest area. They said we have to resolve our dispute with the forest department. We wrote to the forest department, but have received no reply," Ko Kyaw Kyaw Aung said.

Some farmers have found they are ineligible for government loans until ownership disputes are resolved. U Tun Tint, a member of the Sugarcane Organisation in Katha township, Sagaing Region, said: "We couldn't get loans because four villages are in Yin Khe forest reserve area. But we have been living and working in these areas for many years and we didn't know it had been designated [as forest land]."

"We sent a 3000-signature petition to the president. Then the officials measured the land again, but we haven't heard back from them. We're not going to let them take our land," he said.

Minister U Win Tun said: "We didn't confiscate lands just to meet our targets. Staff have to survey the ground several times and there is a 90-day grace period for objections before we declare a protected area."

But he admitted that some officials may have worked from maps rather than checking the reality on the ground.

Now ministry officials are measuring land when assessing ownership claims. "We are telling farmers our intention is not to confiscate farmland or to drive them away," the minister said.

"We are prepared to give back the lands officially for them to live and work there. We will start with villages that have more than 50 households. Once the list has been verified, farmers can apply to register ownership."

At present, 24.6pc of rural areas are under forest department control, a figure that will decrease after the reallocation of land to villagers.

Letpadaung villagers refuse to accept new compensation

By Ei Ei Toe Lwin

DESPITE more than US\$1 million in additional compensation being given to households displaced by the Letpadaung project last month, many are refusing to accept any money, activists say.

Between March 16 and 20, 302 households from five villages received K958.9 million in additional compensation. But most residents of Wettmay, Moekyopyin, Tone and Saeta villages have not accepted any payment for their confiscated lands, activists say.

They say they will continue to fight against the project and for action to be taken against the officials responsible for a bloody night raid on a protest camp on November 29, 2012, that left scores injured.

"We don't want any compensation and we urge others not to take compensation. According to the [compensation] contract, we have to abandon our land forever. We are farmers, so we want them to give back our land instead of giving compensation," said Ko Oo Myint of Wettmay village.

Ma Thwe Thwe Win of Wettmay village also said she would not take compensation.

"We want to end the project," she said.

According to the committee, some villagers have not accepted the compensation offered because rumours are rife in the villages that the amount will be increased. Conversely, some have accepted reluctantly because their land has already been destroyed for the mine expansion project.

But Ma Sandar of Aledaw village said villagers were not holding out for more money.

"We haven't accepted any compensation until now. We are not after money. We want to save

our environment and our resources," she said.

The Letpadaung commission's report found that the companies behind the project – Wanbao of China and military-run Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited – took 7867.78 acres for the project, including 5057 acres of cultivated land.

Land Confiscation Act, which states that payment should be equal to the market value of the land.

The investigation commission's subgroup on land compensation was formed on March 11 to implement the report's recommendations. Since March 16, households who lost land to the project have

of the law. But we don't want to give any further details yet," she said.

Residents from two villages have also applied for permission to protest peacefully to call for an end to the project, punishment for the official who ordered the violent crackdown on November 29 and the lifting of a section 144 curfew order in the Letpadaung area.

"We submitted the request for permission for our peaceful protests on March 23 and 24 to Salingyi township police station. We are waiting to see whether the police respond in accordance with the law," said Ko Nyi of Tone village.

"We will fight the project to the end within the framework of law. We won't give up," he said. "And we are not interested in compensation at all."

'We don't want any compensation and we urge others not to accept it.'

The report stated that the companies took too much land and also recommended that appropriate compensation be provided for 6784 acres.

The commission said that the companies had not paid adequate compensation as required under the 1984

been given from K500,000 to K1.5 million an acre depending on what they cultivated on their land.

But Ma Thwe Thwe Win said compensation would not placate residents.

"Villagers are now planning to respond to the report within the framework



Ma Thwe Thwe Win speaks to the media on March 23. Pic: Phyto Wai Kyaw

Mine activist denies receiving money, support from groups

By Phyto Wai Kyaw and Sithu Lwin

AN ACTIVIST who shot to fame for her opposition to the Letpadaung copper mine has denied that she received money or other support from any organisations.

Activist Ma Thwe Thwe Win said that a front-page article in a Yangon-based journal could mislead people into thinking that she received support from some organisations to prolong the Letpadaung conflict.

"Since 2010 I have been an activist on the Letpadaung issue. I have never accepted any money or support from any organisation. I am just a vendor, and I collected and used my own money for all of these activities. We villagers don't understand much about other issues and are just active because we are so angry that our land was taken," Ma Thwe Thwe Win said at a press conference at Masoeyin monastery in Mandalay's Maha Aung Myay township on March 23.

She said *First Music* news journal reported in mid-March that Dr Aung Naing and Moe Thee Zon

of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front, a student army formed after the 1988 uprising, had invited her to Thailand to attend a women's exchange seminar in Chiang Mai and this could lead to misunderstandings.

The journal also said Ma Thwe Thwe Win had been very aggressive towards Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and stated on its front page that it would never publish articles about the Letpadaung conflict again.

"Actually I just went to Thailand to meet farmers for a seminar at the invitation of 88 Generation last February. I want officials from the journal to apologise on the front page. If not, I will sue them [for defamation]," she added.

She said that she is still in debt because she has to repay the cost of carpets she rented for a protest that were subsequently damaged.

"Some even make gossip that I wear a gold necklace ... these kinds of words came out because gossipmongers ... want people to think I'm receiving support from some group. But all of the residents [in Monywa] know my lifestyle," she said.



Activists protest in downtown Yangon on March 29 against the Letpadaung mine expansion. Pic: Aung Htay Hlaing

Thailand migrant registration system falls short, again

By Bill O'Toole

The deadline for undocumented migrant workers in Thailand to register for passports and permanent work permits under the "National Verification" system passed on March 31, leaving more than one million migrants with no means of obtaining legal working status.

Though no official statistics on the number of applications have been released, Mr Anusorn Kraiwatnussorn, a vice minister with the Thai Department of Labour and Social Welfare, said that about 250,000 had been received.

The International Office of Migration estimates there are around 1.3 million undocumented migrant workers in Thailand, the

vast majority of whom come from Myanmar.

For these workers, the situation remains grim, said Andy Hall, a migrant rights activist and frequent adviser to Nay Pyi Taw.

"If irregular, you are scared, always hiding from officials, risking arrest, detention and deportation, can be easily exploited as [you] cannot stand up against employers without fear of arrest," he said.

The new system for obtaining passports and work permits was established after the previous system ended in December of last year. After a series of negotiations between Thailand and Myanmar, the new registration system was rolled out with promises from both sides to curb the corruption and over-charging that had come to define past iterations of the program. However, the new system

has had many if not all of the same problems, sources said.

"There [were] many difficulties for the migrants," said Ms Ying Horm, a migrant rights activist based in Chiang Mai. "Some employers didn't want their workers to register ... [and] for many the price was too expensive."

While the cost was officially about US\$150, brokers and job agencies in Thailand charged up to \$700. In Chiang Mai, where many migrant labourers live on less than \$20 a day, "the papers are impossible for them to get, they're too expensive," said Ms Ying Horm.

"The official price is very cheap," said U Myint Tun, a spokesperson for the Grassroots Migrant Development Network. "But [broker agencies] make things much more expensive."

In theory, the broker agencies

are paid to secure paperwork and speed up the process. In reality, these companies have become notorious in migrant communities for their extortionate practices. Ms Ying Horm said she heard several stories of brokers taking migrants money and simply "running away" during a field visit in early March. None of the Myanmar-based broker agencies contacted for this article were willing to comment.

When asked about the corruption, Mr Kraiwatnussorn said there was only so much his office could do to regulate the brokers. "Yes, I try to stop them, but it depends on the worker and the boss," he said.

Several activists reported that employers in Thailand have actively discouraged their employees from registering. Both Ms Ying Horm and U Myint Tun said most employers do not want to

pay the extra wages and taxes that come with having legal workers in order "to maximise their profits".

"If [workers have] legitimate documents ... it is harder for employers to exploit them [because] they have more confidence and they can get more benefits," Mr Hall said.

Mr Kraiwatnussorn described the system as a "first step" and said his office would most likely roll out a new verification system before the end of the year.

Speaking on the phone from Chiang Mai, Ms. Ying Horm said that in any further programs "the governments of both sides must recognise the rights of the migrants".

"A lot of people come from Myanmar to work, and companies still think they can discriminate and exploit the workers."

Foundation to launch weekend Dhamma schools

By Cherry Thein

THE Dhamma School Foundation is planning to open Sunday Dhamma schools during the summer holidays, a spokesperson says.

Foundation secretary Daw Kay Tu Malar said Sunday Dhamma schools were being tested in Yangon and would probably be extended into other states and regions when enough teachers had been found.

"We admired the Sunday Dhamma Schools in Sri Lanka, where children learn Buddhist ways of living in harmony," she said.

Volunteer U Win Aung said the curriculum sought to teach children about the teachings, history and culture of Buddhism.

"In Theravada Buddhism, people achieve Nirvana by their own efforts. We reap what we have sown. Myanmar traditional culture and customs are based on the teachings of Buddha, which are reflected in the curriculum," he said, adding that the course would help guide children in a moral approach to daily life.

Patron of the Paungdaw Oo monastic school, the Venerable Sayadaw Badanta Nayaka, said the schools would adopt a modern approach to teaching. "We should consider religion as part of education to attract the younger generation," he said.

Although monastic schools managed by Buddhist monks have been widespread, they are decreasing in number throughout the country because of antiquated curricula and teaching methods, he said.

Many Buddhist monks also think of their education programs in purely religious terms, which he said was a "short-sighted" approach.

The program is being sponsored by company Shine Hope and individual well-wishers. Volunteers from the Department of Education and the United Nations Children's Fund are helping run the program.

Meanwhile, Buddhist associations in Yangon are collaborating to hold Buddhist ethics training programs next month.

DhammaYaung Chi president U Hla Myo said the free classes, known as *Yin Kyae Lain Ma*, would be held from 8am to 11am from April 24 to 30 at Sasana Alinyaung Dhamma Hall in Ahlone township.

DhammaYaung Chi, Alin Saytaman Dhamma donation group, Myint Myat Parami Foundation and the Mobile Alms group are jointly organising the project.

Meanwhile, the associations plan to hold a training class for teachers interested in leading ethics classes in other townships.

The free classes will take place each Saturday from 9:30am to 4pm at Ywanma Pariyatti monastery in Insein township from April 8 to 10. The objective of the program is to bring Buddhist teachings to the younger generation, he added.

U Hla Myo said the program aimed to strengthen religious duty and attitudes especially among young people, and to maintain the culture and customs based on Buddhism.

"We plan to hold more courses outside Yangon, especially in summer (March-May). I'm glad to say local associations in each township have shown interest in the course and we need to do more in future. Buddhism is not about criticising or hurting others. All Buddhists should be aware of this," he said.

Those seeking more information or wishing to register should call (01) 382-935, 09-501-5446 or 09-803-0138, or visit the association's office in Latha township's Theingyi Market.

Finding common ground in Rakhine, via Canberra

In Depth

with Thomas Kean



I RECENTLY had the good fortune to not only attend but also take part in the latest Myanmar/Burma Update conference at the Australian National University in Canberra. The preceding conference in May 2011, just months after U Thein Sein's government took office, focused on whether the transition would lead to positive change, but the focus on March 15-16 was very much on what exactly had changed over the past two years, and what challenges and progress we can anticipate as the reform process continues.

I was in a session with three other presenters called "Parliament, elections and public". It is an indication of quite how far Myanmar has come that none of the four presentations, which covered the parliament, electoral system reform, grassroots participation in lawmaking and labour protests, would have been thinkable two years ago and before the reforms began.

Other presentations focused on reform in and the role of the police force, changes in the military, the return of exiled activists, transitional justice and updates on the country's political and economic context.

While it was the 10th conference on Myanmar held at ANU, it was also the first to benefit from the participation of a member of the government. Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Set Aung served as an excellent ambassador for the government, not only in terms of his presentation on "priorities for development sequencing" but also as a focal point for questions on policy.

The fireworks were instead saved for the session on ethnic conflict on the second day, when U Oo Hla Saw, general secretary of the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP), discussed the "Democratisation in Myanmar and the fate of Arakan" with an audience that included a large Rohingya delegation from Sydney, including members of the Burmese Rohingya Community in Australia.

Neither side gave much ground on the issue of identity.

U Oo Hla Saw maintained that Rohingya is a recently manufactured title for a group that had migrated illegally to



A Muslim man in Rakhine State's Sittwe township in October 2012, shortly after a second outbreak of violence. Pic: Kaung Htet

Myanmar from Bangladesh under colonial and military rule, and that there was no record of Rohingya communities in official British or Myanmar documents.

Members of the Rohingya community, who had the opportunity to comment and ask

military rule challenges.

U Oo Hla Saw noted that the "Bengali Rohingya" could not return to Bangladesh even if they wanted to. He also said that the conflict between the two communities had been exacerbated by the fact that they

'U Oo Hla Saw said that the Rakhine had been oppressed by the government, so it sympathised with other oppressed peoples.'

questions after the presentation, countered that there were other sources confirming the existence of Rohingya communities in Rakhine State in the early 19th century. One activist questioned how people who identified themselves as Rohingya had been able to vote in numerous elections since independence, and even be elected to parliament, if members of the group are Bengalis and illegal immigrants as many in Myanmar assert.

But when these questions of identity were put to one side, a confrontation that had the potential to be a sad reflection of the conflict in Rakhine State instead gave some grounds to be optimistic about one of Myanmar's greatest post-

were unable to travel outside Rakhine State. (Recently, for example, a group of 12 Bengalis without identification documents was arrested in Nay Pyi Taw. They had set off from Kyauktaw township in Rakhine State and were reportedly trying to get to Malaysia.)

Because of the restrictions on movement, this growing Muslim population has therefore been concentrated in a state where development has lagged behind much of the rest of the country for decades. The implication, while not stated, appeared to be that greater rights, such as the right to settle in other areas of the country, could alleviate the social tension that the presence of the community has created in Rakhine State

and in particular with the local Rakhine population. Certainly, he did not advocate leaving displaced Muslims to languish in camps or resettling them in a third country, and nor did he blame them exclusively for the outbreaks of violence last year.

While the sympathies of ethnic Bamar people have mostly been with the Rakhine over the recent conflict, U Oo Hla Saw made it clear that the RNDP sees the Bamar, and their control of the government and military since independence, as contributing to the current troubles in Rakhine State.

It was the Bamar, he said, who failed to fund regional development, who stripped the state of its natural resources during decades of military rule and allowed in illegal immigrants.

He also noted that despite winning 18 of 35 seats in the regional hluttaw in the 2010 election, the RNDP lacks any executive or legislative power because of the military's 25 percent bloc in the regional parliament.

Pressed by a member of the audience on his party's stance in regards to the Muslim population in Rakhine State, U Oo Hla Saw said that the Rakhine had been oppressed by the Myanmar government, and so it sympathised with other oppressed peoples.

It was not clear whether he was speaking for the RNDP and remains to be seen whether his words will be reflected in actions on the ground. But as the question-and-answer session concluded, the activists went to the front of the conference room and continued their discussion with U Oo Hla Saw, with the tone warming as the conversation progressed.

With arguments about ethnic identity and citizenship momentarily in the background, some common ground, and an opportunity for dialogue, had been created between the Rakhine politician and the visiting activists.

Moving forward in Rakhine State will undoubtedly be challenging but this recent conference at least highlighted that focusing exclusively on issues where the two sides are diametrically opposed is unlikely to yield any progress.

(Podcasts of all of the presentations from the ANU Myanmar/Burma Update conference will be available for download on the New Mandala website (<http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/newmandala/>) in the coming weeks.)

NAY PYI TAW
Aquarium & Pet Shop

TARSAWAE BRANCH MANDALAY BRANCH
AHLONE BRANCH

SUMMER PROMOTION
Buy 30,000 Ks - Get (Nay Pyi Taw Member Card)

Hot Line: 09-5181281, 09-450042584, 09-73044451, 09-43141939, 01-553681, 09-91025574

Tarsawae: LayDaungKan Rd, Near of (KyaikKaSan-SuperOne Shopping Mall), Tarsawae Township, Yangon.
Ahlone: Lower KyiMyinDaing Rd, Corner of HninSi St, Near of (Ahlone Police Station), Ahlone Tsp, Yangon.
Mandalay: No(3), 78th St, Between of 27th and 28th St, (Face to West Side), ChanAyeTharZan Tso, Mandalay.

ヤンゴン学院
Yangon Gakuin Language Academy

- Elementry English Course
- Elementry Japanese Course
- (Japanese Leadership Skills)

Mr. Akiyoshi Tsuchiya

May 4

Ph: 09 45004175, 0943141939



iPod touch
 5th generation
 From 335,000 Kyats



iPod nano
 7th generation
 From 149,000 Kyats



iPod Shuffle
 7th generation
 From 54,000 Kyats



Sol Republic
 From 139,000 Kyats



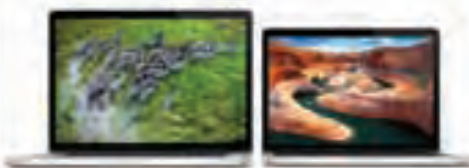
V-MODA
 From 249,000 Kyats



NuForce
 (Bluetooth Headphone)
 From 89,000 Kyats

Happy Thingyan Festival

Free \$15 iTunes Gift Card with purchase of every Apple, V-MODA, Sol Republic, and NuForce branded products.



MacBook Pro
 with Retina Display
 From 1,889,000 Kyats



MacBook Air
 From 1,039,000 Kyats



The new iMac
 From 1,399,000 Kyats



iPhone 5
 From 809,000 Kyats



iPad
 with Retina Display
 From 529,000 Kyats



iPad mini
 wifi + cellular
 From 528,000 Kyats

Yangon Outlet

45, Pyay road, 7 1/2 Miles,
 Mayangone Township,
 Yangon.
 Tel : 01-660923, 01-662749
 E-mail : sales@tacmm.com
www.fb.com/tac.yangon

www.tacmm.com
www.fb.com/theanalyticscompany

Mandalay Outlet

109, 30th Street,
 Between 65 x 66 Street,
 Chanayetharzan, Mandalay.
 Tel : 02-74743
 E-mail : sales.mdy@tacmm.com
www.fb.com/tac.mandalay



Pic: Thiri

Fast food invasion looms in Yangon

In Depth

with
Tim McLaughlin



DEBT clearances, exchange rate reform and the abolition of Foreign Exchange Certificates may have observers excited about Myanmar's economic reforms but on the streets of Yangon it is the arrival of foreign brands that is drawing the most attention.

Last month a picture of a supposed Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) outlet had social media buzzing with speculation that Colonel Sanders had found himself a new home on Nawaday Road in Dagon township.

In the March 22 issue of *The Myanmar Times*, Yum! Brands, which owns the KFC name as well as Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, and WingStreet, dispelled the rumour that it was building a restaurant already, but did say it was hiring staff in Myanmar for its "newest KFC Team".

KFC did not respond to emails or calls seeking further comment.

Though the most recognisable,

KFC is not alone in the fast food world in its eagerness to enter Myanmar, a country where consumers have had to settle for cheap knockoffs like MacBurger or, for a lucky few, grabbing a taste of the real thing in neighbouring countries.

South Korean fast food restaurant Lotteria plans to open an outlet at Junction Centre in the second week of April, said general manager U Maung Maung Kyu.

Lotteria is a subsidiary of conglomerate Lotte Group and operates in South Korea, Japan, Vietnam, China and Indonesia. The restaurant entered Vietnam in 2004 and the Indonesian market in 2011.

The newly formed MYKO, short for Myanmar-Korea, will serve as the master franchise for the brand in Myanmar. U Maung Maung Kyu said the company plans to open 25 restaurants by 2016, expanding from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw.

Along with the standard fare of chicken and burgers, Lotteria will also offer dishes tailored to Myanmar consumers, such as chicken rice.

Another South Korean chain,

BBQ Chicken, is scheduled to open its first Myanmar outlet in May in downtown Yangon, said executive director U Chan Nyein Hock and managing director U Naing Win Aung.

Myanmar Culinary Holdings Company Limited, a new branch of the well established Myanmar restaurant chain YKKO, is serving as the master franchise.

U Chan Nyein Hock and U Naing Win Aung both admitted that BBQ Chicken's prices will put it out of reach of many in Myanmar. The restaurant will be geared towards the city's young middle-class population with a casual dining format.

"The restaurant will be decorated in a way that young people will appreciate," said U Naing Win Aung. "Our target customers will be middle and upper middle income individuals."

Malaysia-based Marrybrown has also started building a restaurant in Yangon. Malaysian news outlet *Bernama* has reported that the company plans to open more than 20 restaurants in Myanmar during the next five years but when contacted by *The Myanmar Times* representatives

from the company said that they were not ready to comment on operations in Myanmar.

An illustration distributed by the company shows a restaurant with a touch of vintage Americana, including a sloping roofline and drive-through window.

Professor Nicholas Farrelly, a research fellow at Australian National University's School of International, Political and Strategic Studies, said that the new operations are significant beyond the expanded culinary options they bring.

"The arrival of the global fast food heavyweights marks a turning point for supply chains, middle class waistlines and international perceptions. Many will resent the arrival of such unhealthy harbingers of Western ways. But there will still be a level of excitement as some of the most recognisable brands and recipes in history sweep across the country," said Mr Farrelly.

It's unclear what exactly this will mean for the thousands of restaurants that have appeared in the global chain-free environment since 1988. U Kyaw Swa Moe,

manager of the popular downtown Yangon restaurant Y2T, said businesses like his will have to adapt to their new competitors to survive. But competing with similar offerings will be difficult, he said.

"We are concerned about them bringing in high-tech cooking tools," said U Kyaw Swa Moe. "The other difficulty is our chefs and cooks. They want to use traditional methods of cooking, they can't be asked to use more modern tools and machines. They don't like that. To cope with the chefs is a real challenge of ours."

Mr Farrelly said he believes tea shops and street vendors will be largely unaffected because they are in a different price range from the international chains but more up-market establishments may have reasons to worry.

"Most Myanmar diners will continue to patronise their old favourites," said Mr Farrelly. "But for many the novelty of big foreign chains will be too hard to resist. Experience from elsewhere in Southeast Asia suggests some of the big international chains will do very well, and will quickly displace the local competition."

CHOOSE THE MOST EFFECTIVE PROGRAM FOR YOUR CHILD THIS SUMMER

- From March through May
- For ages 3 to 14 years

TOTAL SUMMER SCHOOL
Explore, Experience, Enhance

Kamayur 524589 501976 514287	Sanchaung 526456 0973143280	Peandaung 293754 296552 299124
Tamwe 401552 - 4	Lanmadaw 224426 224701	Parami 660855 0973107378
Letla 251228 250854	New University Avenue 551521 551951 553896	Taunggyi 094 937 8438 081-2122690

Researchers study Rakhine quakes

A SCIENTIFIC study of ancient earthquakes could help predict future quakes and assist in disaster reduction activity.

Nine scientists, from Myanmar and overseas, conducted the research in Kyaukpyu township, Rakhine State, to collect data on earthquakes and climate variability going back 2000 years, said a member of the Myanmar Earthquake Committee last week.

U Lin Thu Aung, who took part in the study group, said scientists from the

Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, MEC, National Taiwan University and Earth Observatory of Singapore visited Lake Khamaw, Zin Chaung and Min Pyin villages from March 5 to 13.

"We studied the variation of marine terrace elevation levels from the great earthquakes that occurred in the past and also studied the coral reef to find more data on the intensity and recurrence of earthquakes. We estimate six strong earthquakes occurred along the west coast according

to previous research. We hope to collect more evidence of those past large earthquakes," he said.

He said scientists had conducted four paleoseismological surveys along the Rakhine coast since 2006 and gathered evidence about large earthquakes.

He said the research team also collected 100 samples from the active volcano in Kyaukpyu to trace earthquake and other geological hazard data in the past.

- Aye Sapay Phyu

KOBE-YA
Japanese BBQ Restaurant

World famous KOBE BEEF is Here!

- Japanese Chef from Tokyo
- All Private Rooms
- Only one Restaurant in Myanmar to enjoy world famous KOBE BEEF
- Japanese BBQ is No. 1 popular food in Japan

www.kobe-ya.jp

Open Daily 11am-11pm
+95-1-535-072
Near Thuka Kabar Hospital on Pyay Rd, Marlar St

ALL-IN FARES AT EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

SINGAPORE
FROM
USD **290**
RETURN

DENPASAR | JAKARTA
SURABAYA | MANILA
FROM
USD **520**
RETURN

OSAKA | TOKYO
SEOUL | SHANGHAI
FROM
USD **730**
RETURN

ADELAIDE | BRISBANE
MELBOURNE | SYDNEY
FROM
USD **1,060**
RETURN

AMSTERDAM | FRANKFURT
LONDON | PARIS
FROM
USD **1,060**
RETURN

NEW YORK
FROM
USD **1,730**
RETURN

From 1 April 2013, experiencing the world is more convenient than ever with 18 flights weekly from Yangon on Singapore Airlines and SilkAir.



Fares are available from these authorised travel agents:

ANTRA TRAVEL TEL: 293 304, 393 035
COLUMBUS TRAVEL TEL: 229 245, 378 535

HOOO TRAVEL TEL: 548 554, 557 890
NICE FARE TRAVEL TEL: 393 088, 245 378

SAW PORN PHAN TEL: 171 234, 224 881
SUN FAR TRAVEL TEL: 241 991, 255 338

THAN THAN TRAVEL TEL: 253 034, 225 035

All advertised fares include the price of the air ticket, associated taxes and surcharges only, correct as at 18 March 2013. Fares quoted are available from now to 30 April 2013 for travel out of Yangon from now to 31 May 2013 (except from 3 to 14 April 2013), and into Yangon from now to 31 May 2013 (except from 17 to 22 April 2013). Starting fares to Singapore, Denpasar, Jakarta, Manila and Surabaya are valid for travel out of and into Yangon on M309 and M520 only. All other fares are valid for travel from Yangon to Singapore on SQ997 from Mondays to Fridays, and M509 on all days. Fares are subject to change due to currency fluctuation. Fares are valid at the authorised travel agents listed above only. Tickets may be subject to additional service fees. Fares quoted are per person in Economy Class and subject to seat availability and confirmation. Tickets are non-refundable and are eligible for mileage accrual at 10% of the actual miles flown. Change of passenger name is not allowed but date changes are allowed, subject to an administrative fee. Tickets cannot be used in conjunction with upgrade awards and are not interchangeable for travel on other airlines. Other terms and conditions apply. For special fares to other destinations, please check with the appointed travel agents.

At Kyaikhtiyo, boom times for phone recharging businesses

By Myo Lwin

AMID the traditional medicines, bamboo guns and fruit jam at Kyaikhtiyo in Mon State, a lucrative new industry has emerged: recharging phone batteries.

Four years ago, there wasn't a single recharging business at the pagoda, also known as Golden Rock. Now there are more than 30 shops, thanks to the fact that most guesthouses do not have powerpoints for pilgrims to recharge their phones.

Shop owners also say the decision by Myanma Post and Telecommunications to slash SIM card prices from K500,000 to K200,000 in March sparked a significant increase in phone ownership;

the number of SIM cards in circulation rose from 1.5 million in January 2012 to three million by the end of the year.

"I started the phone recharging business here four years ago. There was no business like it at the time because not many people used mobile phones then. Now, so many pilgrims are using these phones and so there's demand for a service to recharge batteries," Ko Min Ko told *the Myanmar Times*.

The prevalence of smartphones has also been a boon for the operators of the recharging stalls.

"Phones have cameras, music players and they [pilgrims] are using these functions a lot so the phones need to be re-charged

regularly. The guesthouses and hotels do not have the plugs. We charge K500 for a battery and they are all happy to pay," Ko Min Ko said.

"Previously, the pilgrims used MP3 and MP4 as music players and many brought along cameras but we don't see them so much anymore. Mostly they just have mobile phones with all these functions," he said.

The transition to phone recharging was a natural one for Ko Min Ko: formerly he ran a public phone service at Kyaikhtiyo but business began going downhill when mobile phones began to appear. He invested in 200 China-made multi-chargers, which cost from K1500 to K4000, and now

makes more than K50,000 a day.

With his shop rental set at K100,000 a month and an electricity bill of up to K10,000, he makes enough during the seven-month pilgrim season, from mid-October to mid-May, to sustain his family for the five months when almost no visitors come to Golden Rock.

A worker at another phone battery re-charging shop, Ko Aung Htet Ko, said he recharged almost 200 phones a day during December, charging K500 for one battery.

"We also have phones from which you can call; we charge K200 a minute. But our main income source is phone battery re-charging. Many people are listening to music on their mobile phones. They are also using the cameras on them a lot. So batteries run out of charge pretty quick," he said.

With throngs of pilgrims on the pagoda platform all day and night, the shops open 24 hours a day, with owners hiring staff for the



Ko Min Ko shows his China-made battery multi-chargers at his shop in Kyaikhtiyo on December 26. Pic: Myo Lwin

night shift.

While most customers come to re-charge their phones, a small number of camera users also rely on the shops.

"Only one in 20 customers wants to recharge a camera battery," said Ko Aung Htet Ko, who works for the Nyunt recharging shop.

One of those who did

recharge his camera at Nyunt was U Nyunt Thein, a beans and pulses farmer from Bago Region who was visiting the pagoda with his family.

"There are no plugs and wires for re-charging at the guesthouse where we are staying. So having this kind of shop is very useful and convenient for us," he said.

The Asian Development Bank (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, it is owned by 67 members — 48 from the region.

The ADB office in Yangon is now looking for qualified candidates for the following contractual service position:

External Relations/ Civil Society Officer

Duration of Assignment:

Initial one year assignment from April 2013 with possibility of extension

Scope of Work:

The External Relations/Civil Society Officer will support a full range of external relations activities, including support for interpretation, translation, events organization, media relations, and knowledge dissemination, which will include:

- Information Dissemination: Assists in arranging media events, and organizing and maintaining ADB's publication outlets.
- External Relations: Coordinates logistics for communications activities for missions and milestones, such as press tours, book launches, road shows, major international conferences, seminars, and policy review meetings, etc. Assists in arranging ADB's external relations activities, and maintains good relationship with local and international media and counterparts in other organizations.
- Manages a budget for external relations and media relations activities.
- Media Relations: Implements media outreach programs to promote ADB projects using press tours, media interviews, news releases, and feature articles; assists in coordinating and preparation for media interviews, press conferences, and media gatherings; identifies opportunities to communicate ADB projects and knowledge products through news releases, media launches, and press statements for national media; strengthens relationships with national and international journalists and assists the Head of the ADB office to build rapport with senior journalists; maintains a system to track, monitor, and analyze media reports on ADB and coverage of issues of interest to ADB; facilitates response to media inquiries and advises the Head of the ADB office on responses to issues in media reports.
- Civil Society: As NGO Anchor for Myanmar, handle all communications with civil society organizations (CSOs). Ensure civil society organizations are invited, when appropriate, to ADB events and respond to invitations from civil society organizations. Share information with CSOs as appropriate. Organize and facilitate periodic consultations with CSOs such as for briefings on ADB's activities and consultations related to project preparation, etc. Work closely with the HQ-based Social Development Specialist (Civil Society and Participation) on sharing information about Myanmar civil society with relevant ADB staff and consultants. Maintain a database of CSO contacts.

- Support for ADB Management and Staff: Assists in preparation of briefing papers and mission programs, participates in meetings/missions as an interpreter as needed, and assists in preparing summary of discussions.
- Translation: Translates selected documents (Myanmar to English and English to Myanmar) to support ADB's knowledge and information dissemination activities, and arranges and proof-reads out-sourced translation, maintaining a roster of qualified external translators and interpreters.
- Support for Missions and Knowledge Events: Provides interpretation support for ADB missions, workshops, and seminars as requested.

Output/Reporting Requirements

The External Relations/Civil Society Officer will report to the Head of ADB's office in Yangon on day-to-day matters, and is expected to travel to other places in Myanmar, for participation in meetings, and other related activities.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in English, journalism, public affairs or related fields. Advanced degree or training in English translation and interpretation is preferred
- At least 3 years of relevant professional experience
- Familiarity with civil society in Myanmar, including local and international NGOs
- Work experience in interpretation/translation and with international agencies will be an advantage
- Good typing skills; good knowledge of stenography preferred but not necessary
- Good computer skills with sound knowledge of common word-processing, spreadsheets and graphics software
- Able to manage priorities and workload within general schedule of work, instructions and standardized practices
- Able to establish and maintain productive contacts with relevant government officials, donors, executing agencies, civil society organizations and private sector.
- Able to liaise and work effectively with staff within own work location
- Able to work collaboratively with teams as a constructive team member
- Good oral and written communication skills in English
- Able to work with individuals from different cultural/national backgrounds; good interpersonal skills
- Able to maintain composure under pressure

Interested and qualified candidates are requested to submit their resume by e-mail to: emmya@adb.org.

The deadline for submitting applications will be **9 April 2013**. Questions about this notice may be sent to emmya@adb.org.

www.adb.org.

Asian Development Bank



Denmark offers aid to parliamentarians

By Maria Danmark

DENMARK has offered more development assistance to Myanmar and wants to work more closely with the hluttaw. Last month, the speaker of the Danish parliament, former foreign minister Mogens Lykketoft, met in Nay Pyi Taw with his Myanmar counterpart, Pyithu Hluttaw speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, to explore possibilities for cooperation.

Mr Lykketoft also visited UN camps housing up to 120,000 displaced persons in a two-day trip to Rakhine State, and urged the central government to continue its engagement in resolving the situation there.

"What we experienced in Nay Pyi Taw was that there is a lot of goodwill to continue the democratic process ... a certain understanding that if this is to succeed, then they have to cooperate," said Mr Lykketoft, who is also a candidate for the presidency of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Danish parliament has already lent an employee to the Myanmar parliament as part of a project supported by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and UNDP.

"I think the Danish parliament has a large role in institution-building. But we are

also aware that there are so many in line to support and help, so we would rather find collaborative projects, so that the parliament in Myanmar does not have to deal with thousands of different NGOs," Mr Lykketoft told *The Myanmar Times*.

"The Myanmar government is facing both a huge reform program, but enjoys huge positive interest from the outside world and they have a problem of a bottleneck between what they want and what they can accomplish ... We just want to contribute in an effective way," he said.

After his visit to Rakhine State, Mr Lykketoft said: "There's certainly no solution without the central government ... to say that the local Rakhine population and the Rohingya should just negotiate is quite impossible. They cannot solve the problems by themselves."

"At least 110,000-120,000 people are sitting in camps, where they basically cannot do anything to maintain their own lives. They are not allowed to work and are not allowed to move, so it is in fact a serious human rights problem," he said.

"This is a major humanitarian problem, which can derail the positive developments in Myanmar."

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) office in Myanmar is looking for qualified candidates for the following contractual services positions:

Position	Scope of Work	Duty Station	Duration
Operations Assistant	The Operations Assistant will perform a full range of secretarial duties, which includes providing statistical and analytical support services for various activities relating to project administration and other administrative functions.	Yangon	Initial one year assignment from April 2013 with possibility of extension
Driver (2 positions)	The Driver will provide safe and reliable transport services to ADB personnel and official guests to their destinations in an official ADB vehicle.	One in Yangon and one in Nay Pyi Taw	

For job description details, please send an email to emmya@adb.org. Interested and qualified candidates are also requested to submit their resume to the same email address. The deadline for submitting applications is on **9 April 2013**.

Complaints continue over Yangon tender

By Aung Shin

BIDDERS in a controversial land auction in rural Yangon say they will continue to protest the initial results, in which the same company won two plots by bidding just above the floor price.

A total of 15 bidders, including seven companies and eight individuals, bid for three plots of rubber and tapioca plantations, totalling 1200 acres, in Kawhmu township in southern Yangon Region.

In one case, Young Investment Group topped the auction with a bid of K109.8million on the first plot, which had a floor price of K109.2 million. U Zaw Min Aung Group was second with a bid of K39.322 million and U Tin Win Group bid K29.2 million to hold third place. The tender was for a 576-acre plot that includes an 8-acre factory.

However, following protests from the losing bidders, the regional government has not yet released the official results from the tender, which closed on February 28.

"I've heard that the Yangon Region government discussed the tender on [March 25] at a cabinet meeting. But we haven't got an answer yet on the tender. We have already given back the deposit money to some bidders but two bidders from Kawhmu township, U Zaw Min Aung Group and U Tin

"It does not support the Union Government's objective of reducing poverty."

Win Group, are still rejecting the tender process," said U Khin Maung Win, a member of the regional government's Tender Supervising Committee.

U Hla Myint from U Zaw Min Aung Group said his company had sent two complaint letters to the Tender Supervising Committee and regional government. The company questioned why it was asked

for a K10 million deposit that was not included in the tender rules and why the winning company was able to amend some facts a minute before the bidding opened. "They haven't responded to our complaint yet," he said.

"We also complained about the tender process," said U Tin Win, the head of U Tin Win Group from Nyaunghtauk village in Kawhmu township. "We local residents have depended on this rubber plantation for many years, since the socialist government. If the Yangon Region government lets this company win the rubber plantation, it does not support the Union Government's objective of reducing poverty and fostering rural development."

U Tin Win Group is also going to continue fighting the results of the tender, he said, adding that the company also objected to being asked for a K10 million deposit without official documentation to show any deposit had been paid.

The Yangon Region government announced the tender in the state-run *Kyemon* newspaper on February 6.



Residents examine two 25-storey condominiums on 84th Street on November 11 after a strong earthquake hit near Mandalay. Pic: Phyo Wai Kyaw

Sales at Mandalay condo to open

By Phyo Wai Kyaw and Than Naing Soe

APARTMENTS in Mandalay's highest condominium project will go on sale in June, the developer says.

The two 25-storey towers each have 150 apartments of 2000 square feet and are on 84th Street in the Zegyo Market compound. The complex also features a six-storey retail precinct and the cost of the project, which was launched in 2004, is estimated at more than US\$74 million.

U Than Win, director of Mann Myanmar Construction, said the interiors of the buildings were being finalised, after

which they would go on sale.

However, he said he was not sure what reception the condominiums would get from locals.

"Mandalay residents are not familiar with the culture of living in high condominiums. To encourage demand we will not only sell rooms but also rent them. I haven't fixed the price yet but it will be reasonable," U Than Win said.

Another feature of the development is that it has been built to withstand earthquakes of a magnitude of up to 8.5 on the Richter scale, he said.

"The earthquake we had in November 2012 didn't even break a single pane of glass," he added.

MAX HOTELS GROUP
WISHEING A HAPPY MYANMAR TIZAYAN TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

ROYAL BIRMOONIA HOTEL
NUY PITTAY

Hotel Ayeeyarwady
NAY PITTAY

HOTEL MALL
Phanung Sea Beach

YANGON OFFICE
No. 123 Alaypysa Pagoda Road, Dagon Township, Yangon
Tel: +95(1) 253 819-38 Fax: +95(1) 253 840
E-mail: sales@maxhotelsgroup.com; moinv@maxhotelsgroup.com

Managed By Max Hotels

www.maxhotelsgroup.com

* Lea Hin (Singapore) - 77th years anniversary * established since 1935

FARFALLA
အားလုံးအတွက် အိမ်ထောင်ရေးအတွက် အသုံးပြုနိုင်သည့် အိမ်ထောင်ရေးအတွက်

1 YEAR WARRANTY

FB-HM24 (Blender & Mill)
FB-HS023 (HOT SOUP BLENDER)
FFP-807 (Food Processor)
FFP-101 (Food Processor)
FB-E3050 (Blender & Mill)
FJE-213 (Juice Extractor)
FMC-322 (Multi Cooker)
FFM-80102 (Food Mixer)

Tomato Soup
Creamy Chicken & Thyme Soup

ဝယ်ယူနိုင်သည့် ခရီးစဉ်များ
City Super Market Ocean
i SUPER ONE
LUCKY CITY ELECTRONIC
MM ELECTRONIC

OFFICE & SERVICE CENTRE
Tel: 01-662929, 01-608903, 09 7311 0894, 09 4230 87783, 09 8034055

LUCKY CITY ELECTRONIC 063 24034, 24987
MM ELECTRONIC 09 8633470

Most over 60s still working, survey finds

But almost all people aged 60 and over rely on children and other relatives for support, first comprehensive study shows

By Jessica Mudditt

MOST older people in Myanmar are economically active but live on less than US\$3 a day, a report published by HelpAge International last month has found.

Most people 60 and over rely on their children for at least some support but the report warns that changing demographics and lifestyles could put this means of support "under strain".

The report, *The Situation of Older Persons in Myanmar*, is the first comprehensive study of older people in Myanmar in decades and involved face-to-face interviews with 4080 people from all states and regions in Myanmar except Kachin State.

Non-government organisation HelpAge International received support from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to conduct the survey. The United Nations Population Fund provided long-term demographic projections about Myanmar's rapidly ageing population.

The report says that by 2050, a quarter of Myanmar's population will be aged 60 years or older.

Older people account for about 9pc of the country's estimated population of 60 million, a figure that has "virtually quadrupled over the past 60 years". However Myanmar still has one of the lowest life expectancy rates in the region, the Asian Development Bank says.

UN projections found that persons aged 60 and older will outnumber children under the age of 15 by 2035.

The study covers demographic trends, social characteristics, economic activity, living arrangements, material wellbeing, health and family support.

It found that "even by the standards of Southeast Asia, older people in Myanmar remain exceptionally close to their families".

More than three quarters of the people interviewed live with at least one of their children and 50pc also live with a grandchild. Among older people with adult children, 95pc have at least one child living in the same village or ward.

"[F]ew older persons in Myanmar are isolated from family and in general are socially integrated with their children and their kin ... and are thus able to potentially benefit from exchanges of material and



An elderly National League for Democracy supporter at a party rally in Kawhmu in April 2012. Pic: AFP

emotional support," it said.

As only 10pc of older people have a telephone, people living significant distances apart from their children and other relatives have only limited ability to maintain contact.

All respondents said they receive either money or goods from their children, with adult children being the main source of support for about 60pc of older people.

However, almost a quarter of older people reported that "income from their own or their spouse's work was still their main source of support".

The study also found that support is reciprocal: more than 50pc of respondents who live with children provide economic support to the household, with the same proportion providing care for grandchildren.

However, the report notes that fertility rates

in Myanmar have already fallen to two children per woman and predicts that "dramatically shrinking family sizes and increasing urban migration ... will soon put these traditional means of support under strain."

As pensions are "very rare" and virtually none of the respondents receive any type of welfare support from government or non-

older people in rural areas remain economically active longer than their urban counterparts," says the report.

However, nearly half of Myanmar's older population described their income as inadequate for meeting daily needs - almost 10pc of households have a daily income of less than \$1 a day. Less than one in five

About a third has neither a radio nor television.

Along with low standards of material wealth, only a third of older people interviewed finished primary school.

"Only about half of older persons are fully literate, with women particularly likely to lack literacy."

One finding that appears independent of demographics is religious faith. Three-quarters of respondents pray or meditate daily and 95pc do so at least once a month.

Just a third of older people in Myanmar say that their health is good or very good. Although most of those who sought medical treatment in 2012 received it, a quarter of respondents said they couldn't afford the healthcare they felt they needed.

U Aung Tun Khaing, chair of the Elderly Project Advisory Committee at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, said the findings will significantly contribute to future national planning on elderly care.

"With the information documented in this report we will be able to develop informed policies and implement plans for elderly care services to fill in the gaps wherever needed," he said in a statement released by HelpAge.

HelpAge has worked in Myanmar since 2003 and drafted a National Action Plan on Ageing, which U Aung Tun Khaing said could be approved in the 2013-14 financial year, which begins on April 1.

The plan seeks to introduce a pension program, discounted transportation fares, low interest loans and subsidised health care for the elderly.

'Shrinking family sizes and urban migration will soon put traditional means of support under strain.'

government agencies, nearly a quarter of people aged between 70 and 74 are economically active, with 60pc working in agriculture.

"Men are twice as likely as women to remain economically active, and

older persons has savings and older people are twice as likely to have debts as savings.

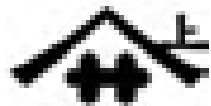
A third of the older people interviewed said they live in homes without electricity, while 58pc lack access to running water.

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that YAMASA SHOYU KABUSHIKI KAISHA (also trading as Yamasa Corporation) of 10-1, Araoi-Cho 2-Chome, Choshi-Shi, Chiba-Ken, Japan is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks: -

YAMASA

(Reg: Nos. IV/325/1987 & IV/13424/2012)



(Reg: Nos. IV/326/1987 & IV/13425/2012)

the above two trademarks are in respect of: - "chemicals used in industry, science and photography, as well as in agriculture, horticulture and forestry; unprocessed artificial resins, unprocessed plastics, manures; fire extinguishing compositions; tempering and soldering preparations; chemical substances for preserving foodstuffs; tanning substances; adhesives used in industry"- Int'l Class: 1 "Pharmaceutical veterinary and sanitary preparation, dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin fungicides, herbicides"- Int'l Class: 5 "Coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, rice, tapioca sago, artificial coffee, flour and preparations made from cereals, bread, pastry and confectionery, ices; honey, treacle; yeast, baking-powder; salt, mustard; vinegar, sauces (except salad dressings), spices; ice"- Int'l Class: 30

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademarks or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **YAMASA SHOYU KABUSHIKI KAISHA**
(also trading as Yamasa Corporation)
P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.
Phone: 372416 Dated: 1st April, 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **Tyson Foods, Inc.** a company incorporated under the laws of United States of America and having its principal office at 2200 Don Tyson Parkway, SPRINGDALE, AR, 72762, United States of America is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark: -



(Reg: Nos. IV/ 1433 /2006 & IV/3363/2012)

in respect of:- "Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; preserved, dried and cooked fruits and vegetables; jellies, jams; eggs, milk and milk products; edible oils and fats; salad dressings; preserves"

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **Tyson Foods, Inc.**
P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.
Phone: 372416 Date: 1st April, 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that Bull-Dog Sauce Kabushiki Kaisha (also trading as Bull-Dog Sauce Co., Ltd.) of 11-5, Nihonbashi Kabuto-Cho, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo, Japan is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark: -



(Reg: No. IV/12126/2012)

in respect of: - "condiments, dressings for salad, ketchup (sauce), mayonnaise, meat gravies, sauces (condiments), seasonings, Soya sauce, tomato sauce, pasta sauce, vinegar, cereal preparations, farinaceous foods, flour-milling products" - Class: 30

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **Bulldog Sauce Kabushiki Kaisha**
(also trading as Bull-Dog Sauce Co., Ltd.)
P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.
Phone: 372416 Dated: 1st April, 2013

MDY Auditor General finds funds misused

By Si Thu Lwin

THE Mandalay Region Auditor General has uncovered cases of misusing state funds totalling more than K200 million, much of it at the Mandalay Cyber City project.

Auditor General U Kyaw Win told the Mandalay Region Hluttaw the discrepancies were uncovered when his department examined projects and activities of government departments.

"I found a lot of incorrect cases after examining how budgets are being used in ministries and departments. I submitted these results to ministers and the chief minister to take actions for all cases," he said on the second day of the sixth regular session of the hluttaw.

A large proportion of the losses were incurred at Yadanarpon Cyber City, including K68.986 million at projects implemented by A1 Construction, K39.375 million at Thaw Tar Win construction and K 49.735 million courtesy of the Ministry of Electric Power 2. Smaller losses of less than K2 million were reported at Myanma Post and Telecommunication (MPT), Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Mandalay City Development Committee projects in the new city.

Meanwhile, at the Mandalay City Development Committee's Department of Revenue, it found the department was missing out on K13.38 million a month in additional revenue from car parking and car trading.

In the Ministry of Health, K8.728 million was lost during a project to build

a three-storey building at Mandalay Central Women's Hospital.

Losses were uncovered in MPT, with the head of a post office in Myitnge township misusing more than K4 million between 2002 and 2011.

A Bureau of Special Investigation accountant based in Mandalay Region was found to have misused K5 million. Similarly, when the Auditor General's Office examined Ministry of Hotel and Tourism-run Beverage Enterprise in Kyaukse township, they found K3.562 million had been misused.

A Yezin Agricultural University branch in Kyaukse's Lun Kaw lost K2.365 million provided for an electricity project.

Also in Kyaukse, the Ministry of Science and Technology's Material Science and Material Engineering Research Department wasted K16.270 million on four research buildings and two residences.

Moreover, Myanma Railways' Department of Engineering No 11 was also found to have misused K3.969 million for a project in Bagan.

According to the section 26 of the Auditor General Act, the region auditor general's office can examine the accounts and assets of government departments within its geographical jurisdiction and can guide, supervise or sometimes examine the performance of auditor offices.

Auditor offices in Mandalay Region examined 1626 organisations: 230 at the region level, 292 at district level, and 1104 at township level.

- Translated by Thiri Min Htun



Road to ruin

Children walk past a bus that crushed a parked Toyota Probox on Min Ye Kyaw Swar Road in Lanmadaw township on March 25. Luckily, nobody was in the car at the time and no injuries were reported. Pic: Ye Naung



AIR KBZ Limited

33-49, Corner of Bank Street & Maha Bandoola Garden Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon 11182, Myanmar

Reservation: (01) 373766, Facsimile: (01) 372983

Email: info@airkbz.com.mm, www.airkbz.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AIRKBZ Instagram: instagram.com/AIRKBZ

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **HYUNDAI MOTOR COMPANY** a company organized under the laws of South Korea at 231 Yangjae-Dong, Seocho-Gu Seoul, Korea (South) is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark: -

MATRIX

(Reg: Nos. IV/5668/2009 & IV/534/2013)

in respect of: - "Vehicles; apparatus for locomotion by land in Int'l Class 12"

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **HYUNDAI MOTOR COMPANY**

P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.

Phone: 372416 Dated: 1st April, 2013

Myanmar



Urban Development Conference 2013

6 – 8 May 2013
Traders Hotel, Yangon, Myanmar
www.mudc.sphereconferences.com

“Urban Development in Myanmar is on the edge of transformation”

...says the Union Minister for Construction, U Kyaw Lwin. Under the patronage of the Ministry of Construction, and in collaboration with UMFDGL, Sphere Conferences is happy to present to you the inaugural strategic urban development summit – Myanmar Urban Development Conference 2013.

Come and join us from 6-8 May 2013 to understand the nature of the slated projects and the myriad of investment opportunities available within Myanmar today. Come and share – what you have to offer to the land that is on the edge of transformation.



Smart and Connected

Join us from 6 – 8 May 2013 at Myanmar's first urban development conference

Over 30 distinguished list of speakers including:



Dr. Beng Hong Socheat Khemro
Ministry Spokesperson,
Ministry of Land Management,
Urban Planning and Construction, Kingdom of Cambodia



Mr. Mohinder Singh
Dean LTA Academy,
Land Transport Authority, Singapore



Mr. Benjamin Loh
Urban Ecology Researcher, Centre for Urban Greenery and Ecology, National Parks Board, Singapore



Mr. Kah Ping Seow
Senior Director (Urban Planning Excellence), Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore



U Sun Oo
Vice President, Association of Myanmar Architects



Mr. Florian Steinberg
Senior Urban Development Specialist, Urban Development and Water Division, SEA Department, Asian Development Bank



Mr. Ismael Fernandez Meija
President (2009 - 2012), International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)



Mr. Lawrence Yip
Senior VP Planning & Business Development, Sembcorp Development Ltd



Mr. Sven Wolfgang Greulich
Executive Director, TILKE Engineering Kazakhstan



Dr. Remo Burkhard
Managing Director, Singapore-ETH Centre for Global Environmental Sustainability



Mr. Nicholas You
Chairman, Steering Committee, World Urban Campaign - UN HABITAT



Daw Moe Moe Lwin
Director, Yangon Heritage Trust

Book now!

Limited seats available!

USD 250

50% festive promotion
Only valid till 15 April 2013

* Foreign companies based in Myanmar are not entitled to this promotion

Register in 3 easy steps

- **Request** for the Registration Form from thithi@sphereconferences.com
- **Email** the completed form to thithi@sphereconferences.com
- **Payment** can be made to the following address:
13B(A), New University Avenue Bahan Township Yangon, Myanmar
(Attention to Miss Hla Soe Nwe)
Tel: (95-1) 548011, 543191, 549827 Fax: (95-1) 546440

Register today and enjoy great savings, contact Ms. Hla Soe Nwe at +951 548011, 543191, 549827 or Thi Thi at +65 6848 5371 or email thithi@sphereconferences.com for more information.

Organized by



Patron



Co-organizer



Associate Sponsor



Supported by



Follow us at



Sponsoring Association



Knowledge Partner



Partners



Ministry to appoint 10,000 assistant teachers

THE 50 percent boost to the country's education budget will soon become visible in schools as the Ministry of Education last week announced plans to hire at least 10,000 junior assistant teachers for the country's primary schools.

U Ko Ko Tin, director general of the ministry's Education Planning and Training Department, told *The Myanmar Times*: "We're going to recruit more teachers for basic education for needy regions throughout the country as a first priority. About 10,000 graduates will be appointed."

Temporary teachers already working in rural schools will be given first preference, he said. There are nearly 200,000 primary and post-primary teachers around the country, according to the ministry.

Applicants will sit a writing test on April 9. Training starts in May and assistant teachers will be expected to begin work when the school year begins in June, said U Ko Ko Tin.

The government will spend K900 billion on education in the 2013-2014 school year, up from K600 billion last year, Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said during a trip to Kayah State in February.

This means education will receive 5.84 percent of the national budget, up from 4.3pc last year.

The Ministry of Education will also renovate 1000 schools, U Ko Ko Tin said.

There are 18 state and region education officers' offices and more than 300 township-level offices. The ministry will build new offices for 52 district education officers around the country this year, he said.

-Aung Shin



Two women walk past shuttered ground floor shops at Yuzana Plaza on March 25. Pic: Aung Htay Hlaing

Yuzana Plaza opening days dispute resolved

By Htoo Aung

GOVERNMENT labour inspectors have helped resolve a dispute between the owners of Yuzana Plaza and ground-floor shopkeepers about keeping their stores open seven days a week.

The problem arose when Yuzana Plaza owner U Htay Myint announced on February 16 that the plaza would open every day. Shopkeepers on the ground floor, who want every Monday off, objected.

Yuzana Plaza ground-floor shopowner Daw San San Win told *The Myanmar Times*: "U Htay Myint wants to open the plaza every day, but we want to close every Monday as usual. We urged the plaza administration office to close as usual. We

didn't even know about this announcement beforehand, and we disagree."

Shops on the upper four floors of the Mingalar Taung Nyunt wholesale centre are open every day. The ground-floor merchants own their shops, but those on the upper floors rent them from the plaza.

U Kyaw Yee Aye, a staff officer from the Yangon Region General Labour Law Inspection Department, told *The Myanmar Times*: "The shop owners, Yuzana U Htay Myint, [Pyithu Hluttaw representative] for Mingalar Taung Nyunt Daw Phyu Phyu Thin, and officials from the inspection department met [on March 20] to solve the problem. After about three hours of discussion, we reached two agreements."

As of April 22, the plaza will

close every second Monday. The second agreement is that before Thingyan festival the owners will improve security at the plaza.

To save upper floor shopowners from losing a day of income every fortnight, U Htay Myint has promised to install external access, said Ko Nyein Chan, who sells bags on the third floor.

"If so, the ground floor shopowners can close their floor. We [upper floor shopkeepers] can open each day if the bridge is constructed. But at the moment we agree to close on Mondays," he said.

When Yuzana Plaza opened in 1998 it opened daily, but from 2009 it started to close every Monday according to the labour laws.

U Kyaw Yee Aye said

ground-floor shopowners feared that if the plaza opened on their off-day to give access to the shops on the upper floors, their premises might be burgled.

Daw San San Win said that most of the ground-floor shops are wholesalers. "Our staff are tired. If we get Monday off, we feel fresh and energetic."

At Yuzana Plaza, there are 1064 shops at the ground floor, and about 750 on the upper four floors. Include the shops in the two parking lots, it has more than 2000 outlets.

U Htay Myint is a well-known businessman who owns Yuzana Company and is a member of the Pyithu Hluttaw for Myeik, representing the Union Solidarity and Development Party.

Briefs

Democracy returns to classrooms

DEMOCRACY is coming to the classroom, the hluttaw has been told. In his reply to a question from U Myint Soe, representative for Pyawbwe, Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye confirmed that political science was to be taught as a separate subject at universities, which would be establishing political science departments.

At the primary and secondary level, children would be taught about the practice of democracy. Books now available only to teachers would be issued in versions suitable to students.

History majors at university would also learn about democracy, as well as constitutional history. International relations majors and PhD students would also study democracy in a political science context, he said.

-Yhoon Hnin

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to visit Japan

NATIONAL League for Democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will head to Japan on April 12, the party's central executive member U Nyan Win said last week.

The Japanese government invited Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to make an official visit after she was released from house arrest in November 2010. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's personal assistant, Dr Tin Mar Aung, will accompany her on the trip. U Nyan Win declined to give any more details, including who else would join Daw Aung San Suu Kyi or how long the trip will be.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi lived in Tokyo in the 1980s and the visit is her first since she returned to Myanmar in 1988. It is her second overseas trip in 2013, after a visit to Hawaii and South Korea in January.

-Kyaw Hsu Mon

LABOY



New Product



Yangon Showroom

Room 4008 / 4054 Level (3), Taw Win Centre, Pyay Road, Dagon Township.

www.everseikomm.com

Email: ls@everseikomm.com Tel: 8600013, 8600014 (Ext: 4008,4054), 09-73022463, 09-5166291, 09-5124682.

Mandalay Showroom

No. 151, Road 80, Between 28th & 29th street. Tel: 02-32883

Taung Gyi Showroom

Kalaw Plaza, No.141, Myoma Market (West), Satsamhuan Street, Zaypina Ward. Tel:09-73022461

MRCS assists victims of Meiktila violence US funds landmine clearance

By Yamon Phu Thit

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society has been providing emergency services for victims of the Meiktila conflict in several relief camps and 16 nearby monasteries since communal riots between Buddhists and Muslims erupted on March 20.

The services are funded by the International Committee of the Red Cross and include emergency support, basic healthcare and health education. The organisation has also built temporary camps, toilets and water supplies for those left homeless by the violence.

U Kyaw San Win, an MRCS disaster management officer, said some victims suffered severe burns and were badly injured, with at least 40 patients transferred to the hospital in the past week for medical care.

MRCS is also providing ambulance services for emergency patients as well as first-aid. Patients are being transferred to Meiktila General Hospital and township medical offices.

He said MRCS staff and

volunteers are also working to reunite people separated during the conflict through a family link service.

"Those who cannot find their family members can contact MRCS to look for them," U Kyaw San Win said.

U Kyaw San Win said the main need was supplies for the camps, particularly food, water and medicine. No serious health problems have been reported.

"We prefer assistance such as food, medicine and utensils rather than money," he said.

Sayadaw U Sandana, head monk at Ma Gye Gone monastery in Meiktila, told *The Myanmar Times* on March 28 that more than 400 people whose houses were destroyed in the riots were seeking refuge in his monastery. "We started accepting people on March 23," he said. "We will let them stay here until they are resettled and safe."

The main concern at the monastery, which only accepts Buddhists, is ensuring displaced people get enough food, he said. "Although donors provide for them, we still don't have enough."

By Nan Tin Htwe

THE United States will provide US\$3 million to Myanmar for landmine clearing projects in a move also aimed at supporting peace efforts and confidence-building between the government and ethnic groups, a senior State Department official said last month.

"The funding will be coming in a few weeks," Mr Rick Barton, the assistant secretary of the department's Bureau of Conflict and Stabilisation Operations, told *The Myanmar Times* in Yangon on March 22.

The funding will initially go towards demining work in Kayah State but support will later be extended to other affected areas, including Kachin and Shan states, said Mr Barton.

The funding will assist organisations involved in demining work, which Mr Barton said played a "critical" role in ceasefire and peace processes.

He said it was also important that the Tatmadaw and armed ethnic groups be involved



A man receives a prosthetic leg provided by Thailand's Prosthesis Foundation at a ceremony in Yangon on October 7, 2012. Pic: Kaung Htet

in "delicate, expensive and dangerous" demining work.

The US stood ready to help bring all sides together in the demining effort, Mr Barton said.

On March 20, Mr Barton

travelled with the US ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Derek Mitchell, to Kayah State, where landmines have been laid in all seven of its districts, *Munitions Monitor 2012* reported.

The trip provided an opportunity for Mr Barton and Mr Mitchell to meet the Kayah State Chief Minister, U Khin Maung Oo, as well as other officials, representatives of four ethnic groups and landmine victims.

"They are all concerned about landmines," said Mr Barton, who added that discussions during the trip had focused on "mine education and mine awareness" and the contribution that demining makes towards achieving peace and development.

Mr Barton said a major negative consequence

of landmines is that they hinder freedom of movement.

"Landmines obviously are a huge threat to people being able to move freely within their societies," he said.

Landmines are a "common challenge, concern and fear" for all sides in Myanmar, Mr Barton said.

On March 21, Mr Barton held talks in Nay Pyi Taw with officials from the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, as well as members of parliament and party leaders.

Myanmar is one of about 30 countries which have not signed the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty, also known as the Ottawa Treaty. Others include the US, China and Russia.

FMI
UB Charter

FMI Air Charter Ltd.
FMI Center, Level 9, Room 910
No 38B, Bogyoke Aung San Rd.
Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: +95-1-240 363, +95-1-240 373
Email: sales@fmiaircharter.com
www.fmiaircharter.com

AIR TRAVEL

A NEW STANDARD IN MYANMAR AIR TRAVEL

UP TO 3 TIMES A DAY BETWEEN YANGON AND THE CAPITAL NAY PYI TAW
BESPOKE CHARTER TO OVER 25 DESTINATIONS WITHIN MYANMAR
EXECUTIVE LEVEL TRAVEL INCLUDING LIMOUSINE SERVICES

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **Kracie Home Products, Ltd.** of a corporation duly organized under the law of Japan, Manufactures and Merchants of 20-20, Kaigan 3-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo Japan is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks: -

MALCA

マルカ

(Reg: No. IV/518/2013)

PURE SAVON

(Reg: No. IV/519/2013)

in respect of: - "soaps, perfumery, essential oils, cosmetics, hair lotions; dentifrices" - Class: 3

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademarks whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **Kracie Home Products, Ltd.**

P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.

Phone: 372416 Dated: 1st April, 2013

Charges dropped, dispute a 'misunderstanding': activist

By Noe Noe Aung

A CIVIL society activist and the owner of a company that provides services to pilgrims at Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda have withdrawn charges against each other after the fourth day of their hearing at Bahan Township Court.

"I would like to say that we charged each other impetuously and after we took our time and talked, we came to understand each other. So after the fourth [day], we made a deal to withdraw our charges," Ko Htin Kyaw of the Movement for Democracy Current Force (MDCF) said at a press conference on March 25.

"After the quarrel, I filed a complaint against U Thein Naing of Yoe Yoe Lay at the Bahan township police station and charged him in Bahan Township Court on January 13. The next day, U Thein Naing charged me in the same court. But it was just a misunderstanding," he said.

The charges stemmed from a confrontation at Royal Rose Restaurant shortly before MDCF was to hold a seminar. It came after MDCF leaders called a press conference to bring to light the bribery and extortion at Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda in Mon State.

"We talked a lot about the bribery and criticised many businesses from Kyaikhtiyo, including Yoe Yoe Lay. Later, the owner of Yoe Yoe Lay, U Thein Naing - who thought we were just trying to attack him alone - came and argued with Ko Htin Kyaw," said MDCF member Ko Zar Ni.

Ko Htin Kyaw said neither side had to pay compensation to have the



Ko Htin Kyaw speaks at a press conference on March 25. Pic: Noe Noe Aung

charges withdrawn.

U Thein Naing, whose company runs a hotel, travel business and truck service for pilgrims at Kyaikhtiyo, said he would also cooperate with MDCF in future "if they are really trying to bring good things for everyone".

"At their last press conference, MDCF alleged that many business in Kyaikhtiyo are crony businesses and I misunderstood it. I am just a businessman who is running my business fairly and honestly. Now I understand that MDCF is not trying to attack the business on purpose and they are trying to work for the good of the people so I decided to withdraw my charges against [Ko Htin Kyaw]," he added.

Ko Htin Kyaw said his organisation would still try to tackle the high prices that pilgrims face at Kyaikhtiyo.

"We won't stop our attempts to tell people about the bribery that goes on at Kyaikhtiyo. But now Yoe Yoe Lay and MDCF understand each other. We are going to cooperate with them and

end of January. Expenses usually increase at these times everywhere but at Kyaikhtiyo during peak season everything costs the earth," he said.

Pilgrims have to pay at least K35,000 for a night in a 96 square foot room, while hotels charge at least K80,000 a night.

"At first we thought those businessmen are increasing the prices unfairly. But later we found out that their tax is so high and besides, they have to pay the trustees regularly. So they have to increase their prices to cover their expenses," he said.

MDCF reported the issues to the Mon State government and officials have promised to take action. "But it's still not easy as some former members of the regional authority are involved," he added.

other regional authorities to achieve our aims," Ko Htin Kyaw said.

"Everything in Kyaikhtiyo is very expensive during high season, which normally runs from November to the

Myanmar's 99 percent: no faith in the judiciary

By Su Hlaing Tun

IT'S time to rebuild rule of law, says Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. She told a public meeting in Bago on March 23 that 99 percent of Myanmar's citizens had no faith in the courts and the justice system.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who chairs the Rule of Law, Stability and Peace Committee, said the judiciary is one of the four pillars of the community and Myanmar's is in serious need of repair.

She told the audience at Ka Nyut Kwin Central Hall that she would act swiftly to rebuild confidence in the judicial system, but that it required improvements to the other pillars - the executive, judiciary and media - as well.

"People don't believe in the courts and say the judiciary takes money," said

Daw Suu Kyi.

"But what do we mean by saying 'the rule of law is weak'? It's not enough to say there is no justice in the courts. This is also related to weaknesses in the other pillars of the state," she said.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said that it was not enough to make accusations. The main causes of corruption and illegality within the judiciary need to be brought to light.

"We should think in terms of helping each other, not finding fault," she said, adding that the government and legislative pillars needed to support and correct the judiciary.

Common complaints against the justice system include bribery, both to the police and the court officials, impartial judgements and deliberate and unnecessary delays. - Translated by Zar Zar Soe

KFC

We are the original.

And we are looking for people who are as original as we are.

We haven't started building our first restaurant in Yangon yet, but that hasn't stopped us from looking for passionate Restaurant Managers and Assistant Managers to join our newest KFC team.

If you have managerial experience in the food and beverage industry, are eager to build a career and looking for a company you can be proud of, contact us via KFC.Myanmar@yum.com and help us make every customer's day so good.

Real food, real people.

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **Yara International ASA**, a company incorporated in Norway carrying on business as fertilizer manufacturer and having its principal office at Bygdøy allé 2, P. O. Box 2464 Solli, N-0202 OSLO, Norway, do solemnly and sincerely declare that we are the owners and sole proprietors of the following trade mark in Myanmar:



The said mark is used in respect of "Chemicals used in agriculture, horticulture and forestry; fertilizers".

The said trade mark is the subject of Declaration of Ownership recorded with Registrar of Deeds and Assurances, Yangon, Myanmar, in Book under No. 7799/2012 Dated 25th July, 2012.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **Yara International ASA**
by its Attorneys-at-Law
REMFREY & SAGAR
INDIA.

Dated: 1st April, 2013



Yes

we accept
Subscriptions by


EMAIL.

subscribe.mt@gmail.com

“ Simple. Just email us your details and we will start delivery of The Myanmar Times to your home or office immediately. ”

EMAIL US YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW!

THE MYANMARTIMES မြန်မာတိုင်း(စ်)
MYANMARTIMES

 subscribe.mt@gmail.com

CALL US AT (951) 253642, 392928 AND ASK FOR 'SUBSCRIPTION'



Cambodian microfinance lender opens in Myanmar

By Myat Nyein Aye

CAMBODIAN microfinance lender Aceda opened a wholly owned subsidiary in Myanmar on March 25, although the company has been operating since February 18, an official said.

The company, which will be called Aceda MFI Myanmar, has a five-storey office tower on Shwegondaing Road in Bahan township, a bank spokesperson said last week.

The spokesperson said Aceda was granted a permit to trade by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration on September 6 last year, and has been licensed to carry out microfinance operations as a credit- and deposit-taking organisation on February 8.

“Our company has been run as a deposit-taking microfinance institution with an initial paid-up capital of K8 billion, or US\$10 million,” the spokesperson said. “We have been granted a licence to operate a microfinance business, and our first step is to offer this service in 15 townships in Yangon Region, including South and North Okkalapa, South Dagon, Insein, Shwe Pyi Thar, Thaketa, Hlaing Tharyar, Thingangyun, Mingalar Taung Nyunt, Dagon Seikkan, Dawbon, Dala, East Dagon, Mingalardon and Thanlyin,” he said.

Mr Kim Bunsosheat, managing director and chief executive officer of Aceda MFI Myanmar, said: “Our vision is to be Myanmar’s leading financial institution providing superior financial services to all segments of the community. We are choosing to work in Myanmar because it is a developing country

and a neighbour of China, where we hope to expand to in future,” he said.

Mr Kim Bunsosheat said that by March 21 the bank had served 292 customers, with 189 accounts holding deposits of K1.836 million, with loans totalling K35.750 million, he said.

Aceda MFI Myanmar is offering loans through two channels: privately and through groups. Private loans can only be provided with collateral but group loans – where a number of people take responsibility for a debt – do not, he said.

“We have set our interest rates in accord with the laws in Myanmar, and our smallest loans are K100,000,” he added.

Aceda Bank has operated in Cambodia for about 20 years but has been looking to establish a presence in Myanmar since 2012, said Dr In Channy, the bank’s president and chief executive officer. The bank has 238 branches in Cambodia and another 29 in Laos, he said.

“Now, we can build a branch office in Myanmar and we will try to cooperate with regional experts in our business,” he said.

The company sent two groups of 36 Myanmar staff to do training in Cambodia in 2012, a bank press release on March 25 said. It added that the bank plans to employ 750 Myanmar employees.

“Our mission is to provide small entrepreneurs with the wherewithal to manage their financial resources efficiently and by doing so to improve the quality of their lives,” the press release said.

“By achieving these goals, we will ensure sustainable benefits to our shareholders, our staff and the community at large.”



Silk Road Finance founder and chairman Mr Alisher Ali speaks during the Into Myanmar Banking Summit in Yangon last week. Pic: Aung Htay Hlaing

JICA offers ICT aid to Central Bank

By Aye Thidar Kyaw

JAPAN International Cooperation Agency will help develop the information technology capacity of the Central Bank of Myanmar and the nation’s private lenders, the agency announced during a banking summit in Yangon last week.

The Into Myanmar Banking Summit was held at Inya Lake Hotel on March 25 and 26 and was organised by Magenta Global from Singapore.

JICA’s director, Mr Kyosuke Inada, said a number of banks are still relying on manual processing and have not moved into the digital age.

He said manual operations slowed the rate of transactions, which will rapidly increase as the country develops, and banks must introduce more efficient electronic payment systems.

“Japan will help to build an ICT infrastructure for the Central Bank of Myanmar, which previously performed most of its complicated operations by hand,” he said.

JICA will assist the development

of the financial services sector by providing ICT infrastructure to the Central Bank for providing a common platform for future ICT infrastructure for banks and a capital market, he said.

Mr Inada added that Myanmar must also form a comprehensive roadmap for the development of its financial sector, establish and amend rules, laws and regulations and maintain consistency for international standards and practices.

He added that all Myanmar’s banks – private and public – need to boost their human resource capacity.

U Min Han Soe, director of the Central Bank, said possible JICA support for the banking sector was still being discussed and no formal agreements had been made.

“When all of the relevant documents are prepared JICA will begin sending us technical assistants but I think it will take time for this to happen,” he said.

“We are ready for an ICT system because we have been familiar with more complicated manual systems for many

years,” he said.

Tokyo Stock Exchange Group Inc and Daiwa Institute of Research are already helping Myanmar to establish a securities exchange at Myanma Economic Bank.

Moreover, JICA will also provide development finance to small- and medium-sized enterprises and the agriculture sector, Mr Inada said.

JICA’s financial access will go through banks to these sectors, he said.

JICA assistance will be focused on three points: improving livelihoods (particularly in ethnic-controlled areas), building the capacity of banks and upgrading infrastructure that focuses on urban development and water supply in Yangon – as well as the expansion of Thilawa port and rehabilitation of Baluchang hydropower plant, JICA’s website said.

Japan’s trade with Myanmar totalled about US\$1.4 billion in the 2012-13 fiscal year, while investment from Japan in Myanmar was worth about \$268 million, Ministry of Commerce statistics show.

THE ALL-NEW RANGER

Coming to Myanmar soon

Capital Automotive Limited
The authorized dealer and distributor for Ford
Tel: +95 (0) 1 966 9009, +95 (0) 1 966 9010

Go Further



New SIMs coming, but price, release date unknown: MPT

By Htoo Aung

NEW supplies of mobile SIM cards are coming in April but Myanma Posts and Telecommunications is staying tight-lipped on pricing.

U Htay Win, chief engineer of MPT's mobile department, confirmed last week that new GSM, WCDMA and CDMA 800MHz SIMs will be released onto the market in April but could not give any prices. Speculation in the past month has been intense that SIMs will be made available for as little as K20,000 – a tenth of the current K200,000 minimum cost.

"We haven't been provided a price yet, nor do we know how the SIMs will

be sold and distributed but we will announce details soon," U Htay Win said.

"We have a capacity of more than three million new connections on the GSM and WCDMA networks but we don't know how many we can apply on the CDMA 800 MHz network, which is being operated by NEC."

He added that no changes will be made regarding outbound call charges.

However, U Htay Win confirmed that the network is still hamstrung by insufficient infrastructure.

"We don't have enough relay towers to add large amounts of new connections and we must build more towers in Yangon and Mandalay. And we need to get more land to build and extend towers and stations."

"But we need cooperation

from the public for this," he said.

Rumours spread in February that GSM connections would be sold for K20,000 each but the latest speculation on social networking sites such as Facebook are that connection fees will be K2000 – 1 percent of the current price.

President U Thein Sein said during a national radio address on March 1 that SIM cards would be sold at "low cost" in April but did not provide a price.

"As regards development of [the] telecom industry, you will all be informed of the efforts of our government since taking office. Plans are under way to sell low-cost mobile SIM cards in April that can help extend

current communication infrastructure. In addition to the short-term program, constant efforts would be made for systematic development of the communication sector nationwide. These projects will materialise within one or two years," he said.

Phone shops said last week that handset prices are rising in expectation of a flood of new, cheaply priced SIMs.

"Handsets that normally sell for K110,000 have increased to K130,000," said Ko Nay Lin, a phone shop owner in Lanmadaw township. He added that the Chinese yuan is also gaining value against the kyat, which partially explained why the price of Chinese-made handsets are higher than usual.

Ko Aung Kyaw, a 20-year-old student in Mingalar Taung Nyunt township, said: "I've been waiting for the new low-price SIMs and I will buy one as soon as I can. But I'm also having difficulty choosing a handset."

Research firm TNS opens office in Yangon

By Stuart Deed

GLOBAL research company TNS has recently received a licence to operate in Myanmar and has begun helping clients to build an understanding of the market since sanctions lifted in 2012, a company press release said last week.

TNS becomes the first international research consultancy to secure a licence to officially conduct business in the country, the press release said. The company's office will be at 31B South Racecourse Road in Tarmwe township.

TNS Myanmar will be led by Jason Copland, who has more than 18 years of market research experience – including 10 years in Myanmar. Mr Copland joined TNS in October 2012 and has established a team of more than 60 employees, including client service, fieldwork, operations and qualitative analysis, in Yangon. Mr Copland will report to Ralf Matthaes, regional managing director of TNS Indochina and Myanmar.

Chris Riquier, chief executive officer of TNS Asia Pacific, said in the press release: "Myanmar is one of Asia's last untapped frontiers. With a population of 60 million people, it presents a significant growth opportunity for many of our Asian and global clients."

TNS conducted the largest consumer study in Myanmar based on interviews with 11,000 people in 12 locations throughout the country to help clients rapidly build an understanding of this newest of markets, the release said.

Mr Copland said the recently completed study covered 17 product categories, including home care (laundry detergent, dishwashing), personal care (hair, body and oral) and food categories. "This has been attractive to global and regional fast moving consumer goods businesses eager to gain an understanding of Myanmar spending and consumption behaviours," Mr Copland said.

The syndicated study offers an in-depth perspective on attitudes and preferences of people at a category and brand level, the press release said.

"Myanmar consumers have a keen interest in the outside world and a growing exposure to it through the media," said Mr Copland. "However, there are unique attitudes and a real polarisation of wealth that creates a dichotomy for marketers, which we are helping our clients to unravel," he added.

Mr Copland said he anticipates that finding talented researchers will be the main challenge in doing research in Myanmar.

"While companies have been doing market research in Myanmar for nearly 20 years, there remains a small pool of talented researchers in the country, so training is essential," he said. "TNS Myanmar is fortunate as the company dedicates considerable resources towards developing our people and we have the capacity globally and regionally to make that happen," he said, adding that other challenges include telecommunications and banking.

"However, there are positive moves afoot to address these areas, which will be hugely beneficial to businesses, people and the country's development," he said.

Mr Matthaes added: "I'm delighted to formalise our business in Myanmar. We have a strong heritage of helping clients to grow their business across Indochina and this experience will greatly benefit our clients in Myanmar."

Mr Riquier will be discussing key insights from recent work in Myanmar during the ESOMAR Asia Pacific market research conference in Ho Chi Minh City from April 7 to 9.

TNS advises clients on specific growth strategies to enter new markets, innovation, brand switching and stakeholder management in more than 80 nations where it has offices.

KOREA HI-TECH CLEAN PE WATER TANK

- Korea Hi-Tech
- USA "FDA" approved material (LLDPE)
- Water, Chemical, Oil, Food storage
- 30 years warranty

Vertical & Horizontal (Gal)
70, 110, 170, 250

Vertical (Gal)
500, 1000, 1500

Contact: No. 29, Myataungwungyi U Hmo St., Zone (2), Hlaingtharyar
Tel: 01-684734, 685823, 09-730 76589, 09-4500 48469

HAWKINS & FUTURA

WORLD CENTRE POINT CO., LTD.

SHOW ROOM
88/80, 8/F, Shaw Dagon Pagoda Rd, Pabedan Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar
Ph: 250 128, 380 035, Fax: 380 131
Website: www.worldcentrepoint.com

BOGYOKE MARKET BRANCH
No. (7/8), Ground Floor North Road, Near Nayavard Hall, Bogyoke Aung San Market, Ph: 380 372

Farmers' body asks govt to buy paddy at high prices



In Depth
with
Myat May Zin

THE price of summer paddy has soared by nearly 50 percent above last year's level on the back of foreign demand, the chairman of the Myanmar Farmers Association said last week.

Dr Soe Tun, the association's chairman, said on March 20 that prices have been rising fast since the start of March, but he expects prices to cool as water festival – in mid-April – nears in a seasonal pattern. Dr Soe Tun said the association has recommended the National Rice Result Supervision Committee buy rice to form a stockpile now to pass the gains from the increased prices to farmers while the prices are high.

"Farmers began harvesting the summer paddy crop at the start of March and all harvesting should be finished by the end of the first week of April," he said. "When that paddy starts to enter markets in high volumes the price will fall at a time when farmers desperately need money to repay the loans they took out to plant crops, which is something we want to avoid."

"I have sent a letter on behalf of MFA to buy summer crop immediately, while prices are high, to build a national rice stockpile," he said.

Summer paddy was selling for K350,000 to K400,000 for 100 baskets (about 5200 pounds or 2358 kilograms) in March, an increase of nearly 49pc year-on-year. In March 2012, 100 baskets of paddy sold for about K270,000, he said.

Dr Soe Tun said the higher price is being driven by strong demand from China, which he predicts will soon ease.

"Significant quantities of rice are being shipped to China across the border but rice from Vietnam is also being exported to China, so we believe that demand will be met soon and prices will decrease.

"This means we have a small amount of time to buy at high prices to ensure financial benefits are passed onto farmers," he added.

He added that while China is a major rice producer, the nation's demand for the staple is usually too great to be met with domestic production. In the first week of February, the Chinese government lifted the price of the cheapest paddy, which encouraged importers to look abroad for new supply, including Myanmar.

"Rice exports during the 2012-13 fiscal year will be a record – we predict exports will reach 1.4 million tonnes," U Ye Min Aung, general secretary of the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), said at a regional rice dialogue meeting on March 13. The meeting at Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon was attended by representatives of MRF, Vietnam Food Association and the Thai Rice Exporters Association.

U Ye Min Aung added that exports through border trade amounted to 80pc of all exports.

Ayeyarwady Region is home to the major paddy growing areas, including Labutta, Pyapon, Bogale, Kyaiklat, Maubin, Myaungmya and Dedaye townships.

U Thein Aung, an MFA secretary, said if the government bought paddy at the current prices farmers would be able to make about K100,000 for every acre of farmland.

"But if the government waits until the price comes down then farmers are unlikely to make any profit."

PAC licence fees cut

LICENCE fees for public access centres are going to be slashed by at least 90 percent from April 1, a government official said last week.

The fee reduction was announced by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. "Starting from April 1, the fees will be reduced. The licence will be given on the spot when an application is made," a Posts and Telecommunications Department official said.

The connection fee will now be K50,000, down from K500,000, while annual fees are K6000, less than 2 percent of the previous cost of K360,000.

Lanmadaw township internet café owner Ko Zaw Min Naing said the reduction came as shop owners are struggling to survive.

"If licence fees are reduced, we will be able to continue paying our annual fees. Most internet cafés are facing huge financial problems because everybody can access the internet from the telephones now. – Htoo Aung



Farmers load harvested paddy in Bago Region in May last year. Pic: Kaung Htet



Mandalay < > Bangkok

Flight	Days	From	To	Departure	Arrival
8M 335	Daily	Mandalay	Bangkok	08:25	10:45
8M 336	Daily	Bangkok	Mandalay	06:15	07:35

starts from 31st Mar



MAI Myanmar Airways International

www.maiair.com

MAI Ticketing Offices

Yangon Tel: (951) 255-445 Mandalay Tel: (02) 60-551 Bangkok Tel: (662) 261-5060 Kuala Lumpur Tel: (60-3) 2072-1261 Singapore Tel: (65) 6235-5005
 Guangzhou Tel: (86) 20360-62121 Siem Reap Tel: (855) 6396-9121 Gaya Tel: (91) 631-2210-688 Phnom Penh Tel: (855) 2386-6404

https://www.facebook.com/8Mofficial

Grow more trees to save Our World!

Job watch

World Vision

World Vision Myanmar

World Vision Myanmar is seeking dedicated staff who has a desire to serve others, while building a professional career in a globally respected organization.

POSITION : Chief Financial Officer (MFP)

LOCATION : National Office, Yangon Region

POSITION : Human Resources Manager (MFP)

LOCATION : National Office, Yangon Region
Please submit your resume by post to HR Department, World Vision Myanmar or in person to application drop -box at No (18), Shin Saw Pu Rd; Ahlone Township, Sanchaung PO or send to myajobapps@wvi.org not later than **7 April, 2013**. Please visit to www.worldvision.org.mm for more details. Must to provide a clean criminal background and reference check

Executive Search

Website: www.esearchmyanmar.com

Apply Now!

- ◆ Sales and Marketing manager (pharmaceutical)
- ◆ Brand manager
- ◆ Sales manager
- ◆ Tour operation Manager
- ◆ Tour operation Assistant
- ◆ Tour Sales manager
- ◆ Sales girl - 30 staff (Fresher)
- ◆ Sales boy- 30 staff (Fresher)
- ◆ Engineers (BE/ME/)
- ◆ Accountants
- ◆ Secretary
- ◆ Human Resources Manager

No.851/853, 3rd Floor, Bogyke Aung San Road, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon.

Tel: 222963/ 229406/ 229437/ 728261

E-mail: esearch@yangon.net.mm

When

ADVERTISING
DOES ITS JOB,
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE
KEEP THEIRS

Good advertising doesn't just inform.
It sells. It helps move
product and keep business.
Every time an ad arouses
a consumer's interest enough
to result in a purchase, it keeps
a company going strong.
And it helps secure the
jobs of the people
who work there.
Advertise now and keep
people working.

Tel: 392 676, 392 928

Email: advertising@myanmartimes.com.mm



A miner in Mandalay Region's Moegoke township looks through a mound of dirt in search of precious stones. Pic: Myanmar Times Archive/Yadana Htun

Hluttaw rep calls for law on small mines

By Soe Sandar Oo

MYANMAR desperately needs a law to regulate small- and medium-sized mining operations, a parliamentarian and secretary of the Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation Committee said on March 26.

U Thein Lwin, who is also the representative for Chauk township in Magway Region, said there are too many accidents and spills at mines that can cause severe damage to the environment and communities. He said a draft law to protect the environment from damage from small mining operations urgently needs to be put before parliament.

"A draft should have been put to parliament during the sixth regular

sitting of parliament [which ended on March 22] but representatives were too busy talking about the budget and other projects, so we did not have time to propose it," he said.

The Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation Committee is one of 19 parliamentary committees and was established in 2011.

The Ministry of Mines and related government bodies and committees are discussing the draft law and might make some changes before it is put before parliament, he said.

He said former mining ministry officials had collected the data used to write the draft law.

"A law to regulate small mining operations is essential but we are still trying to add more information and facts," U Thein Lwin said, adding

that the Minister for Mines has given his approval.

A mining ministry official, who asked not to be named, said many mines employ workers who use extremely harmful substances, such as mercury, with their unprotected hands and dump the waste products into the rivers and streams afterward.

"In mining areas such as Thabeikkyin in Sagaing Region, Moe Hti and Moe Mi in Mandalay Region and Mong Hsu in Shan State, workers use mercury without any protective devices on their hands, and leave the waste products on the ground or dump them into the water.

"People are already suffering the harmful effects of those chemicals but they don't know it - and don't know the risks either," he said.

Yoma moves into luxury tourism with acquisitions

By Zaw Win Than

SINGAPORE-based Yoma Strategic Holdings Limited last week announced its participation in a new joint venture company and the proposed acquisitions of several luxury tourism assets in Myanmar.

Chindwin Holdings Private Limited will be joint venture between First Myanmar Investment Company (FMI), a subsidiary of Serge Pun & Associates (Myanmar) Limited (SPA), and Yoma Strategic Holdings, a March 19 press release said. The agreement will see Yoma Strategic hold a 70-percent share of Chindwin Holdings' capital, while FMI will hold the remaining 30pc.

The press release said Chindwin Holdings will be an investment holding company for tourism products jointly invested in by the Yoma Strategic group and FMI. It added that Serge Pun is the executive chairman and controlling shareholder of the group, and chairman and controlling shareholder of SPA and its group of companies, the SPA group.

"We believe that this is an area of enormous business potential as tourist numbers continue to grow exponentially and Yoma and FMI would like to capture the business opportunities in this sector," Mr Pun said.

"Myanmar is such a wonderful country that offers a multitude of extraordinary travel experiences, it will no doubt become one of the most popular destinations in Asia. It is good for the country to be more open to visitors and would be beneficial to our economy," he added.

The group and FMI have entered into a heads of agreement to use Chindwin, or its nominee, to acquire several connected tourism products, subject to the terms of conditional final agreements to be entered into between the relevant parties.

Chindwin intends to purchase 75pc of the share capital of Shwe Lay Ta Gun Travels and Tours Company with a total consideration of US\$10.7 million.

Shwe Lay Ta Gun operates Balloons over Bagan, the only hot air balloon operator in Myanmar that offers visitors aerial views of Bagan. Chindwin also intends to purchase a 75pc interest in 21.16 acres of land located in Bagan. The total consideration to be paid will be \$3.75 million.

The riverside plot is about 5 kilometres from Bagan. The group believes the plot is ideal for the development of a luxury boutique resort hotel.

Mr Andrew Rickards, chief executive officer of Yoma, said: "We are thrilled about this new venture as it follows closely behind our recently announced landmark development plans to establish a luxury 5 star hotel in the Old Railway Headquarters of Yangon."

"With a booming tourism sector and a lack of quality hotel rooms or luxury tour companies, we believe there are great opportunities in this market. The acquisition of Balloons over Bagan, as well as the 21.16-acre hotel development site in Bagan and the brand rights of Eastern Safaris are further steps for Yoma into this growing market," Mr Rickards said in the statement.

Chindwin also intends to buy 75pc of the share capital of Eastern Safaris Private Limited for a total consideration of \$100,000.

Eastern Safaris is a management company that offers exclusive and luxurious adventure tours in Myanmar and Bhutan. The company is 100pc owned by Mr Brett Melzer. The group's investment in Chindwin and the proposed acquisitions will be funded through internal resources.

"Certainly Myanmar offers so much in terms magnificent travel experiences, as diverse as the beaches and islands of the Mergui archipelago, ancient pagodas of Bagan to the foothills of the Himalayas. Against this backdrop, all that is needed now are beautifully designed hotels with commitment to excellent world class service," said Mr Pun.

UNOPS

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Myanmar is inviting qualified candidates to apply for the following positions:

Sr.	Title and level	Duty Station	Position	Deadline
1.	Team Assistant (MCH) (LICA 2)	Yangon	National	4-Apr-2013
2.	Programme Assistant (LICA 3)	Yangon	National	4-Apr-2013
3.	Human Resources Associate (LICA 4)	Yangon	National	7-Apr-2013
4.	Management, Finance and Compliance Associate (LICA 4)	Yangon	National	8-Apr-2013

For details please visit UNOPS website <https://gprs.unops.org/pages/viewvacancy/VAListing.aspx> and click on the post you are interested in applying for. All applications must be made through UNOPS E-recruitment system.

POS rollout falling short: domestic banks

By Justin Heifetz and Maria Danmark

MASTERCARD and Visa recently announced lofty plans for a nationwide point-of-sales rollout in Myanmar but bank sources say they will fall significantly short of the corporations' annual goals.

MasterCard marked its first POS transaction in Myanmar on March 4 before announcing plans to establish 500 POS terminals with Co-operative Bank (CB) and MasterCard Worldwide in the country.

Visa followed with a March 15 announcement that it would also cooperate with CB in a nationwide POS rollout. It said customers could expect the beginning of its POS rollout in April in the same target areas as its ATMs: Yangon, Mandalay, Bagan and Inle Lake.

But CB's managing director, U Pe Myint, said on March 29 that the bank would only establish about 200 POS terminals by the end of the year for MasterCard.

He added that the bank has no plans to establish any POS terminals for Visa this year.

"We have to see how the

POS system develops in Myanmar, and we have to educate and train businesses and provide them with regulations," U Pe Myint said.

"In two or three years, I think every business will want a POS. This year, we are establishing about 200 terminals [with MasterCard]."

On February 26, MasterCard entered a bank licence agreement with Kanbawza Bank (KBZ), Myanmar's largest private bank, just before Visa renewed its licence agreement with the bank on March 14.

U Zaw Lin Htut, KBZ's general manager, said the bank is not yet ready to establish any POS terminals for MasterCard or Visa.

"We are not ready on the technical side at the moment," he said on March 28. MasterCard also inked licensing agreements with small private banks Amara Bank and Myanmar Apex Bank. However, neither bank has established MasterCard-ready ATMs or POS terminals, according to MasterCard.

Likewise, Visa entered an additional licensing agreement with small private bank Myanmar



MasterCard country manager Mr Antonio Corro at the launch of the company's services at a Co-operative Bank outlet in Yangon in November last year. Pic: Thiri Lu

Oriental Bank – but the bank is yet to establish any Visa-ready ATMs or start planning for POS terminals.

Each POS terminal costs about US\$250-300. There are two types of POS terminals: standard, which require a card, and cardless. A POS terminal requires a phone line to operate.

U Pe Myint said that a lack of phone lines at potential businesses is a major impediment to setting up POS terminals. Another obstacle, he said, is marketing to businesses

and convincing them that a POS terminal is a worthy investment.

Despite plans to establish only 200 POS terminals by January 2014, CB has ordered 500 POS terminals, 250 of which have already arrived. There are 38 active POS terminals operated by CB, all in Yangon.

Mr Antonio Corro, MasterCard's country manager, who is based in Vietnam, told *The Myanmar Times* on March 27 that MasterCard is still targeting

500 POS terminals.

"The first quarter report will be available in the second week of April, but the [cooperating banks] are trying to reach 500 terminals by the end of this year," he said.

He added that the cooperating banks are admittedly facing difficulties internationalising after emerging from years of economic isolation, and "learning through the process" as the banks find new solutions to problems.

MasterCard supports and gives technical assurance to cooperating banks remotely. After an initial two-day training course that occurs after signing the licensing agreement, MasterCard continues to support the banks through "a lot of a consultancies and a helpdesk", Mr Corro said.

"Problems can be solved over the phone," he said.

Visa, with its operations for Myanmar based in Thailand, also provides support to its cooperating banks remotely. A spokesperson for Visa said on March 28 that it works closely with local banks to provide training for their staff and gives local support to customers.

"It would be best if Visa and MasterCard established

offices in Myanmar. That would be better for the banks and enable better support for the cardholder, because we just started engaging in the business a few months ago, so there might be some issues we are not experienced in," said U Zaw Lin Htut.

While the POS rollout plan may have fallen short, ATM transactions for Visa and MasterCard are growing.

From January to March, CB remitted a total of about \$8.22 million to international card holders. While the bank remitted \$4.64 million to MasterCard holders in the three-month period, it remitted \$3.58 million to Visa card holders – a difference of slightly more than \$1 million, according to data compiled by *The Myanmar Times*.

The number of transactions spiked significantly in March. While 3319 MasterCard holders and 3688 Visa card holders withdrew money from a CB ATM in January, usage increased to 11,828 and 9598 respectively in March.

Electronic payments at KBZ ATMs have increased by 20 percent since the go-live date last year, the bank said.

SHARP

Amazing SHARP Plasmacluster Technology!

FOR A COOLER, FRESHER & HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE

Moe Yu San,
Actress, SHARP Ambassador

AH-AP9PMV/12MMV

AH-XP10/13NRV

SJ-GF60W-AR

SJ-P47MK3-BK

The 3-in-1 solution for a wholesome lifestyle:- Cooling temperature, safer environment & healthier being. Sharp Plasmacluster Air-Conditioner & Refrigerator can effectively disinfects airborne contaminants such as viruses, bacteria, allergan, mold and odours to purify the air and help food stay fresher, longer. Make a healthier choice now with SHARP Plasmacluster Technology!

PLASMACLUSTER ONLY FROM SHARP

2 YEAR WARRANTY

JAPAN TECHNOLOGY

SDM COMPANY LIMITED. Tel No.: +95-1-249585, 249588 - 89, 249591

www.sharp.com.sg

CB signs deal with Bank of Tokyo

By Aye Thidar Kyaw

CO-OPERATIVE Bank signed an agreement with the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ to provide technical assistance and training for staff, a spokesperson said during a signing ceremony at Traders Hotel on March 28.

The banks had signed a memorandum of understanding last December but last week's agreement will add significant support to Co-operative Bank's development.

Mr Takami Onodera, Bank of Tokyo's managing executive officer for Asia and Oceania, said the agreement was timely because Myanmar is inviting foreign direct investment and many nations are interested in doing business in the country.



Co-operative Bank chief executive officer U Kyaw Lynn speaks at a press conference in November last year. Pic: Thiri Lu

"The purpose of signing this agreement is to help foreign companies who want to invest to Myanmar, which is the new growth market in Asia. And we would like to lend our support providing stronger

banking services," he said. Co-operative Bank's executive vice chairman and chief executive officer, U Kyaw Lynn, said the government is trying to expand Myanmar's and he hopes the bank can

plan an important role in commercial and investment banking in future.

"CB and BTMU would like to focus on domestic and foreign companies, individual traders and associations as our customers; we would like to offer our services to help to streamline finance and banking operations in Myanmar," he said.

BTMU opened an office in Yangon in 1954 and has acted as an agent bank for the Japanese government's Official Development Assistance (ODA) in providing loans and grant aid to Myanmar. The Central Bank of Myanmar's website states, however, that BTMU received a license to operate a representative office in March 2006.

Mr Ichiro Maruyama, minister-counsellor of Japan's embassy in Yangon, said Myanmar and Japan signed agreements

last week that will see the Japanese government provide US\$300 million in ODA to Myanmar in the 2013-14 financial year.

"We would like to provide a total of \$500 million in ODA loans for Myanmar in this financial year, and we hope to offer further development support programs in coming financial years," he said.

Mr Maruyama said Japan's ambassador and Myanmar's Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development held discussions and an investment forum in Nay Pyi Taw recently.

"We have planned to hold these forums every month to talk frankly and positively about what barriers investors face, how the Myanmar government is reforming and how investments to actually benefit Myanmar's people," he said.

Vietnam trade to hit \$500m by 2015

By Aung Shin

MYANMAR and Vietnam agreed to try to boost bilateral trade to US\$500 million by 2015, *Vietnam News* reported last week.

The paper said the agreement was reached during a visit by Vice President U Nyan Tun to Vietnam from March 19 to 23.

Vietnam President Truong Tan Sang said the agreement is a positive step in the burgeoning relationship between the two countries. He also voiced his belief in Myanmar's reforms.

The two officials agreed to expand cooperation in agro-forestry, fisheries, banking, telecommunications, transport, oil and gas and tourism.

U Nyan Tun also met the Association of Vietnamese Investors in Myanmar (AVIM) to seek measures to boost two-way trade during his visit.

U Nyan Tun told Vietnamese investors that Myanmar had received US\$40 billion in foreign investment from 30 countries since 1988 by the end of February. Vietnam stands as ninth-largest foreign investor in Myanmar with investments totaling \$370 million. There are 18 Vietnamese companies registered in Myanmar.

The bilateral trade volume amounted to \$66 million in the 2012-13 financial year, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development statistics show.

The biggest Vietnamese investment in Myanmar is a \$300-million property development along Kabar Aye Pagoda Road in Yangon, which is being built by Hoang Anh Gia Lai Co. The company signed an agreement with the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism in December last year to develop the 18.13-acre plot near Sedona Hotel in Yangon.

Philippines wins first investment grade credit rating

MANILA - The Philippines won its first investment-grade credit rating on March 27 in a move President Benigno Aquino hailed as proof his country was no longer Asia's economic backwater.

Fitch Ratings cited political and economic reforms by Aquino's nearly three-year-old administration as some of the main reasons for the upgrade, as well as the resilience of the Philippine economy in recent years.

"This is an institutional affirmation of our good governance agenda. Sound fiscal management and integrity-based leadership has led to a resurgent economy," Aquino said shortly after Fitch's announcement.

"Truly, what was once known as the perennial laggard of Asia is taking off

and is accelerating towards its goal of an equitably progressive society."

Fitch said that it had raised the country's key long-term foreign currency issuer default ratings to 'BBB-', or investment grade, from 'BB+', the first of the three major credit ratings agencies to do so.

The other two major agencies, Moody's and Standard and Poor's, raised the Philippines to one notch below investment grade last year.

To back its move, Fitch said the Philippines had experienced stronger and more stable growth than other BBB- countries over the past five years, and was expected to continue performing strongly with growth of 5.5 percent in 2013.

- AFP



Logistics Media Services Co., Ltd.
No.2, Room (9 / D-E), Zagawar Condominium, Moe Kaung Rd, Yankin Township, Yangon, HR / Admin Department (09-49316702 / 554776)


- 1. Head of Designer (M-1)**
Page Maker, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, In Design များကို ကျွမ်းကျင်သူ လုပ်ငန်းထုတ်ဝေသူ (၃) နှစ် အထက်ရှိသူ
ပုံနှိပ်နှင့် ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းတွင် အတွေ့အကြုံရှိသူကို ဦးစားပေးမည်။
- 2. Senior Graphic Designer (M-1)**
Page Maker, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, In Design များကို ကျွမ်းကျင်သူ လုပ်ငန်းထုတ်ဝေသူ (၃) နှစ် အထက်ရှိသူ
ပုံနှိပ်နှင့် ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းတွင် အတွေ့အကြုံရှိသူကို ဦးစားပေးမည်။
- 3. DTP Assistant (M-2)**
မြန်မာ အင်္ဂလိပ် စာစီစာကုံး နှင့် In Design Page Maker, Photoshop, Microsoft Word, Excel များကို ကျွမ်းကျင်သူ။
- 4. Office Staff (F-1)**
အသက် (၂၀) မှ (၂၅) နှစ်အတွင်း မြန်မာ အင်္ဂလိပ် စာစီစာကုံး နှင့် Microsoft Word, Excel and Internet, Email စတင်အသုံးပြုနိုင်သူ၊ တက္ကသိုလ် တစ်ခုခု ဘွဲ့ရရှိထားသူ (သို့) စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုနှင့်ပတ်သက်သော Certificate ရရှိထားသူကို ဦးစားပေးမည်။ (မှတ်ချက် သွားနိုင်ရမည်။)
- 5. Assistant Marketing Manager (M/F-1)**
အသက် (၂၅) နှစ်အထက်ရှိသူ
ရှည်လမ်း အသင့်အတင့်ရှိ၍ စာကားပြောပြခြင်း၊ တက္ကသိုလ် တစ်ခုခု ဘွဲ့ရရှိထားသူ၊ လမ်းညွှန်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်းတွင်အတွေ့အကြုံရှိသူ (သို့) မြေကြီးကုန်ထုတ်ဝေသူအဖြစ် (၃) နှစ် အထက်ရှိသူ (မှတ်ချက် သွားနိုင်ရမည်။)
Microsoft Word, Excel & Internet, Email များကို ကျွမ်းကျင်သူ။
- 6. Marketing Executive (M/F-10)**
ရှည်လမ်း အသင့်အတင့်ရှိ၍ စာကားပြောပြခြင်း၊ တက္ကသိုလ် တစ်ခုခု ဘွဲ့ရရှိထားသူ၊ လမ်းညွှန်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်းတွင်အတွေ့အကြုံရှိသူ (သို့) မြေကြီးကုန်ထုတ်ဝေသူအဖြစ် (၂) နှစ် ရှိသူ (မှတ်ချက် သွားနိုင်ရမည်။)
- 7. Marketing Assistant (M/F-20)**
ရှည်လမ်းအသင့်အတင့်ရှိ၍ စာကားပြောပြခြင်း၊ တက္ကသိုလ် တစ်ခုခု ဘွဲ့ရရှိထားသူ၊ လမ်းညွှန် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းတွင်အတွေ့အကြုံရှိသူ (သို့) မြေကြီးကုန်ထုတ်ဝေသူအဖြစ်ရှိသူ ဦးစားပေးမည်။ (မှတ်ချက် သွားနိုင်ရမည်။)
- 8. Data Collector (M-10)**
အသက် (၂၀) မှ (၂၅) နှစ်အတွင်း ၊ တက္ကသိုလ် တစ်ခုခုအောင်မြင်ပြီးသူ ၊ စာကားပြောပြခြင်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့တွင်ရှိ မှတ်ပုံတင်မှု နှင့် မှတ်ပုံတင်သွားနိုင်သူဖြစ်ရမည်။

အလုပ်အကိုင်အခွင့်အလမ်းများအတွက် CV Form နှင့်အတူ (မိတ်ဆုံ နှစ်ပုံ) မြေကြီးကုန်ထုတ်ဝေရေး ဝန်ထမ်း ဝင်ရောက်မှု နှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ ၊ ပညာရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်းအဖွဲ့မှ မိတ်ဆုံ များနှင့် တကွ (၃၀-၄-၂၀၁၃) ဝန်ထမ်းဝင်ရောက်မှု လာအောက်ကုန်ထုတ်ဝေရေးဦးစီးဌာနသို့

AVAILABLE NOW!

The Author views:
"Today, Myanmar is going through a critical transition to transform itself into a functioning democracy with much needed support and assistance forthcoming from international community."
The book titled: **"Political Situation of Myanmar and Its role in the Region"** was published for 28th times and it is renamed;

"THE WAY I SEE IT"
(Myanmar and its evolving global role) will give you facts about Myanmar. (29th Revised & Updated Edition)
Cover Price: **Kyat 4,000**
Wholesale Price: **Kyat 3,200**
Contact Distribution Department - 392928, 253642



Investment funds return to Tokyo real estate

TOKYO – Funds are returning to real estate investment in anticipation of a favorable impact of the Abenomics economic policy put forth by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

This is evident in findings of a nationwide survey of posted land prices as of January 1 this year, which was released by the Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Ministry on March 28.

The survey clearly shows the downtrend in land prices is coming to an end across the country. Factors behind this are an increase in the demand for condominiums in major urban areas and brisk redevelopment of large-scale commercial facilities.

Another contributing factor is the progress of reconstruction projects in areas devastated by the March 11, 2011, Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, such as moving houses to higher ground.

Despite high expectations in urban areas, it is uncertain whether land prices will turn upward in regional areas where there is concern about the drop in population and the possibility of a major disaster in the future.

The national average posted land price as of January 1 fell 1.6 percent in residential areas and 2.1pc in commercial areas from a year before.

This marked a drop in the year-on-year decline rates compared with 2012 when the comparative figures were 2.3pc in residential areas and 3.1pc in commercial areas.

The all-inclusive average land price, including land for industrial and other uses, fell 1.8pc from a year before, which saw a decline of 2.6pc.

The price represented a year-on-year decrease for five years in a row in each category, but the rate of decline shrank for the third straight year.

Of 24,735 land lots where prices can be compared with last year's, prices increased in 2008 spots, about 3.8 times the figure recorded a year before.

Eight of the top 10 spots in terms of price increase rate in residential land were in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures,



An aerial view of Ofukacho, Kita Ward, Osaka, which posted the highest land price in the centre of Osaka's commercial zone. Pic: Bloomberg News

which were hard-hit by the March 11, 2011, disaster.

Sanyo Housing Nagoya Co, a real estate development firm in Aichi Prefecture, is enjoying strong sales of newly built homes. "Housing purchases by young couples aged around 30 have been increasing," said an employee of the firm's Kariya branch office.

The average posted residential land price in Aichi Prefecture rose 0.1pc over the previous year, moving into positive growth along with Miyagi Prefecture, which saw a 1.4pc improvement.

While Miyagi Prefecture's turnaround was spurred by reconstruction demand, that of Aichi is attributable to the brisk housing purchases by people working for Toyota Motor Corp and other automotive companies.

Land prices went up 1.1pc in Toyota, where the company's head office is located. Prices soared 3.7pc and 3.3pc, respectively, in Anjo and Kariya – areas within commuting distance of Toyota's head office. These compare with 2pc growth recorded a year before.

Given the weakening of the yen this year, export-oriented businesses have high expectations for improvement of their operations.

A local building contractor anticipates an upbeat prospect for land prices,

saying: "Supply can't keep up with demand. It's becoming difficult even to secure land for building condominiums."

Other major urban areas are also showing slower rates of land price reduction. In the case of residential land, the rate stood at 0.7pc in the Tokyo area and at 0.9pc in the Osaka area, down from the year-on-year reduction rate marked in 2012.

Mitsui Fudosan Co. is constructing a high-rise condominium in Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo, which includes a majority of units priced at 100 million yen (US\$1 million). Sales of the 425 units started in November, and they are almost sold out.

In the same month, Mitsubishi Jisho Residence Co launched sales of condominiums in a 24-storey building in Minato Ward, Tokyo. Despite the prices exceeding 100 million, applications have already been filed for nearly 50pc of the units, an extraordinarily high pace not seen in recent years.

"Those who took a wait-and-see stance through the end of last year have decided to buy one after another [since the turn of the year]," a Mitsubishi Jisho Residence official said. Inquiries have increased since January probably because of the looming consumption tax hike planned for April 2014.

The recovery pace of land prices is accelerating in commercial areas.

Several large-scale redevelopment projects have been undertaken in Kawasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture, including areas near Kawasaki and Musashikosugi railway stations. Of the top 10 most expensive commercial lots, six were located in the city.

In the Umeda district of

Kita Ward, Osaka, the land price growth rate exceeded 4pc due to redevelopment projects, including the reopening of the Hankyu department store, plus improvements in vacancy rates and bottoming out of rents.

In disaster-stricken areas, the number of places showing an increase in residential land prices rose.

In the Shirasagidai district

of Sue Aza, Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture, residential land prices saw an increase of 23.6pc, marking the nation's largest for two consecutive years.

The city and the town of Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture, accounted for five spots with high increase rates for residential land as residents continued to move from tsunami-damaged coastal areas to inland areas.

The increase rate for all of Miyagi Prefecture stood at 1.4pc, topping the nationwide list.

The largest decline rate for residential land prices was 12pc in the Setocho district in Naruto, Tokushima Prefecture. Drops were conspicuous in areas along the Pacific coast in Kochi and Wakayama prefectures, where extensive damage is anticipated if tsunami follow a Nankai Trough earthquake.

Declines of 5pc to 6pc continued in Kitakata, Fukushima Prefecture, and in the town of Marumori, Miyagi Prefecture, due to fears of radiation leakage at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant.

This reflects a polarisation in land prices in regional areas depending on disaster risks.

– The Yomiuri Shimbun

YCDC taking out the trash, with a fleet of new bins

YANGON City Development Committee announced plans last week to expand garbage collection programs by adding 2670 new bins to the city's streets.

YCDC's Pollution Control and Cleaning Department will begin issuing the bins from the start of the 2013-14 financial year on April 1, said U Ye Kyaw Moe, assistant head of the department.

The bins have been imported from Germany at a cost of about K350 million and are 240 or 660 litres in capacity, he said.

"We aim to distribute the first batch of 950 bins on

April 1," he said. "We hope to substitute the new bins with the older bamboo bins in place to reduce the amount of litter on streets and encourage people to use bins," he said.

He said the first batch of bins will be distributed to seven townships in eastern Yangon (187 bins); nine townships in western Yangon will receive 171 bins; 241 bins will be used in nine townships in southern Yangon; and 351 bins will be used in seven townships in northern Yangon, he said.

U Ye Kyaw Moe said the department is trying to demolish the 621 older brick

dumps across the city.

"We're aiming to remove all of the older brick dumps because they are degraded. This will likely happen in the next year or two but I can't give an exact timeframe because we have not decided the budget yet," he said.

U Ye Kyaw Moe asked for help from the public in looking after the new bins and preventing their theft.

He added that YCDC distributed about 2000 bins in the city during the 2012-13 year. YCDC uses 264 trucks to collect garbage from the city's streets, he said.

– Htar Htar Khin

PEB

STEEL BUILDINGS

No.21/5(D), Thirimingalar Avenue,
Kaba Aye Pagoda Road,
Yankin Township, Yangon.

The best choice for your
Steel Building project

01-65 34 10 , 09-73257042
www.PEBsteel.com.mm
Email : Wael@PEBsteel.com.mm, Marketing@PEBsteel.com.mm



Terra Motors president Toru Tokushige (left) introduces the battery-powered EV Tricycle Taxi at a media preview in Tokyo on March 27. Pic: AFP

Japanese firm targets the tuk-tuk market

TOKYO – A Japanese company is hoping to win a big slice of Asia's tuk-tuk market, it said on March 27, betting that battery-operated buggies could cut burgeoning city pollution.

"There is no single company in Asia that mass-produces electric bikes or tricycles," said Terra Motors president Toru Tokushige.

"I think it could have a big impact if a Japanese company is the pioneer in the market with products of such a futuristic design."

Terra Motors unveiled the prototype of their electric tuk-tuk, a sleek-looking blue and white machine that can carry up to six people, including the driver.

The vehicle, 3.3 metres (11 feet) long and 1.47 metres wide, is powered by a lithium battery, and can

for run 50 kilometres (30 miles) on one full charge, the company said.

Terra Motors is hoping to win the bid for part of a Philippine government contract that is expected to see 100,000 electric tricycle taxis on the country's streets by 2016, using a US\$300 million loan from the Asian Development Bank.

The Japanese firm is aiming to become the world's number one seller of electric tuk-tuks during the next two years, the company said, without providing precise figures.

Tuk-tuks, a cross between a motorbike and a tricycle, are a common form of transport in urban areas across Asia. They usually have small, petrol-powered engines that are blamed for causing serious air pollution. – AFP

London schoolboy clinches Yahoo! deal worth millions

LONDON – Like many British teenagers, Nick D'Aloisio has a hole in the knee of his jeans and gets in trouble when his bedroom is untidy. Unlike most, the 17-year-old has just sold an app to Yahoo! for tens of millions of pounds.

The US tech giant announced on March 25 that it is buying D'Aloisio's news-condensing mobile app Summly for an undisclosed figure reported to be about £20 million (US\$30 million) – making the London schoolboy one of the youngest self-made multi-millionaires on the planet.

D'Aloisio dreamed up Summly while revising for a history exam when he was 15 – but two years later he speaks of market share and intellectual property with the self-assurance of a CEO three times his age.

"Yahoo! is one of these classic, well-known internet companies," he told AFP in an interview at the office of his London publicist, sprawled in a chair in maroon jeans and a t-shirt.

The tousle-haired teen hopes the Yahoo! deal will see the technology behind Summly – which has attracted financial backing from US actor Ashton Kutcher and Japanese artist Yoko Ono among others – reach an audience of "hundreds of millions of potential users".

D'Aloisio's journey to tech super-stardom began at the age of "nine or ten" when his parents, a lawyer and a banker, bought him his first laptop.

He taught himself how to video edit and before long moved on to programming – spending school holidays creating apps at his home in leafy Wimbledon, south London, as "a hobby".

He launched his first iPhone app, a "workout for fingers" called Finger Mill, when he was 12. Others followed, including music app SongStumblr and Facemood, which tried to



Nick D'Aloisio, 17, in London on March 26. He launched his first iPhone app when he was 12. Pic: AFP

predict a user's mood based on their Facebook status updates.

The big breakthrough came in 2011 when D'Aloisio launched Summly's forerunner Trimit, which cut down long web articles to tweet-length summaries.

The app received positive reviews from several tech blogs and quickly racked

up tens of thousands of downloads.

Then, out of the blue, the teenager was contacted by representatives of Asia's richest man – Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing.

"They cold-emailed me," said D'Aloisio. Li was the first investor to contact him and, not

knowing what to do, the teenager ignored the message.

Two days later he was "stunned" when Li's people approached him again, and this time D'Aloisio agreed to a phone call.

"They didn't know I was a 15-year-old, so I had to explain that," he said with a smile.

with scientists at Stanford University among others.

Summly officially launched in November last year, on D'Aloisio's 17th birthday – and the rest is history.

D'Aloisio will take up a job in Yahoo!'s London office in the coming weeks.

"I'll be integrating the Summly technology into different areas we feel are appropriate for Yahoo!, and more broadly helping them with their mobile product design," he told AFP.

He insisted that he will continue to live at home, resisting temptation to splash out on a teen bachelor pad.

His parents are "very enthusiastic" about his success, he said – but are keen to keep their son's feet on the ground.

"I still get in trouble if I don't have my room tidy," he said.

The family celebrated the Yahoo! deal by going out for dinner.

As for buying himself a present with his multi-million pound windfall, it will be limited to "a bag or shoes or something".

"It's not going to be anything wild," he added. "I can't even buy a car because I don't have a licence yet."

As D'Aloisio starts work at Yahoo!, most of his friends – who he says are "psyched" about the Summly sale – will be finishing their A-Level exams before heading off to university.

D'Aloisio, meanwhile will begin studying for his A-Levels "outside office hours", and would love to read philosophy at Oxford University some day.

As for his long-term plans, nothing is set in stone – a point emphasised by the large question-mark printed on his t-shirt.

"Long-term I do want to do other companies," he said, adding that he was interested in working with artificial intelligence.

"We'll see what happens." – AFP

'It was a hobby; I didn't expect this to happen.'

Songs lead tag team to leviathan of deep

SYDNEY – An Australian-led group of scientists has for the first time tracked down and tagged Antarctic blue whales by using acoustic technology to follow its songs, the government said on March 27.

The blue whale, the largest animal on the planet, is rarely spotted in the Southern Ocean but a group of intrepid researchers were able to locate and tag some of the mammals after picking up on their deep and complex vocals.

Environment Minister Tony Burke said the researchers, who spent seven weeks working from small boats in freezing Antarctic conditions, were captivated by the remarkable behaviour of the whales they saw.

"The Antarctic blue whale can grow to over 30 metres in length and weigh up to 180 tonnes, its tongue alone is heavier than an elephant and its heart is as big as a small car," Burke said.

"Even the largest dinosaur was smaller than the blue whale."

The scientists collected 23 biopsy samples and attached satellite tags to two of the whales.

"The tags transmitted never-before obtained data on rapid longitudinal movements during their summer feeding season and their foraging behaviour in relation to the edge of the Antarctic ice," tagger Virginia Andrews-Goff said.

"This method of studying Antarctic blue whales has been so successful it will now become the blueprint for other whale researchers across the world."

The inaugural Southern Ocean trip of the Antarctic Blue Whale Project involved deploying acoustic buoys west of the Ross Sea to pick up blue whale songs, which can be detected from hundreds of kilometres (miles) away.

They recorded 626 hours of songs, with 26,545 calls of Antarctic blue whale analysed in real time, said lead acoustician Brian Miller.

"The researchers were then able to triangulate the position of the whales from their vocalisations and direct the ship to the target area," he said.

Burke said the study proved it was not necessary to kill whales to conduct scientific research, a reference to Japan's annual whale hunt in the Antarctic, which is conducted in the name of scientific research.

"The Antarctic blue whale barely escaped extinction during the industrial whaling era in the 1900's when about 340,000 whales were slaughtered," Burke said in a statement.

"This research reinforces Australia's commitment to non-lethal research of whales." – AFP

MANAWMAYA
HOUSE OF JEWELS

Straight from the Source ...

Rare • Fine • Unique

Hand crafted fine jewellery featuring ruby and rare gems of Myanmar

No. 527 New University Avenue, Bahan Township, Yangon 11201, Myanmar
Tel: + 95 1 549 612 Fax: + 95 1 545 770
E-mail: sales@manawmaya.com.mm www.manawmayajewels.com

Monday to Sunday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pope washes prisoners' feet in unprecedented Easter rite

ROME – Pope Francis washed the feet of 12 young offenders including two girls and two Muslims at a Rome prison on March 28 in an unprecedented version of an ancient Easter ritual, seen as part of efforts to bring the Roman Catholic Church closer to those in need.

The pope knelt down, washing and kissing the young prisoners' feet in the first Holy Thursday

ceremony of its kind performed by a pontiff in prison and the first to include women and Muslims.

"Whoever is the most high up must be at the service of others," Francis, 76, said at the mass in the Casal del Marmo youth prison, a fortnight after being elected Latin America's first pope.

"I do this with all my heart because it is my duty as a priest, as a bishop. I have to be at your

service. I love doing it because this is what the Lord has taught me," the pope said.

Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi said many of the participants broke down in tears at the ceremony, which was open only to Vatican media. One young man had to be replaced at the last moment because he was too overcome with emotion.

Video footage from the ceremony

showed the pope pouring water over the feet – one of them with tattoos – bending down to kiss them and looking each of the 12 prisoners in the eye before moving on.

Lombardi said that while this was the first time a pope had washed women's feet, Francis had performed this type of ceremony in his native Argentina many times before becoming pope including

in jails, hospitals and old people's homes.

The Holy Thursday ceremony is usually held in a basilica in the city centre and commemorates the gesture of humility believed to have been performed by Jesus Christ before his death to his 12 disciples at their last meal.

Popes performing the ritual have usually washed the feet of priests. – AFP

Briefly

UNITED NATIONS – The UN Security Council on March 28 unanimously approved the first "offensive" UN peacekeeping brigade to battle rebels in the Democratic Republic of Congo. A council resolution gave the 3000-strong force orders to "neutralise" and "disarm" rebel groups in the resource-rich east of the country.

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama said on March 28 that Americans should be ashamed if the pain of the Newtown school shooting three months ago has ebbed to such an extent that gun reform efforts are fading. "Now is the time to turn that heartbreak into something real," Obama said.

JOHANNESBURG – Doctors said Nelson Mandela, 94, was responding positively to treatment on March 28 after being readmitted to hospital with a lung infection. "The country must not panic, Madiba is fine," President Jacob Zuma told the BBC, referring to South Africa's first black president by his clan name.

PRETORIA – Paralympian sprint star Oscar Pistorius may compete at the World Championships in August after a South African court on March 28 cleared him for international travel, easing stringent bail terms imposed after he was charged with murdering his girlfriend. – AFP

Pyongyang puts rockets on standby to strike US

SEOUL – North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un ordered preparations on March 29 for strategic rocket strikes on the US mainland and military bases after US stealth bombers flew training runs over South Korea.

The order came as US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel, with tensions soaring on the Korean peninsula, said Washington would not be cowed by Pyongyang's bellicose threats and stood ready to respond to "any eventuality".

Kim directed his rocket units on standby at an overnight emergency meeting with top army commanders, hours after nuclear-capable US B-2 stealth bombers were deployed in US joint military drills with South Korea.

In the event of any "reckless" US provocation, North Korean forces should "mercilessly strike the US mainland... military bases in the Pacific, including Hawaii and Guam, and those in South Korea", he was quoted as saying by the official *Korean Central News Agency*.

While North Korea has no proven ability to conduct such strikes, Kim said: "The time has come to settle accounts with the US imperialists."

The youthful leader argued that the stealth bomber flights went beyond

North Korea's missiles

At least 1,000 of various types, according to South Korea's defense ministry

Key arsenal

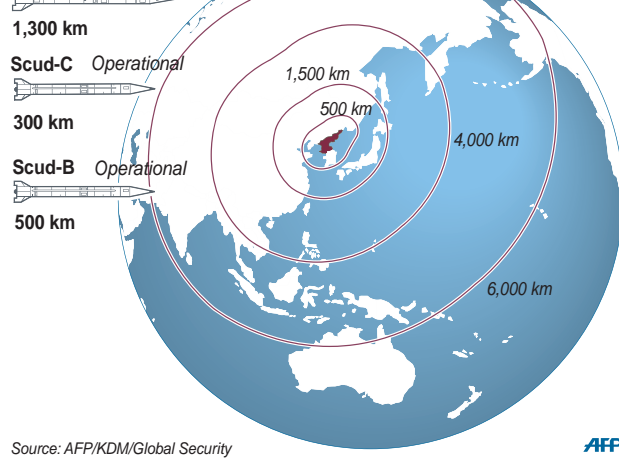
Taepodong-2 First successful launch December 12, 2012 (Unha-3 rocket based on same system) 6,700 km

Taepodong-1 Tested 1998 (failed) 2,500 km

Rodong Operational 1,300 km

Scud-C Operational 300 km

Scud-B Operational 500 km



Source: AFP/KDM/Global Security

a simple demonstration of force and amounted to a US "ultimatum that they will ignite a nuclear war at any cost".

An unidentified South Korean military official quoted by *Yonhap* news agency said a "sharp increase" in personnel and

vehicle movement had been detected at the North's mid- and long-range missile sites.

The United States rarely acknowledges B-2 flights to the Korean peninsula, which remains technically at war. The aircraft, which dodge anti-aircraft defences, bombed targets in conflicts in Serbia,

Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya.

The flights came as part of annual drills between the United States and South Korea, which North Korea each year denounces as rehearsals for war.

Pyongyang has been particularly vocal this time, angered by UN sanctions imposed after its long-range rocket launch in December and the third nuclear test it carried out in February.

Kim's order formalised steps already taken by the Korean People's Army, which put its strategic rocket units at combat-ready status on March 26. The following day it cut the last remaining military hotline with South Korea.

Most of the threats have been dismissed as bluster and North Korea has no confirmed missile capability to reach the US mainland – or indeed Guam or Hawaii in the Pacific.

But Washington has opted to match the threats with its own muscle-flexing.

"We will be prepared – we have to be prepared – to deal with any eventuality," Hagel told reporters at the Pentagon.

"We must make clear that these provocations by the North are taken by us very seriously and we'll respond to that," Hagel said, defending the B-2 deployment. – AFP

• Earlier report, P. 36.

Iran, NKorea Syria block arms treaty

UNITED NATIONS – Iran, North Korea and Syria on March 28 held up agreement on the first global treaty on the \$80 billion a year conventional arms trade.

The three states twice blocked moves to adopt a treaty by consensus at the end of 10 days of arduous talks at the UN headquarters.

An international coalition of countries said they would now take the treaty straight to the 193-member UN General Assembly this week for approval. It can be passed with a two thirds majority, which is virtually assured.

The move by Iran, North Korea and Syria, all facing sanctions or international reprimands for their weapons programs or trading, caused widespread anger at the conference.

The major arms producers – the United States, Russia, Germany, France, China and Britain – were ready to agree the treaty, on which negotiations started in 2006.

The first major arms accord since the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty would cover tanks, armored combat vehicles, large-caliber artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles and missile launchers, as well as small arms and light arms. – AFP

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Johnson & Johnson, a Company incorporated in United States of America, of One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08933, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

PELURA

Reg. No. 7412/2012

in respect of "Int'l Class 5: Human pharmaceutical preparations".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **Johnson & Johnson**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

SANOFI PASTEUR, a Company incorporated in France, of 2, avenue Pont Pasteur-69007 Lyon, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

DENGUEVAX

Reg. No. 8469/2012

in respect of "Class 5: Pharmaceutical products, vaccines for human use".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **SANOFI PASTEUR**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Abbott Laboratories, a company incorporated in United States of America, of 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, Illinois 60064-6408, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

SIMILAC MOM

Reg. No. 2122/2010

in respect of "Class 5: Dietetic substances adapted for medical use".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **Abbott Laboratories**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013

Opposition represents Syria at Arab summit

DOHA – Opposition chief Ahmed Moaz al-Khatib took Syria's seat at the Arab League on March 26 as leaders gathered for the annual summit in Doha gave member states the "right" to arm rebels in the war-torn country.

The summit affirmed the "right of every state to offer all forms of self-defence, including military, to support the resistance of the Syrian

people and the Free Syrian Army," a resolution said.

However, "efforts aimed at reaching a political solution to the Syrian crisis are a priority," it added.

Launching into a fiery speech after leading an opposition delegation into the Doha meeting to thunderous applause from Arab leaders, Khatib also demanded that the opposition be allowed to represent Syria at the

United Nations.

Taking the seat at the invitation of Qatar's emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Khatib was flanked by other senior opposition figures, including newly elected rebel prime minister Ghassan Hitto.

"We demand... all forms of support from our friends and brothers including our full right for self-defence and the seat of Syria at the

United Nations and at other international organisations," he said.

He also stressed that the Syrian people alone would determine the future of their country.

"They ask who will rule Syria. The people of Syria will decide, not any other state in this world," Khatib said in an apparent allusion to the influence of summit host Qatar and its heavyweight

neighbour Saudi Arabia over the opposition.

The seat has been empty since Syria was suspended in November 2011 after Damascus rejected calls to end violence against protesters and instead pressed a bloody crackdown on dissent.

Damascus reacted furiously to the decision.

"Shame on you, Arab brothers," wrote state-owned daily *Tishreen*.

Briefs

US slams Russia over NGO raids

WASHINGTON – Russian authorities seem to have launched a "witch hunt" against activist groups that is damaging the country's path to democracy, State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland said on March 28.

Washington is concerned by an "unprecedented" wave of raids on at least 100 top Russian and foreign non-government organisations, she said.

"The sheer scope of these inspections now... really gives us concern that this is some kind of a witch hunt," she said.

Man, 82, arrested in Savile probe

LONDON – British police on March 28 arrested an 82-year-old man as part of the investigation into widespread sexual abuses involving the late BBC presenter Jimmy Savile.

Metropolitan Police said officers had detained a man from Berkshire, south England, on suspicion of sexual offences.

Police stressed that the arrest was not connected to the specific allegations made against Savile and added that the suspect had been released on bail until May.

Mali says conflict claimed 663 lives

BAMAKO – The Malian army said on March 27 that 63 of its troops and 600 rebels had died since the launch of French-led operations two months ago to take back the north from hardline Islamist groups.

The announcement by the military came as UN leader Ban Ki-Moon said up to 11,200 troops could be needed for a peacekeeping mission in the troubled west African nation.

The fighting has also claimed the lives of five French troops.

Meagre fine for ivory smuggler

NAIROBI – A Chinese smuggler caught in Kenya with a haul of ivory was fined less than a dollar a piece, wildlife officials said last week.

They said Tian Yi, who was arrested on March 24 while in transit on journey from Democratic Republic of Congo to Hong Kong with 439 small pieces of worked ivory, was fined US\$350 on March 25 and released.

Experts say a kilogram of ivory has an estimated black market value of \$2500. – AFP

Xi hails ties with Africa

DAR ES SALAAM – China's new President Xi Jinping last week hailed the strength of ties with African nations, in a keynote speech on his first trip as head of state to the continent.

Hailing resource-rich Africa as a "continent of hope and promise", Xi addressed leaders in Tanzania's economic capital on March 25 as "my dear friends" and spoke of Beijing's "sincere friendship" with Africa.

"Africa belongs to the African people," Xi said, speaking in a new conference hall built by China.

"In developing relations with Africa, all countries should respect Africa's dignity and independence."

Trade between China and Africa reached some US\$200 billion last year, he said, adding that China would "intensify not weaken" its relationship and noting a commitment to provide a \$20 billion credit-line to African nations over the next two years.

"Whenever I come to Africa two things always strike me the most, one is the continuous progress... I am deeply impressed at the new developments," Xi said, on his sixth visit to the continent.

"The other is your overwhelming warmth, the sincere friendship of the African people towards the Chinese



Well-wishers greet Chinese President Xi Jinping on his arrival Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, on March 24 at the start of a three-nation visit to Africa. Pic: AFP

people is as warm and unforgettable as the sunshine in Africa."

China is the second-largest foreign investor in Tanzania, with stakes in agriculture, coal, iron ore and infrastructure.

"We have no doubt that the people

of China will continue to work with the people of Africa," said Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete, dismissing those who still feared Beijing's role "despite the end of the Cold War."

"So far, China has been a dependable supporter and an ally of African countries and other Third World countries... in their appeal for a just and equitable world economic order," Kikwete added.

Tanzania, where Xi arrived from after a visit to Moscow, was the first stop of a three-nation Africa tour that underscores Beijing's growing presence on the continent.

Xi later left Tanzania for South Africa, where he will attend a summit of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) countries.

He wraps up the African tour with a visit to Congo-Brazzaville.

China's presence in Africa has also been accompanied by periodic tensions, and Xi sought to smooth over those who criticise Beijing's role on the continent.

"China insists on equality among all countries irrespective of their size, strength and wealth. China upholds justice, and opposes the practice of the big bullying the small, the strong lordling over the weak, and rich oppressing the poor," he said. – AFP

PLO lauds criticism of Israeli settlements

JERUSALEM – The Palestine Liberation Organisation last week lauded UN condemnation of Israeli settlement building, but slammed the US position on human rights "violations" by the Jewish state.

"On behalf of the Palestinian people and leadership, I would like to express great appreciation and gratitude" to the UN's Human Rights Council, PLO executive committee member Hanan Ashrawi said in a statement on March 26.

"We appreciate your support and value your courage to stand behind your convictions."

The UNHRC presented a report to diplomats this month that said Israel must immediately begin withdrawing its settlers from the Palestinian territories.

The body also passed resolutions slamming settlement building and alleged abuses against Palestinians, all of which the US voted against.

"The United States once again demonstrated a total disregard for Palestinian rights and the requirements of peace," Ashrawi said.

It "voted against justice, and for impunity, in the face of the most egregious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law... it voted against peace."

The PLO's comments came several days after a visit by Barack Obama to Israel and the Palestinian territories, his first as US president.

Israel must act to "immediately and without preconditions cease the settlement activity and to initiate a process of withdrawal from the settlements," French delegate Christine Chanet told the UNHRC on March 18, lamenting a "rampant annexation" of Palestinian territories.

The UNHRC report sparked angry reactions from Israel, which slammed it and the Human Rights Council that commissioned it as "one-sided and biased."

Israel has come under widespread international criticism for accelerating its construction of settlements in the Palestinian territories.

All Israeli settlements on Palestinian land beyond the so-called 1949 Green Line are considered illegal under international law. – AFP

TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE

People's Garment Public Company Limited, a company organized under the laws of Thailand and having its principal office at 666 Rama 3 Road, Bangpongpan, Yannawa, Bangkok 10120, Thailand is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademarks:-



Reg. No. 4/12568/2012



Reg. No. 4/12569/2012

Used in respect of:-

Clothing, footwear, headgear for wear; shirts; t-shirts; polo shirts, jackets; sweaters; pajamas; shorts; pants; trousers; slacks; jeans; underwear; neckties; swimming suits; raincoat; costumes; hosiery; gloves (clothing); scarves; belts (clothing); hats; caps.
(International Class 25)

Any unauthorised use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above marks will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohnmar Tun & The Law Chambers
Ph: 0973150632
Email: law_chambers@seasiren.com.mm
(For. K PSI PC onslutants L td., Thailand)
Dated: 1 April 2013

#MYANMARTIMES

Advertise online with us

onlinead.mt@gmail.com
(951) 392676.253642

UK fails in fresh bid to deport extremist

LONDON – The British government vowed on March 27 to continue efforts to deport radical Islamist cleric Abu Qatada to Jordan after failing in its latest attempt to have him expelled.

Government lawyers lost their appeal against a decision by the Special Immigration Appeals Commission in November to allow the Jordanian to stay in Britain.

Three judges at the Court of Appeal acknowledged that ministers believed Abu Qatada to be an “exceptionally high-risk terrorist” but said this was not relevant to their considerations.

The Home Office vowed to keep fighting, saying in a statement: “The government remains determined to deport Abu Qatada.”

The cleric, whose real name is Omar Mohammed Othman, has successfully fought attempts at deportation since 2005 by arguing that his human rights would be violated if he was returned to Jordan.

–AFP

Hunger strike spreads at Guantanamo prison

WASHINGTON – The White House said on March 27 it was closely monitoring a growing hunger strike among inmates at Guantanamo Bay and reiterated President Barack Obama’s vow to close the prison facility.

Thirty-one detainees – five more than on March 22, have been refusing food to protest their indefinite detention, a move defence lawyers blame on mounting despair inside the prison.

“I can tell you that the White House and the president’s team is closely monitoring the hunger strikers at Guantanamo Bay,” said Josh Earnest, a White House spokesman.

“The administration remains committed to closing the detention facility.”

A Guantanamo Bay spokesman, US Navy Reserve Captain Robert Durand, said that 31 prisoners, out of a total population of 166 were on hunger strike as of March 26.

Eleven detainees were

getting nutrition through feeding tubes, three of whom were in a prison hospital facility for rehydration and observation.

David Remes, a lawyer for 15 Guantanamo detainees, told AFP earlier this month that the hunger strike was unprecedented in its scope, duration and determination.

The protest was launched at Camp 6 in Guantanamo on February 6, when a “routine” inmate search took place. Detainees said guards

been frustrated by Congress and other opposition both at home and abroad over plans to resettle the detainees.

Lawmakers have banned Obama from bringing detainees to the US mainland, hampering a move that would have allowed him to close the camp.

But Zeke Johnson, director of Amnesty International USA’s Security with Human Rights Campaign, said that Obama’s repeated vows to close the camp were insufficient.

“Talk is cheap. It’s time for President Obama to take

real action to fulfill his Guantanamo promise,” Johnson said.

The Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross said on March 27 it had sent a delegation to check conditions at the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay.

The ICRC had planned to begin the visit on April 1 but had brought it forward because of the hunger strike, said spokesman Bijan Farnoudi. –AFP

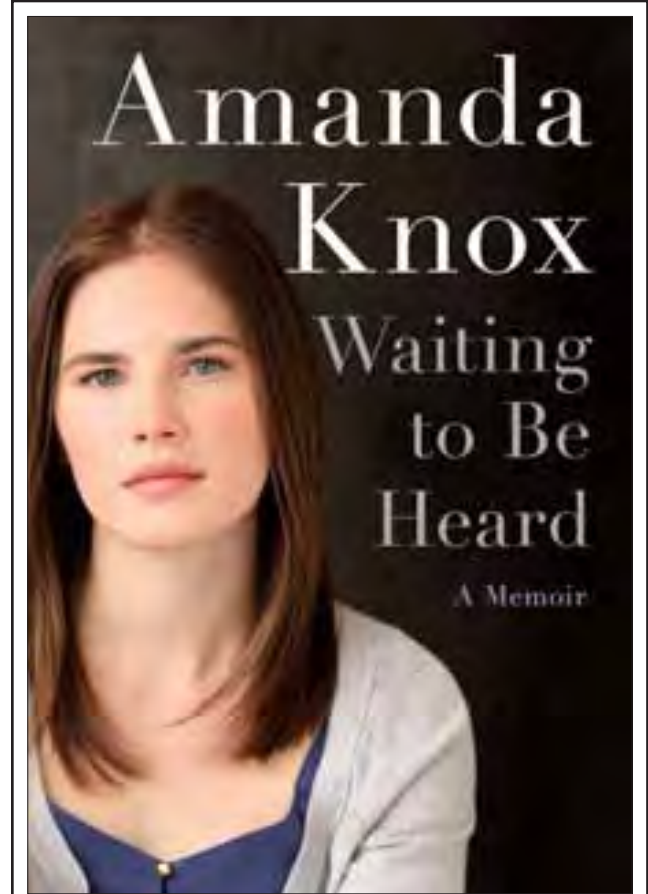
‘It’s time for President Obama to... fulfill his Guantanamo promise.’

had inspected their Korans, which they perceived as “religious desecration.”

But the US military said the Korans were in no way desecrated.

Camp 6, on the hills around Guantanamo, houses inmates who pose no particular threat and have no special value in the eyes of US authorities.

Obama promised to close the camp in one of the first acts of his presidency in 2009, but his efforts have



American Amanda Knox, 25, on the cover of a book due to be released by HarperCollins on April 30 about her sensational murder trial in Italy. Knox and her Italian former boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito – originally sentenced to 26 and 25 years in prison for the murder of her British housemate Meredith Kercher in Perugia in 2007 – were acquitted on appeal in 2011 after four years behind bars. Knox and Sollecito face retrials after judges in Rome on March 26 upheld a prosecution appeal against their acquittals. Speaking in Seattle on March 27, Knox described the decision as “painful”. Pic: AFP/HarperCollins



Beauty Fair

28.03.13 to 12.04.13

REVLON
All Ranges of Revlon

10% Off + Special Gift

FOLLOW ME
O2 Skin Care Series, Silkpro Hair Care Series, Silk Bath

10% Off

OLAY
OLAY Natural White, Cellucent Skin Care Series

Buy Ks-15,000 & Above, Get a free Beach Towel

L'OREAL PARIS
All Ranges of L'oreal

Buy Ks-15,000 & Above, Get a Free Renutrition Shampoo 180ml

Shampoo + Conditioner

Buy 180ml/ 200ml Get 10% Off
Buy 350ml/ 375ml Get 180ml 1PC

Kanebo
REAL YOUR BEAUTY

All Ranges of Kanebo Skin Care & Cosmetics

20% Off

Buy any one, Get Special Gifts

Bio-essence
24K Bio Gold, Nugeno Men Selected Items

50% Off

GINVERA
Herballines Shampoo, Shower

10% Off

GINVERA
Green Tea Skin Care

Up to 40% Off

Available at **City Mart Supermarket** all outlets.

LIKE US ON **facebook**



Thingyan Festival Specials

Your Family's Lifestyle Choice

28.03.2013 to 24.04.2013



BEST CHOICE

FRESH FOOD

GREEN LAND
Sugar Special
1kg



Ks. 850
800

PREMIER



Buy 1, Get a free Cup

AUTUMN ROYAL BLACK GRAPE
SEEDLESS (SOUTH AFRICA)



100g/Ks. 680
612

NESCAFÉ
Red Cup Coffee
200g



Ks. 3,950
3,680

DAWN

Condensed Milk 390g/380g



Ks. 730
720



Ks. 670
660

NONG SHIM



Price range from
Ks.650 to Ks.770

JACK FRUIT
250g



PKts/Ks. 1,150
1,030

GOLD PEAR



100g/Ks. 110
100

MA MA



Buy any 5PKts,
Save 10% Off

KNORR



Ks. 2,450
2,200

BEST FOODS



Ks. 1,780
1,650

BEST FOODS



Ks. 1,650
1,490

CP
Chicken & Pork



Save Ks.200
Price range from
Ks.1,100 to Ks.2,000

MOTHER'S CHOICE
Margarine
250g



Ks. 1,700
1,500



Ks. 2,600
2,200

EIFFEL TOWER
Mackerel in Tomato Sauce
215g



Ks. 800
750

HOSEN
Rambutan with Pineapple
560g



Ks. 2,250
2,050

UFC
Whole Lychee in Syrup
565g



Ks. 1,680
1,510

UFC
Whole Rambutan in Syrup
565g



Ks. 1,850
1,670

SQUID
Fish Sauce
730ml/700ml



Ks. 950
850

GOLDEN MOUNTAIN
Tomato Ketchup
600g



Ks. 1,100
1,050

GOLDEN MOUNTAIN
Oyster Sauce
600g



Ks. 1,150
1,100

TVO
Soya Beans
1.1L



Ks. 1,700
1,600



Ks. 3,600
3,400



Ks. 7,600
7,140



Ks. 3,250
3,060



Ks. 1,650
1,550

THANT
Raw Soft White Rice
12kg



Ks. 10,400
9,360

NURSERY
Sticky Rice White
1kg



Ks. 1,320
1,190



Ks. 2,600
2,340



Ks. 4,400
3,960



Ks. 3,000
2,700

Ks. 3,250
2,950

POLAR
Ice Cream
-Strawberry
-Peanut Sundae
-Chocolate
0.5Ltr



each/Ks. 1,050
980

Snack & Drink Fair

28.03.2013 to 24.04.2013



Come & Taste the variety of Snack & Drink.

HOME & KITCHEN

<p>DIAMOND Aluminum Pool 12" x 28"</p> <p>Ks. 1,650 1,490</p>	<p>BATH TOWEL 27"x54" *</p> <p>Ks. 2,800 2,300</p>	<p>ALGO Drawer 4Tier</p> <p>Ks. 33,000 29,700</p>	<p>BREEZE LIVING Folding Board with Stand 42"x18"</p> <p>Ks. 19,600 17,500</p>
<p>HAPPY WARE Water Cooler Rectangular 10L</p> <p>Ks. 16,500 14,800</p>	<p>NEW OCEAN PP Chopping Board Rectangular</p> <p>Ks. 3,850 3,450</p>		

CLEAN & FRESH

<p>ROHTO Sunplay, Clear Baby Mild SPF 30 Super Block SPF 15 Out Going SPF 45 30g</p> <p>20% Off + Get a free Scarf</p>	<p>PANTENE Shampoo -Anti Dandruff -Silky Smooth Care -Hair Fall Control 340ml/350ml</p> <p>each/Ks. 3,150 2,680</p>	<p>LOLANE Powder Hair Remoaning Powder-Cone</p> <p>15% Off</p> <p>Price range from Ks.1,790 to Ks.2,000</p>
<p>COLGATE Toothpaste -Whitening 100g</p> <p>Ks. 1,450 1,330</p> <p>Ks. 2,169 1,980</p>	<p>CUIFENG PINMEI Pocket Tissue 9%</p> <p>Ks. 680 610</p>	<p>SOFTLOVE Baby Diaper -Natural Care -New & Improved 12x45x60cm 300g</p> <p>10% Off</p> <p>Price range from Ks.2,500 to Ks.3,950</p>
<p>SHIELDTOX Insect Killer Spray Odourless 800ml</p> <p>each/Ks. 2,350 2,100</p>	<p>ELAN Enzyme Detergent Powder 3x350g</p> <p>Ks. 1,500 1,350</p>	<p>DAILY Dishwashing Liquid 4.5L</p> <p>Ks. 3,100 2,720</p>
		<p>CUIFENG PINMEI Bathroom Tissue 10 Roll, 3ply Single Packing</p> <p>Ks. 3,650 3,280</p>

SPECIAL ELECTRICAL OFFER

<p>MIDEA Air Cooler ACS-1208H</p> <p>Ks. 60,500 55,000</p>	<p>FARFALLA Air Cooler FAC-99B</p> <p>Ks. 58,500 54,000</p>	<p>MD Stand Fan 16" FS-30-BH</p> <p>Ks. 35,000 29,700</p>	<p>FARFALLA Stand Fan 16" FSF-40 C-1/803</p> <p>Ks. 32,500 29,000</p>
<p>FARFALLA Table Fan 12" FTF-30-WG</p> <p>Ks. 23,500 22,000</p>	<p>MD Table Fan 12" FT-30-BHG</p> <p>Ks. 18,000 16,300</p>	<p>K-LITE Rechargeable Fan with AC&DC KN-2091</p> <p>Ks. 32,000 28,700</p>	<p>FARFALLA Electric Rice Cooker 1.8L FRC-185T</p> <p>Ks. 21,000 18,700</p>
<p>PHILIPS Iron GC-135/4-135</p> <p>Ks. 11,700 11,000</p>	<p>NAMILUX Portable Gas Cooker NA-1175E</p> <p>Ks. 11,500 10,000</p>	<p>K-LITE LED Rechargeable Lantern KN-2092</p> <p>Ks. 4,450 4,000</p>	<p>YAGE LED Rechargeable Torchlight YG-3224</p> <p>Ks. 1,450 1,300</p>

Exclusively Available @
marketplace

<p>ARNOTT'S Cheese Board Assorted Cookies 250g</p> <p>Ks. 4,350 3,900</p>	<p>SNYDER'S Mini Pastels 300g</p> <p>Ks. 2,500 2,250</p>
<p>VICENZI Vanilla Flat Bread Pastry 300g</p> <p>Ks. 2,700 2,450</p>	<p>ORGRAN Vanilla Cake 300g</p> <p>Ks. 4,080 3,680</p>
<p>KEZ'S Egg Biscuits (Mini) 300g</p> <p>Ks. 6,400 5,750</p>	<p>VIRGILO Macaroni Cheese (50g)</p> <p>Ks. 3,350 3,050</p>
<p>THE GOURMET Culinary Spice Blend -Orgran Basil & Parsley Pasta Herb 50g</p> <p>Ks. 4,200 3,780</p>	<p>Collection Cheese Sea Salt Crystals 120g</p> <p>Ks. 2,850 2,550</p>

WINE SPECIAL

<p>LINDEMANS Pin 85 Pinot Pin 99 Pinot Noir 75cl</p> <p>each/Ks. 10,400 9,400</p>	<p>HARDYS V8 -Chardonnay White Wine -Cabernet Sauvignon Red Wine 2011 -Merlot Red Wine 2011 -Grazia Red Wine 75cl</p> <p>each/Ks. 7,300 6,700</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့သည် မိုးဝယ်လျှင်
* Wheel of Fortune * တစ်ကြိမ်တစ်ဖန်

Prizes 1.4.2013 to 12.4.2013

Luminarc, Philips, Tostitos

THINGYAN FESTIVAL
Special Hamper
01.03.2013 to 12.04.2013

Only the FRESH PRODUCTS
specifically packed to make
THE SPECIALITY
Not for sale elsewhere

Superb Thingyan Treats

City Mart joins the whole nation in the celebration of the Water Festival. We wish you HEALTH, GOOD HEALTH & CONTINUED SUCCESS.

For our customers' convenience, City Mart will extend opening hours from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM from April 9th to 12th, 2013.

You are cordially invited to enjoy our special So Tu Di Thai Food offering on April 8, 9 and 10, 2013.

All City Mart Supermarket will be closed during the Water Festival starting from 13 to 17 April, 2013 and will re-open on the 18th April, 2013.

Karzai, Kerry upbeat after talks in Kabul

KABUL – US Secretary of State John Kerry held a second round of talks with Afghan President Hamid Karzai in Kabul on March 26 after the two put on a public show of unity in a bid to repair damaged ties.

Kerry visited Afghanistan as the United States ceded to a key long-standing demand of Karzai by delivering full control of Bagram prison, where Taliban and al-Qaeda suspects are held north of Kabul, to Afghan forces.

Karzai had turned the fate of Bagram and its hundreds of detainees into a rallying cry for his push to take back sovereignty as most US-led combat troops prepare to leave by the end of 2014 after more than a decade of war.

After a series of fiery anti-US outbursts from Karzai in previous weeks, both he and Kerry were keen to make a public display of friendship and stress that relations were back on track.

“Bagram prison was handed over to the Afghan government... Finally after many years of effort we have reached a deal,” Karzai said

at a joint news conference late on March 25.

Kerry said: “The US is committed to an enduring partnership... The US supports a strong and united Afghanistan.”

“We are committed to Afghanistan’s sovereignty and we will not let al-Qaeda or the Taliban shake this commitment.”

Earlier this month, Karzai accused Washington of working in concert with the Taliban and his spokesman described the NATO coalition’s war effort as “aimless and unwise”, triggering fury from Afghanistan’s foreign backers.

Responding to a storm of protest over the collusion allegations, Kerry said he was confident that Karzai “does not believe that the United States has any interest except to see the Taliban come to the table to make peace”.

For his part, Karzai said: “I was interpreted as saying the US and Taliban are colluding, but I did not use this word.” – AFP



The Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, on March 27 with students at the Himalayan Buddhist Cultural School at Salugara on the outskirts Siliguri, in India’s West Bengal state. The Dalai Lama who arrived at Salugara after a visit to Sikkim, expressed sorrow at self-immolations by Tibetan Buddhists in China. More than 110 Tibetans have self-immolated since 2009, say Tibetan groups. Pic: AFP

HK court throws out maids’ residency bid

HONG KONG – Hong Kong’s top court last week rejected a bid to give hundreds of thousands of foreign maids the right to live in the city permanently.

In turning down the attempt to give maids the same residency rights as other foreigners, the Court of Final Appeal ruled on March 25 that there was no need to refer the case to Beijing for a final say, which would have sparked new controversy.

Officials in semi-autonomous Hong Kong had suggested enlisting the advice of the Chinese central government on the immigration question, sparking warnings that they were jeopardising the territory’s cherished judicial independence.

But the top court drew a line under the matter by rejecting the two-year legal challenge first brought by Filipina maid Evangelina Banao Vallejos, 61, a mother of five who has lived in Hong Kong since 1986.

“With the court’s ruling today, it gave its judicial seal to unfair treatment and the social exclusion of foreign domestic workers in Hong Kong,” said Eman Villanueva, spokesman for labour rights group Asian Migrants’ Coordinating Body.

Vallejos won a High Court ruling in 2011 granting her the right to request permanent residency status, which most foreigners can seek after seven years’ stay but which is denied to the city’s 300,000 foreign domestic helpers.

Activists had hailed the ruling as a big step for equal rights for maids.

But the Court of Final Appeal unanimously sided with arguments from the Hong Kong government, which said it should enjoy discretionary power to decide on residency.

Pro-government figures had warned that the city of seven million would be swamped by up to half a million new immigrants,

including the maids’ children and spouses, if the funding was allowed.

“The FDH (foreign domestic helper) is obliged to return to the country of origin at the end of the contract, and is told from the outset that admission is not for the purposes of settlement and that dependents cannot be brought to reside in Hong Kong,” the top court said in a 49-page judgment.

The ruling means maids will continue to be specifically excluded from eligibility to settle in Hong Kong, which would give them access to voting rights and the right to live in the former British colony without a work visa.

Hong Kong’s foreign maids receive a minimum wage of HK\$3920 (US\$505) a month and benefits such as one guaranteed day off a week, but rights groups say they face discrimination and a lack of legal protection from abusive employers. – AFP

Briefs

Thailand, rebels hold peace talks

KUALA LUMPUR – Thailand held its first formal peace talks with a rebel group from its insurgency-racked south on March 28 and said another meeting would be held in the Malaysian capital on April 29.

The one-day meeting with representatives of the Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN) insurgent group was held in a frank but cordial atmosphere, Thai National Security Council chief Paradorn Pattanatabut said.

“It was a good atmosphere today. It is a good sign because this is the first time we talked and we talked frankly, which means we trust each other,” he said.

Singapore sets date for inquest

SINGAPORE – A Singapore coroner’s inquiry into the death of a US scientist found hanged in the city-state will start on May 13, state prosecutors said on March 26.

The case involves Shane Todd, whose parents believe he may have been murdered because of his work for a Singapore institute with alleged links to a Chinese firm seen by the US as a security threat.

The coroner’s inquiry or inquest is a legal process to determine the cause of death.

China denies firing on fishing boat

BEIJING – China’s navy has denied firing on a Vietnamese boat in disputed waters in the South China Sea, state media said on March 27.

The navy described a Vietnamese claim that Chinese vessels had fired on one of its fishing boats as “sheer fabrication”, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

Vietnam’s foreign ministry said on March 25 a fishing boat was “chased and shot at by a Chinese vessel” in what Hanoi called a “serious violation” of its sovereignty.

Australian travellers ‘unrealistic’: ministry

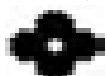
SYDNEY – Some Australian travellers are too demanding of their foreign ministry when they encounter trouble overseas, said a report released on March 26.

Research by the Sydney-based Lowy Institute has found that the expectations of what Australian diplomats can and should do for distressed travellers are becoming “more unrealistic”.

Requests received at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade had included: ‘Could DFAT feed my dogs while I’m away?’, the report said. – AFP

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation, a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 6-1, Marunouchi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the current owner of the Trademarks described below, by virtue of the **Deeds of Assignment** dated 5 March, 2013 (Reg. No. 4/2292/2013), executed between **Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd.**, (Assignor), and **Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation**, (Assignee), whereby the original owner Assignor who registered of the marks in Myanmar, assigned those marks to Assignee:



S.M.I

4/2329/1956 (12 Dec 1956)

4/872/1964 (23 July 1964)

Sumitomo



4/1559/2009 (27 Feb 2009)

4/1560/2009 (25 Feb 2009)

Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation
4/9240/2011 (12 Sept 2011)

Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal
4/9241/2011 (12 Sept 2011)

NS&SM

NSSMC

4/9243/2011 (14 Sept 2011)

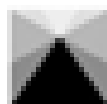
4/9242/2011 (12 Sept 2011)

Nippon Steel & Sumikin



4/9586/2011 (21 Sept 2011)

4/2538/2012 (12 Mar 2012)



4/2539/2012 (12 Mar 2012)

4/3023/2012 (22 Mar 2012)

In respect of goods/services in **Classes 6, 7, 12, 37 & 42**.
Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For **Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**
#1508-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 1 April 2013 utm@kcyangon.com

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Schering-Plough Ltd., of Weyrstrasse 20, CH-6000, Lucerne 6, Switzerland, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

INTRON

Reg. No. 251/1983

INTRON A

Reg. No. 4265/1995

in respect of “Pharmaceuticals namely a broad-spectrum antiviral and immuno-modulating agent”.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **Schering-Plough Ltd.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013



ALGERIA, BAHRAIN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, COLOMBIA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, EGYPT, GABON, GHANA, INDONESIA, JORDAN, KUWAIT, LEBANON, LIBYA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, MYANMAR, NIGERIA, OMAN, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PANAMA, PERU, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, THAILAND, THE PHILIPPINES, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UAE: ABU DHABI, UAE: DUBAI, UAE: RAS AL KHAIMAH

All the angles covered

When you enter unfamiliar territory, you want to get straight to the heart of your market.

Oxford Business Group reports shed light on what's really happening on the ground. Our reports balance on-the-spot analysis with contributions from local and international experts.

Whether you're entering a new market or already entrenched, OBG country reports are your indispensable guide.

"Vital information for anyone considering working in the country" – Financial Times



THE INSIDE EDGE
www.oxfordbusinessgroup.com
myanmar@oxfordbusinessgroup.com

China signs up for warplanes, submarines from Russia

BEIJING – China has agreed to buy two dozen fighter jets and four submarines from Russia, state media reported on March 25, the country's first large-scale weapons technology purchases from Moscow in a decade.

The agreement to buy the 24 Su-35 fighters and four Lada-class submarines was signed just before President

Xi Jinping's March 22-24 visit to Russia, said the *People's Daily*, the Communist Party organ, citing state television.

The report, which did not give a value for the purchases, said it was the first time in 10 years China had bought "large military technological equipment" from Russia.

The deal comes as Beijing expands its military reach – it commissioned its first aircraft carrier last year – and is embroiled in a bitter territorial row with Japan over disputed islands in the East China Sea.

Two of the submarines will be built in Russia, with the other two to be built in China.

"The Su-35 fighters can effectively reduce pressure on China's air defence before Chinese-made stealth fighters come online," the report said.

China and Russia are expected to co-operate further in developing military technology, the report said, including for S-400 long-range anti-aircraft missiles,

117S large thrust engines, IL-476 large transport aircraft and IL-78 aerial tankers.

Xi visited Moscow from for talks with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, his first trip abroad since becoming head of state earlier this month.

The countries signed about 30 energy and other agreements during the visit.

Xi also met Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and became the first foreign leader to visit the Russian armed forces' control centre.

Moscow and Beijing, once bitter foes during the Cold War, have strengthened cooperation in recent years to counterbalance what they see as US global dominance. – AFP

Ducks foul waterway as pig toll tops 16,000

SHANGHAI – At least 1000 dead ducks were found floating in a Chinese river, state media reported on March 25, after Shanghai said it had almost finished recovering thousands of deceased pigs from its main waterway.

The ducks were fished out of a section of river by authorities in the southwestern Chinese province of Sichuan, state-run *Xinhua* news agency said.

They were then buried in plastic bags three metres underground, the report added. It did not specify how the ducks had died.

The report came after Shanghai officials said a cleanup was close to ending after an embarrassing pollution case which saw dead pigs floating down the city's main river, with the total number recovered exceeding 16,000.

"The city's water territory has already basically finished the work of fishing

out the floating dead pigs," said a Shanghai government statement released late on March 24.

A total of 98 pigs were recovered from the Huangpu river on March 24 and 93 the previous day, the first time the daily toll had fallen below a hundred in days.

The total number Shanghai had removed from the river, which supplies 22 percent of the city's drinking water, had reached 10,924 late on March 24.

In addition, Jiaying in neighbouring Zhejiang province, whose farmers are accused by Shanghai of dumping the dead pigs into the river upstream, had found 5528 carcasses, state radio said.

The exact origin of the dead pigs remains a mystery.

The images of dead pigs in China's commercial hub have proved a huge embarrassment for the city, which is seeking to grow as an international financial centre. – AFP

Pyongyang unleashes tirade at South's President Park

SEOUL – North Korea on March 27 accused South Korean President Park Geun-Hye of slander and provocation after she warned Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear weapons or face collapse.

The North's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea, a state body in charge of propaganda and inter-Korean affairs, said Park was following the hardline anti-North stance of her predecessor Lee Myung-Bak.

"If she keeps to the road of confrontation like traitor Lee, defying the warnings of the DPRK (North Korea), she will meet a miserable ruin," it said.

The committee urged Park to "behave with discretion, clearly mindful that a wrong word may entail horrible disaster" at a time of elevated military tensions on the Korean peninsula.

"The present chief executive of South Korea made invectives slandering the DPRK," it said, referring to her speech on March 26 marking the third anniversary of the sinking



South Korean President Park Geun-Hye (left) visits the graves in the central city of Daejeon on March 26 of some of the 46 sailors killed three years earlier when the naval vessel Cheonan was sunk by what Seoul insists was a North Korean submarine. Pic: AFP

in 2010 of a naval vessel by what Seoul insists was a North Korean submarine.

Park warned North Korea that its only "path to survival" lay in abandoning its nuclear and missile programs and urged Pyongyang to

"change course".

The North's committee slammed Park's "confrontational rhetoric", saying it was "an unpardonable provocation... and a blatant challenge."

North Korea's propaganda machine criticised Park repeatedly during the presidential campaign, warning that she would adopt the dictatorial methods of her father, the late military strongman

Park Chung-Hee. But it has been cautious in criticising Park since she was sworn in a month ago as South Korea's first female president.

In an earlier development, South Korea said on March 25 that its new pact with the United States providing for a joint military response even to low-level provocation by North Korea offers an added deterrent at a time of elevated tension.

The two allies signed the military agreement on March 22.

While existing agreements provide for US engagement in the event of a full-scale conflict, the new protocol addresses the response to low-level action such as a limited cross-border incursion.

It guarantees US support for any South Korean retaliation and allows Seoul to request any additional US military force it deems necessary.

"It will have the effect of preventing the North from daring to provoke us," defence ministry spokesman Kim Min-Seok said on March 25.

The United States has about 30,000 troops stationed in South Korea. – AFP

TRADE MARK CAUTION

SANOFI, a Company incorporated in France, of 54 rue La Boetie, 75008 Paris, France, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

CAPEWIN

Reg. No. 398/2013

DUTASWIN

Reg. No. 399/2013

WINAMLO

Reg. No. 400/2013

WINAMOCLA

Reg. No. 401/2013

WINLO

Reg. No. 402/2013

WINMERO

Reg. No. 403/2013

in respect of "Class 05: Pharmaceutical preparations".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for SANOFI
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

N.E.T. CO. UNITED S.A., a company incorporated in British Virgin Islands, of P. O. Box 957, Offshore Incorporations Centre, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-



Reg. No. 628/1999

Reg. No. 4254/2002

in respect of "cigarette, matches, smokers' articles, tobacco, cigarettes paper, cigars, lighters; all included in Class 34".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for N.E.T. CO. UNITED S.A.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Triumph Intertrade AG., a Company incorporated in Switzerland, of Triumphweg 6, CH-5330 Bad Zurzach, Switzerland, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

DIVA

Reg. No. 1681/2013

HOM

Reg. No. 1682/2013

VALISERE

Reg. No. 1683/2013

in respect of "Class 25: Clothing, footwear, headgear".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Triumph Intertrade AG
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
E-mail: makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 1 April 2013

Interfaith meeting elicits prayers for peace from youth

By Zon Pann Pwint

YOUNG people representing different religious faiths gathered at a "Pray for Myanmar" event at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in downtown Yangon on March 28.

Buddhist, Christian, Hindu and Muslim youths came together to pray and read poetry about peace, while members of the 88 Generation Students also gave speeches on the subject.

U Thet Swe Win, a member of Myanmar Youth Empowerment and an organiser of the event, said young people from different religions felt insecure about outbreaks of fighting between Buddhists and Muslims in central Myanmar last week.

"I have never heard of such turmoil in my lifetime. My friends and I feel very insecure whenever we go out," U Thet Swe Win told the crowd.

Organisers handed out "Peace in Harmony" t-shirts and stickers calling on people to avoid communal strife and religious riots. The group plans to extend distribution throughout Myanmar.

"Whether we are Buddhist or Muslim, we won't take part in ruining the buildings where we live or destroying the society where we grew up," U Thet Swe Win said.

"We don't know who incited the people to violence, but we will try to conduct campaigns to stop those groups from instigating others. We don't want to live with racial hatred; we grew up in the same country together, and want to live together in peace."

Tipitaka Sayadaw U Kaw Ti Nya also attended the event and urged everyone to love one another.

"Love is important. Where there is love, there is peace; and where there is faith, there is perpetuation," he said.



Young people read messages of peace at a "Pray for Myanmar" event held at the YMCA in downtown Yangon on March 28. Pic: Thiri

Thai and Myanmar artists convert trash into treasure

By Zon Pann Pwint

ARTIST Aung Myat Htay patiently tore open the packaged snacks, laid the food aside on a paper plate and turned his attention to arranging the now-empty packaging into neat piles.

"These wrappers appear colourful and fetching. The enchantments of the packaging really attract people to buy these snacks," said Aung Myat Htay, who is among 10 artists taking part in the "Cross the Crossing" exhibition currently being shown at Monsoon Restaurant in Yangon.

The artists — two from Myanmar and eight from Thailand — had gathered on March 27 at a bakery in Botahtaung Pagoda Road in Pazundaung township to start creating artwork from food packaging, paper plates, old water bottles and beverage cans, and other consumer detritus.

The resulting art is on display at Monsoon (85-87 Theinbyu Road) from March 29 to April 29, in an exhibition focusing on the ways in which packaged and readymade foods reflect the two countries' fast-changing societies.

"The packaging is designed to entice people into buying the products, but the food inside can be harmful to people's health. I want to create artwork that makes the viewer aware of this message," Aung Myat Htay said.

"Cross the Crossing" was organised by Ms Paramaporn Siriuulchayanont, deputy director of the Art Centre at Silpakorn University in Bangkok. She told *The Myanmar Times* that the purpose of the exhibition was to show how used materials and materials could be recycled for new purposes.

The show grew out of



Participants in the "Cross the Crossing" show create art on March 27. Pic: Supplied

an exhibition titled "Re-Please" held in Bangkok last November. It featured artwork made from printed posters, postcards and catalogues left over from previous art exhibitions.

"After each exhibition ended, piles of art invitation cards, posters, postcards and catalogues were left in the storage room of the Art Centre," she said. "Nobody used them anymore, so we created artwork for the first exhibition."

A second recycled art show was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, in December, after which the organisers were invited to bring the idea to Myanmar.

"The theme of this exhibition is 'Cross the Crossing', which talks about the culture of food between Myanmar and Thailand. We often talk about foods that are representative

of culture, foods that are carefully prepared, elaborate and delicate," Ms Paramaporn said.

"But nowadays people consume instant food, canned food and readymade food that they can easily buy at the market. This exhibition shows how this reflects the changing culture of different countries."

"Thai people used to throw away the packaging after they used it, and they didn't care about these used materials. But nowadays there are campaigns in Thailand to recycle and reuse old things," she said.

Ms Paramaporn said some artists are also trying to raise awareness about the negative health effects of packaged foods.

"If we consume too much, it will affect our lives in a negative way," she said.

She added that "Yangon is lovely and the people are very nice" but she was sad to see so much packaging carelessly discarded on the streets of the city.

Ma Nge Lay, another local artist participating in the exhibition, agreed that it was dismaying to see the sidewalks of Yangon covered with plastic bags and other litter.

"It gets worse in rainy season, when there's flooding whenever it rains heavily. Then the plastic bags float in the water," she said.

She said she wants to show that old packaging materials and cans can be reused to create artwork.

"I used to throw away the old packages and sell old bottles and cans. Like me, most people don't even think about how they can reuse these materials," she said.

yangon airways
you're safe with us

Discover Myanmar With Yangon Airways

MPU
CARD WELCOME

No. 166, MMB Tower, Level 5, Upper Patheingyi Road,
Mingalar Taung Nyunt Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Reservation Hunt Line: (95-1) 383 100, Flight Inquiry: (95-1) 383 107,
Airport: (95-1) 533 258, 533 259, 700 264, 700 272
Email: reservation@yangonair.com, businessdevelopment@yangonair.com

www.yangonair.com

No assumption safe with punk veterans

By Geoffrey Himes

THE title of the first single from Bad Religion's new album, *True North*, is unprintable in a family newspaper, but the expletive advises one to have sexual relations with oneself.

Because this is a punk-rock record, the title line is belted out with considerable gusto, chased through the two-minute, 14-second song by a sprinting wolf pack of guitars. And yet, because this is Bad Religion, one of the smartest punk bands since their founding in 1979, the lyrics are not at all what you might expect.

Greg Graffin, the California sextet's lead singer, expresses some sympathy for the need to vent; sometimes a rude retort "is the most satisfying sound". But he also points out that this well-worn phrase won't solve any problems; it's just "the easiest thing to do" because "it takes no thought at all".

In fact, rely on the phrase too much, and "your friends might not want you around". Bad Religion, famous for challenging unthinking behaviour in mainstream society, is just as willing to confront the same in the punk community.

"It's a perfect punk-rock title," says Graffin, 48, "but the song questions that Pavlovian response. One of our great thematic traditions in Bad Religion has been to question human nature. It can make you feel good to go through with those knee-jerk things, and sometimes it's even justified. But that kind of reaction to frustration almost never leads to an



Bad Religion's new album 'True North' is its first to make the Top 30. Pic: Myriam Santos

intellectual understanding, so it's not fully satisfying. And it's been an objective of mine since I started writing songs to include both intellect and energy."

There's no lack of either on *True North*, which has become the first Bad Religion album, after 20 previous tries, to crack Billboard's Top 30 albums chart, peaking at No 19. Only one of the 16 high-speed songs tops three minutes, and seven are shorter than two minutes. But within those short bursts of adrenaline, Graffin and his co-writer, Brett Gurewitz, question their listeners' assumptions again and again.

A song such as "Past Is Dead" sounds like another punk-rock anthem about seizing the moment. But again the lyrics subvert the title, this time suggesting

that "instant gratification" is designed by the ruling class to create "intellectual poverty".

Another song points out that everyone believes that what's "In Their Hearts Is Right", whether they're religious fundamentalists or punk anarchists. Perhaps some realistic scepticism is called for on all sides.

It was the band's celebration of rationality that earned Bad Religion an invitation to join such fellow nonbelievers as Richard Dawkins, Tim Minchin and Adam Savage at the Reason Rally on the National Mall a year ago last month. As he sang the national anthem, Graffin was flanked by US armed forces veterans who disproved the notion that there are no atheists in a foxhole. In an entertainment industry where atheists are

more closeted than gays, Graffin has long been blunt about his secularism.

"I don't mind if other people call me an atheist," Graffin says, "but I call myself a naturalist. Atheism doesn't tell you much about what I do believe in; the term naturalist opens up the discussion better. I want to believe that we can live in a rational society, just as our enlightened forefathers hoped, but as you look around you see just as much evidence that our policy decisions are based more on emotions than rationality. The more we can further science education, the more we can move toward rationality."

Graffin believes this

so much that he earned a doctorate degree in zoology while simultaneously leading a successful punk-rock band and now spends every fall semester as a lecturer on evolution at his alma mater, Cornell University.

Gurewitz took another path: He founded and still runs Epitaph Records, one of the most successful businesses to come out of the punk movement. Graffin says he thinks these outside interests have allowed Bad Religion to endure while so many other bands have shattered.

"We're kind of like brothers in the band, because we've known each other since high school," Graffin says. "So

we're like family. But if you think about it, you don't have to live with your family all year long as an adult; you only see them a few times a year. We've all done other things as adults outside the band. It's these sidelines to Bad Religion that makes us more productive when we get back together. They also give us more ideas for songwriting. When you have gatherings as a family, it goes well because you have these other projects to talk about. A lot of bands self-destruct because they feel they have to live in a group house and go through thick and thin together."

The current Bad Religion lineup includes Graffin, Gurewitz, founding bassist Jay Bentley, Circle Jerks guitarist Greg Hetson, drummer Brooks Wackerman and Brian Baker, the legendary Minor Threat guitarist.

Gurewitz has become "the Brian Wilson of the band", according to Graffin, meaning that like the reclusive Beach Boy, Gurewitz writes songs and records for the band but hardly ever tours. Yet the give-and-take between Graffin and Gurewitz has been essential to the band's revival since the 1995-2000 down period when Bad Religion recorded for Atlantic Records and the two partners stopped writing together. Their renewed collaboration has allowed the group to once again explore the paradoxes of our everyday life — even within the favourite expletive of adolescent boys everywhere.

— *The Washington Post*

In Paris exhibition, artists get creative under the influence

By Jorg von Uthmann

PARIS — "The smell of opium," said Pablo Picasso to fellow smoker Jean Cocteau, "is the most intelligent of all odours."

While Picasso never got hooked on the drug, Cocteau had to be treated in a hospital where he wrote a book on his addiction.

"Sous Influences" (Under the Influence), an exhibition at the Maison Rouge in Paris, examines the role of drugs in the arts. Antoine Perpere, the show's curator, is an artist himself who has worked at a Paris detoxification centre.

It's an enormous subject, well beyond the means of a small, private institution. You'll look in vain for Baroque boozing scenes or masterpieces such as Edgar Degas's *Absinthe Drinkers*.

Although alcohol and tobacco are briefly mentioned, the emphasis is on illegal drugs, mostly in connection with contemporary art. Some of the 90 artists who created the 250 works on view are well known. Many others are not.

One of the earliest pieces is an 1853 drawing by French neurologist Jean Martin Charcot, Sigmund Freud's teacher, who experimented with hashish — a nightmarish document not unlike Hieronymus Bosch's apocalyptic visions.

Belgian writer Henri Michaux (1899-1984) used mescaline to widen the doors of perception. His drawings are calmer: Some look like mysterious tissues viewed through a microscope.

The counterculture of the 1960s turned the use of psychedelic drugs based on LSD, which had been discovered in 1943, into a popular pastime.

The show includes colourful posters from that period with bizarre distortions and sinuous lines straight from the arsenal of Art Nouveau.

Although the catalogue does its best to explain the difference between calming psycholeptics (opium, morphine, heroin), stimulating psychoanaleptics (cocaine, crack, amphetamines) and hallucinogens (defined as cannabis and LSD), you could be forgiven for getting lost in the show.

Clarity is not the show's forte, and the wall texts are of no great help. You have to follow your own instinct to discover the highlights.

One of the more remarkable contributions comes from US performance artist Bryan Lewis Saunders. He has produced a series of self-portraits under the influence of various substances including marijuana, valium, cough syrup and bath salts.

Francis Alys, a Belgian who lives in Mexico City, specialises in *paseos*, or strolls, in the tradition of the French *flâneurs*. In one of his walks, titled *Narcotourism*, he took a different drug in the course of seven days and recorded his trips with notes and photographs.

Carsten Holler, a German agricultural scientist and entomologist, is fascinated by poisonous mushrooms. He has produced replicas of the *amanita muscaria*, or fly agaric, that was used by Siberian shamans as an intoxicant.

Some of Holler's mushrooms come in specially adapted aluminium suitcases complete with mirror, solar battery and electric motor.

Mushrooms also appear in Damien Hirst's *The Last Supper*, a tongue-in-cheek series of giant posters based on pharmaceutical labels. The brand names of the drugs have been replaced with trivial foodstuffs such as corned beef, meatballs and yes, mushrooms.

Not every item in the show is so amusing. Shortly after Jean-Michel Basquiat presented his drug-fuelled paintings in Paris, he died of an overdose.

"Sous Influences" runs through May 19. Information: www.lamaisonrouge.org.

— *Bloomberg News*

AIR INDIA

SUMMER HOLIDAY Special Fare 2013

Yangon ↔ New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore ↔ Yangon (Via Kolkata)

US\$ 420+****
(Total Minimum US \$ 577/- & Maximum US \$ 663/-)

Rush to get Promotion Benefits.

For more information contact GSA-Bandoola
75, Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Tel: 951-254758, 245201, 253601, 245327, 253597
Fax: 951-248174 Email: bandoolagroup@gmail.com

Me N Ma Girls to perform at Women in the World Summit in New York

By Lwin Mar Htun

LOCAL girl band Me N Ma Girls will perform live at the 4th Women in the World Summit, which will be held in New York City on April 4 and 5.

During their trip to the United States the five-member band will also record some new songs as part of their 18-month contract with the Los Angeles-based production company Power Music.

The band signed the contract with Power Music CEO Daniel Hubbert in September 2012 but were unable to travel to the US until now because of previous obligations in Myanmar. They departed Yangon on March 29.

Among the songs the band will record in Los Angeles will be "Girl Strong", which they will perform, along with two other songs, at the Women in the World Summit on the evening of April 5.

Me N Ma Girls member Ahmoon told *The Myanmar Times* that Mr Hubbert had been contacted by the organisers of the summit, who wanted the band to perform there.

"Daniel told us we had been invited to perform at the summit, and we all decided we wanted to do it. Daniel has made the arrangements for us to play at the event," she said.

Me N Ma Girls — whose other members are Htike Htike, Cha Cha, Kimmy and Wai Hnin — appeared on the music scene in 2010

under the name Tiger Girls, releasing their debut album *Year of the Tiger* in the same year.

Following a dispute with their original producer, the members changed their name to Me N Ma Girls and released their self-produced album *Mingalaba* at the end of 2011.

"We have started singing more songs with English lyrics, but we also include Myanmar lyrics to let the audience know where we are from," Ahmoon said.

"Daniel has not given us any instructions and he's not using his power as a producer to force us to do anything. We work together and make decisions together according to our aspirations as a band." The contract with Power Music includes recording songs and shooting music videos, which will be distributed around the world.

"During the contract period we can't work with other producers or

associations, and we need to report our activities to Daniel so he can approve them," Ahmoon said.

"Daniel does not expect to make any profit from our contract and he is taking a risk for us. If we find success in the future he will get a



Me N Ma Girls (left to right: Cha Cha, Ahmoon, Wai Hnin, Htike Htike and Kimmy) will perform in New York City on April 5. Pic: Kaung Htet

good name, and if we do not succeed then he's okay with that too. That's why we owe him a lot of thanks."

Mr Hubbert has been working in the music industry since 1992, at companies

Mr Hubbert told *The Myanmar Times* in an email interview in July 2012 that Me N Ma Girls, which he described as a "unique creation", were the first group signed to Power Music.

have success. There are many people who will want to jump on board the train once it starts to roll and sometimes these people prey upon young artists' insecurities in an effort

hardest when it comes to this type of pitfall."

The Women in the World Summit, which will be held at Lincoln Centre, is a fundraising event for the Women in the World Foundation, which promotes solutions that advance women and girls throughout the world.

Among those appearing at the summit will be actress Meryl Streep, television personality Oprah Winfrey, editor and journalist Tina Brown, model and actress Eva Longoria, and many others.

Ahmoon said Me N Ma Girls will return to Myanmar before the start of Thingyan Water Festival on April 13, and they will perform live during the holiday period.

"We have started singing more songs with English lyrics, but we also include Myanmar lyrics to let the audience know where we are from."

such as Columbia Records, Hollywood Records, Epic Records, and Capitol Records. His company, Power Music, produces dance music, fitness music and original background music for film and television, as well as various DVD projects.

He said the band will also have to work hard to avoid the many pitfalls facing bands as they strive for international success.

"The biggest issue is always filtering out all of the noise and opinions that come flooding in once you

to 'get close' and end up inflicting damage and in some cases breaking up groups," he said.

"If the girls can maintain their roots and stay connected in a small tight inner circle, they'll be fine. The first year is always the

Netherlands awards Zaganar

FAMOUS comedian and political activist Zaganar was the recipient on March 27 of the prestigious Prince Claus Award, given by Prince Claus of the Netherlands to honour outstanding achievement in the field of culture and development.

The award was presented to Zaganar by the Netherlands' ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Johannes Andries Boer, during the Mya Ponnamar comedy troupe's 25th anniversary concert at People's Park in Yangon.

The awards are presented annually to 11 individuals or organisations whose cultural actions have a positive impact on the development of their societies.

A spokesperson for Prince Claus told the audience at the concert that Zaganar "inspires and activates

people with his popular humor, his critical political satire, his social activism and his courage being a comedian, artist and film director".

Zaganar told the audience that he was "very happy and thankful to receive this award as a Myanmar and an Asian, because it is a very important international award for traditional artists".

The event at People's park featured the politic satire of the Mya Ponnamar and Thee Lay Thee comedy troupes, as well as traditional dance performances.

Mya Ponnamar formed in 1985. Following a performance at People's Park on March 27, 1988, the leader Zaganar was arrested. Last week's show was the troupe's first performance since then.

— Nuam Bawi

夏宮
SUMMER PALACE

A New Horizon
Exquisite Chinese Cuisine and Regional Specialties
Open Daily for Lunch and Dinner
Your Choice of Six Luxurious Private Dining Rooms

Chinese Sweet Soup Promotion in April

GOURMET ADVENTURE
Yangon

223, Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel : 242828, Fax : 242900, Ext : 6463, 6480 email : kb.thyn@tradershotels.com

Climate change set to rewrite world wine list

By Suzanne Mustachich

BORDEAUX — It's circa 2050 and shoppers are stopping off at Ikea to buy fine wine made in Sweden.

A Nordic fantasy? Not according to climate experts who say the Earth's warming phase is already driving a wave of change through the world of wine.

As new frontiers for grape growing open up, the viability of some traditional production areas is under threat from scorching temperatures and prolonged droughts.

And in between the two extremes, some long-established styles are being transformed. Some whites once renowned for being light and crisp are getting fatter and more floral while medium-bodied reds are morphing into heavyweight bruisers.

"Some people are alarmists, I prefer to be an optimist," said Fernando Zamora, oenology researcher and professor at Rovira i Virgili University in Tarragona, Spain.

"I have no doubt that we will still have vineyards in traditional regions, but we have to think of new strategies. And we will also have new zones for vineyards. That's for sure. Already in Germany they are making fine red wine where it used to be very difficult. And in Denmark, now they've started making wine."

Climatologists working

with the wine industry around the planet predict temperatures will rise by 1 to 2 degrees Celsius from now until 2050, a trend that is expected to be accompanied by an increase in the incidence of extreme weather events.

"Can any region continue to grow the exact same varieties and make the exact same style of wines? If what we know today is correct, that is highly unlikely," said

'Can any region continue to grow the exact same varieties and make the exact same style of wines? If what we know today is correct, that is highly unlikely.'

Gregory Jones, oenology professor at Southern Oregon University.

New vineyard projects in northern Europe will be risky given the increased unpredictability of the weather and the potential for one cold snap to destroy an entire crop.

So it may be that the biggest change will come in the range of wines produced

in areas that, until recently, have struggled to ripen some varieties.

Tasmania, parts of New Zealand, southern Chile, Ontario and other parts of Canada, England and the Mosel and Rhine areas in Germany are among the regions that could benefit.

"You can look anywhere in the world where there are relatively cool climate regions that today are much more suitable than they were 30, 40, 50 years ago, because the climates were too cold then. People couldn't ripen fruit," added Jones.

Like Zamora, Jones forms part of an international committee for the Agriculture and Forestry Climate Change Program (ACCAF) run by France's research institute INRA.

They are tasked with formulating strategies for helping everything from the plant to legislators cope with climate change.

Water stress, temperature change, inopportune downpours and frosts are just a few of the variables that have profound effects on the balance of sugar and acidity, the ripeness of tannins, and the palette of aromas.

"In Alsace [in northeastern France], climate change is already a problem, because it's changing the aromatic profile, the balance of sugar and acidity. If the consumers accept the changes, it's not a problem. If they don't, it is," said Jean-Marc Touzard, a co-coordinator of ACCAF.



Grapes in a vineyard in Spata, in Greece's Nemea Valley. Pic: AFP

Producers of Beaujolais meanwhile see warmer weather improving the quality of their product in a region where winemakers have sometimes had to add sugar to bolster alcohol levels in their quaffable reds.

"In 2003 [when France suffered a severe summer heat wave], our wines tasted more like Cote du Rhone," said Jean Bourjade of the growers group Inter Beaujolais.

"Beaujolais has seen that they can make better wine in a warmer climate, so there is

a benefit. But is there a limit to that benefit? Does it go on forever?" said Jones.

"For 10 years, they'll be happy. Then they'll have problems," predicted Touzard.

But all is far from lost. "In the Languedoc, the growers have already begun adapting — planting at a higher altitude and on different soils," said Touzard.

Another solution is to change the grape varieties legally allowed under Europe's strict appellation laws, sourcing the indigenous

varieties from hot weather climes like Sicily, Greece, Spain and Portugal.

Researchers also say that once these grapes have been genetically decoded, they could be used for plant breeding.

Portugal alone has between 100 to 150 indigenous varieties that we know virtually nothing about, according to Jones.

"Some of the more southern, really warm places that have genetic material could be a real hotbed for dealing with heat tolerance in the future," said Jones. — AFP

Real-life romance for Cannes festival poster

PARIS — A 50-year-old photo of Hollywood love match Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward locked in a tender embrace will grace the poster of the Cannes Film Festival this year, organisers said last month.

The remastered black-and-white shot shows the couple lying in the foetal position in a yin and yang pattern, their bodies stretched out in opposite directions but their heads meeting in the middle, and kissing.

"To grace the poster for its 66th edition, the Festival de Cannes has chosen a couple who embody the spirit of cinema like no other: Joanne Woodward and Paul Newman," organisers said in a statement.

The photograph was taken during the shooting of the 1963 Melville Shavelson film *A New Kind of Love* in which the couple played the romantic leads.

"For the festival it is a chance both to pay tribute to the memory of Paul Newman, who passed away in 2008, and to mark the undying admiration for Joanne Woodward, his wife



and most favoured co-star," organisers said.

The couple was honoured in Cannes in 1958, the year of their marriage, when their first joint film *The Long Hot Summer* was selected for competition.

As a director, Newman cast his wife in *The Effect of the Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds* and *The Glass Menagerie* — both of which were selected for the festival in 1973 and 1987.

"The poster evokes a luminous and tender image of the modern couple, intertwined in perfect balance at the heart of the dizzying whirlwind that is love," said the statement.

"The vision of these two lovers caught in a vertiginous embrace, oblivious to the world around them, invites us to experience cinema with all the passion of an everlasting desire."

Cannes, one of the world's top film festivals, opens on May 15 and will climax on May 26 with awards selected by a jury headed this year by Hollywood legend Steven Spielberg. — AFP

High-tech kabuki theatre opens doors

TOKYO — The curtain is about to go up at a new theatre dedicated to Japan's centuries-old kabuki-za performing art, sited in a high-tech venue in a 29-storey Tokyo office building.

The theatre in the upscale Ginza shopping district, which will open to the public early this month, will let audiences use portable monitors to read subtitles to explain the sometimes difficult-to-understand art form.

The service will be available only in Japanese at first. But theatre managers hope to include foreign language services, starting with English, over the coming months, a spokesman told visiting journalists last week.

Another feature is the pit below the stage, which is now 16.45 metres (54 feet) deep — nearly four times what it was. The pit allows for props, actors and

scenery to emerge from the bowels of the building.

Despite the high-tech fixes, the theatre retains many elements of the original interior as well as the facade, which evokes medieval Japanese castles and temples with its curved roofs and red paper lanterns.

In the 400-year-old stylised performing art, all-male casts perform in extravagant costumes and mask-like facial makeup.

The new four-storey playhouse, with an 1800-seat capacity, is the fifth version of the theatre, whose history dates back to 1889.

The previous building, erected in 1951 to replace one heavily damaged in World War II, was demolished in 2010 due to worries over its ability to withstand earthquakes. The theatre is now housed in a 143-metre (470-foot) skyscraper, the tallest building in the area. — AFP

We have the largest classified listings in Myanmar.



In our print editions

THE MYANMARTIMES မြန်မာတိုင်း(စ်)
MYANMARTIMES

And now online at

www.mmtimes.com/classifieds

Post a classified ad for free now!

YANGON: 01-392928 , 01-253642 | MANDALAY: 02-24450-60 , 02-65391-2 | NAYPYITAW: 067-23064 , 067-23065

Notice to all Advertisers & Subscribers



THE MYANMARTIMES

မြန်မာတိုင်း(မ်)

The Myanmar Times is produced weekly in both languages by MCM Ltd. The publications produced by the group comprise The Myanmar Times(English), The Myanmar Times(Myanmar) NOW! Magazine & The Crime Journal /Wheels. We ask our advertisers and subscribers to note our group is not associated or owns any other journal, magazine or newspaper. You will see our entities below. Remember, when you need to hit the decision makers and spenders in Myanmar no one does it more comprehensively than The Myanmar Times, for almost 13 years now. Call us now for all your advertising requirements.

The Myanmar Times အင်္ဂလိပ်-မြန်မာ နှစ်ဘာသာဖြင့် မြန်မာ့ကွန်ဆိုလီဒိတ်တက်မီဒီယာ (MCM) ကုမ္ပဏီမှ စိုက်နှိပ် ထုတ်ဝေ လျက်ရှိသည်။ MCM မှ ထုတ်ဝေသော စာစောင်များမှာ The Myanmar Times (English)၊ မြန်မာတိုင်း(မ်) NOW! Magazine နှင့် The Crime Journal / Wheels တို့ဖြစ်သည်။ ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ MCM Ltd သည် အထက်ပါ စာစောင်(၄)ခုမှတစ်ပါး အခြားမည်သည့်ကုန်ပစ္စည်း၊ မဂ္ဂဇင်း၊ သတင်းစာကိုမျှ ပိုင်ဆိုင်ခြင်းလည်းမရှိ၊ သက်ဆိုင်ပတ်သက်ခြင်းလည်း မရှိကြောင်း ကျွန်ုပ် တို့၏ကြော်ငြာခွင့်များနှင့် လပေးကြည့်ရှုသူများအား သိစေအပ်ပါသည်။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် သင်တို့ကုမ္ပဏီထုတ်ကုန်နှင့် ဝန်ဆောင်မှုလုပ်ငန်းစသည် သတင်းစကားများကို အဆုံးအဖြတ်ပေးနိုင်သူများနှင့် ငွေကြေးသုံးစွဲ သူများထံ ကြားသိစေလိုလျှင် မြန်မာတိုင်း(မ်)ထက် ပိုမိုထိရောက်သော မီဒီယာမရှိနိုင်ကြောင်း (၁၃) နှစ်ကြာ သက်သေထုခဲ့ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ သင်၏ကြော်ငြာအတွက် လိုအပ်ချက်ကို စောကပ်ပါဖုန်းနံပါတ်များသို့ ဆက်သွယ်လိုက်ပါ။

Yangon: 392 676, 392 928, 253 642
Mandalay: 02-24450-60, 02-65391-2
Nay Pyi Taw: 067-23064 067-23065

- NOW! Magazine
- The Crime Journal and Wheels
- MCM Book Publishing

- Times Online
- MCM Commercial Printing

There is only one Myanmar Times

Established in 2000

Phyo's Cooking Adventure

Phyo cuts through culture to reveal life's true taste

A little bit of Inle Lake in your saucepan

I'M a big fan of all types of Shan food, and among my favourites is Inle-style Shan tamin, consisting of rice and potato cakes mixed with fish and tomato salsa.

By wrapping the rice packs in banana leaves and heating them, you can infuse the rice with the aroma of the leaves. The texture of the fluffy fish will melt between the spicy and tangy tomato salsa, further enhancing the flavours.



Pic: Phyo

Place the rice on a plate and sprinkle the fish and tomato salsa on the top. Garnish with fresh chive roots (*juu myit*), coriander and fried red chilies.

Serve with fried Shan tofu, pickled tofu (*si tofu*), spicy soybeans chips, roasted peanuts and mixed pickled vegetables (*sone tha nat*).

Spicy soybean chips INGREDIENTS

1-1½ bunches of chive roots (*juu myit*)
2 packets dried soybean chips (*pae poke pyar*)
4 tablespoons of dried crushed red chili (optional)
1-1½ cup of roasted peanuts
¾ or 1 cup of vegetable oil for frying

PREPARATION

Separate the garlic chive roots from the plant, wash them well and drain. Heat ¾ cup of oil in a wok over medium heat, and deep-fry the chives. When they turn golden brown, scoop the chives out of the oil and place them on kitchen paper.

You can add a bit more oil if required. When all the roots are fried, allow them and the oil to cool.

Set aside most of the oil (you can save it for making the Shan tamin), but leave 3 tablespoons in the wok. Heat the wok again and fry the dry soybean chips, one or two at a time for 1-2 minutes each or until they turn golden brown.

They need to be crunchy, so place them on kitchen paper to remove excess oil. When they are cool, break them into small pieces.

Add the dried crushed chili into the oil and fry for 2 minutes, then add the peanuts and fry for another 2 minutes. Add the garlic chives and fried soybean chips into the wok and toss well.

Allow to cool completely and store in a jar. The spicy soybean chips go great with beer.

Main Tips

Basmati rice is not recommended for this recipe. You can use the leftover oil from frying the chive roots and dried soybean chips when you are mashing up the rice and potatoes.

QUAFFING QUOTE

"Good food and good eating are about risk."
— Anthony Bourdain
(American chef, author and television personality)

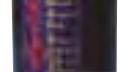
NEXT WEEK

Myanmar-Australian fusion dips and paté for drinks

Red Wine

Aythaya Reserve Shiraz Cabernet

Sauvignon 2012
From the hills of Shan State, this tepid New World blend of complex cabernet sauvignon and rich shiraz varietals fails to fully engage or excite the palate.



Ks 9,400

Score BOX

6/10

White Wine

Aythaya Sauvignon Blanc 2012

This late-harvest white boasts sweet tropical fruit flavours with a lingering, pleasant finish. Matches with sweet and sour Asian dishes, pasta, mutton, chicken and seafood.



Ks 13,800

Score BOX

7/10

Inle-style Shan tamin INGREDIENTS

(6 servings)
2 cups of Shan rice
8 big ripe tomatoes
4 big potatoes
300-400g of carp fish (*nga gyin*)
2 plants of Shan coriander
2 spring onions
¼ cup of chopped coriander
5-6 small green chilies
12-14 cloves of garlic (crush two; slice the rest evenly)
½ teaspoon of turmeric powder
½ teaspoon of paprika
1¼ cup of vegetable oil for garlic oil
1½ tablespoons of fish sauce

PREPARATION

Cook the rice in a rice cooker or by using the evaporation method. I suggest adding ¼ cup of extra water to make the rice a bit mushy. When cooked, transfer the rice into a big bowl and allow to cool.

Marinate the fish with ¼ teaspoon of salt, ¼ teaspoon of turmeric powder and 1 teaspoon of fish sauce.

Wash and boil the potatoes until they are cooked through. Cool them, peel the skins and set aside.

Make the garlic oil (*si chet*) by heating 1 cup of oil in a wok over medium heat. Reduce the heat to

low, add ¼ teaspoon of turmeric powder and ½ teaspoon of paprika. Stir until the aroma is released. Add the garlic slices and fry until they turn golden brown. Separate the garlic from the oil and allow both to completely cool, then mix them together again.

Pour ¼ cup of garlic oil into a big metal bowl; add ½ of the rice, ½ of the potatoes and another teaspoon of garlic oil; and mash them together. You can use your hands or potatoes masher.

When all the ingredients are well-mixed, add another ½ of the rice and potatoes and mix again, and repeat the process until everything is mashed together. Salt to taste. The ingredients should be well-combined and sticky.

Lay out 2 banana leaves as a cross (at least 20cm by 16cm) and brush *si chet* on them. Take a handful of the rice and potato mixture, form it into a ball and place it into the middle of the banana leaves.

Fold the edges of the banana leaves into the middle and wrap

them as a parcel, securing it with toothpicks on the top. You should get about eight parcels. (For detailed instructions on making the parcels, visit the "Phyo's Cooking Adventure" page on Facebook.)

Cook the fish in a saucepan with 1 cup of water, Shan coriander and a couple of spring onions. When cooked through, allow to cool, remove the bones and mash the fish. Discard the coriander, fish skin, spring onions and bones. Set the fish aside.

Add ¼ cup of vegetable oil into a frying pan, and fry the fish with the crushed garlic. Break up the fish with a wooden spoon and stir well. It should be soft, fluffy and moist.

Boil the tomatoes, removing the skin and finely dicing them. Cook the tomatoes in a saucepan — along with 1 tablespoon of fish sauce, chopped coriander and green chilies — until the liquid evaporates.

Heat the banana-leaf rice parcels over medium-to-low heat. Don't burn the banana leaves, but allow them to change into a darker colour so their aroma seeps into the rice.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

New kid on Strand whips up a mean Negroni

THE lawyers, accountants and venture capitalists are descending on Myanmar en masse as one of the last economic frontiers in Asia opens its doors for business, but already the long-ignored city is showing a disconcerting lack of accommodation, office space and quality eateries.

Oh sure, you can find good-quality food at place like Monsoon Restaurant, Traders and Zawgyi's Café, and you can get a pub meal at 50th Street or Strand Hotel, but how many weeks until those all feel a little passé?

Into the breach steps Union Bar and Grill, which held a soft opening at its premises on Strand Road last week. Keen observers might recognise the address — 42 Strand Road — as being the location previously occupied by Green Mango but the interior has been completely overhauled.

At the centre of the space is a well-stocked bar capable of turning out a wide range of cocktails, with high bar chairs surrounding the outer edge. The front section of the bar is for seated dining, while leather-upholstered booths occupy one edge. Out back are more tables and there's a raised platform at the far end filled with low tables and chairs. While there's a powerful sound system in



evidence at the bar, the volume was pleasantly low, a rarity in Yangon's bars.

The drinks menu has an extensive wine list but it was the cocktails that caught my eye — particularly the Negroni, which is a delicious and heavy mix of gin, Campari and grapefruit juice. But be careful — there's more booze in there than your tongue will tell you. However, K2000 for a glass of Myanmar seems pricey to my eye.

On my visit I had just battled through four blocks of gridlock and knew I'd be walking back to my office and did not want a food coma, so I ordered the salmon tartare and beetroot salads, both based on recommendations of friends. Both were impressive. The tartare was a mix of salmon chunks, tomato, onion and avocado with two fried seaweed sheets to provide texture and crunch to the tasty dish. But while it's hard to get any dish involving salmon

and avocado wrong, it was the beetroot salad that really caught my attention — in the six years I've lived in Myanmar I don't recall having eaten fresh beetroot. With a salad of rocket and pomelo, and dressed with olive oil, it was superb.

I'm reliably informed that the burgers are brilliant and they are already on my to-do list next time I visit. I couldn't help but think that nearby 50th Street is finally facing competition.

Union Bar and Grill

42 Strand Road, Botahtaung township, Yangon

Food:	9
Drink:	9
Service:	7
Atmosphere:	8
X Factor:	9
Value for Money:	7

Score BOX

8/10

Tin Moe Lwin @ More & More Gold and Jewellery Shop Opening

Mr Subhasish Goswami @ Flamingo Product Launch

Mr George Tsementzis, Ma Ma Naing, Ko Thant Zaw Win and Ma Phyo May Win @ Traders Hotel 16th Staff Party

Zaw Win Htut @ Michael Learns to Rock Press Conference

U Kyaw Min Lwin, U Tun Naing and U Phyo Min Soe @ Myanmar Pidauk Showroom Opening

Hair designer Chan Lon and model @ Bangkok International Hair Show

Ma Thiri @ Kanebo Summer Product Launch

Ko Ye Naing Moe and Ko Kyaw Soe Moe @ Flamingo Product Launch

Hair designer Pisi @ Bangkok International Hair Show

Ma May Hlaing Nwe and Daw Myint Myint Oo @ Zar & Diamonds Shop 1st Anniversary

Dr Thura Kyaw Lin, Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein and officials @ Michael Learns to Rock Press Conference

Ma Lwin Lwin Thae Oo @ Zar & Diamonds Shop 1st Anniversary

Model @ Kanebo Summer Product Launch

Yamin Thein, Theinge Cho Swe and Thet Mar Soe @ Zar & Diamonds Shop 1st Anniversary

Mr Phillip Couvaras @ Traders Hotel 16th Staff Party

Mr Steve Mo and Mr Zhang Zhuo @ Chigo Aircon New Product Launch

Daw San San Htay @ More & More Gold and Jewellery Shop Opening

U Aung Zaw Oo, U Than Soe and U Nay Myo Aung @ Chigo Aircon New Product Launch

U Tin Tun Aung and U Kyaw Swar Myint @ Chigo Aircon New Product Launch

Ma May Zin Oo and Ma Myo Pa Pa Win @ Flamingo Product Launch

Khin Phone @ Traders Hotel 16th Staff Party

Staff members @ Myanmar Pidauk Showroom Opening

Phway Phway @ More & More Gold and Jewellery Shop Opening

Cassy @ Kanebo Summer Product Launch

Victoria Hospital is proud to announce the opening of our Ear, Nose, Throat and Head & Neck Surgery Center



Victoria Hospital

Beginning in April 7th 2013 Victoria Hospital will offer a broad range of diagnostic and therapeutic services in ENT and Head/Neck surgery all at a single location. A combination of local and international specialist surgeons will offer the highest level of care available in Myanmar.

Services and facilities include:

- ✓ Cochlear Implants
- ✓ Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery
- ✓ Sound Bridge Implants
- ✓ Head and Neck Tumor Surgery
- ✓ Sleep Apnea Evaluation and Coblation
- ✓ Vestibular Laboratory for Vertigo Evaluation
- ✓ Speech Therapy
- ✓ Audiometry, Otoacoustic Emission evaluation, and Tympanography

Please contact us with enquiries:

No.(66), Tawwin Street, 9 Mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: 01- 9666 141 Fax: 01- 9666 135 Email: info@witoriyahospital.com

SOCIALITE
WITH NYEIN EI EI HTWE



THE arrival of the hot season couldn't make Socialite hide in her office. She launched another week of stimulating events at the Traders Hotel staff party in the hotel ballroom on March 20. The following day she dropped by Western Park for the electrifying opening ceremony of the Fumiya electronics showroom, and on March 22 she made an appearance at Kanebo's summer cosmetics launch at Junction Square. The next day was S-A-T-U-R-D-A-Y and as usual it was filled with exciting events for Socialite to attend, including the More & More Gold and Jewellery opening at Lanmadaw Plaza. After that she popped up at the Myanmar Padauk showroom opening in Hlaing township, as well as the Flamingo Healthcare new product launch at Corriander Leaf Restaurant. On March 24 Socialite attended the Zar & Diamonds 1st anniversary event on Inya Road, and she was finally able to cool down at the Chigo aircon new product launch at Kandawgyi Palace hotel.



Ma Myo Myo Khine and friends @ Myanmar Padauk Showroom Opening



Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein @ Traders Hotel 16th Staff Party



White ribbon cutting @ Fumiya Electronics Shop Opening



Ma Hnin War Lin @ More & More Gold and Jewellery Shop Opening



Kar Kar @ Kanebo Summer Product Launch



Ma Mee Mee @ Aquos Cosmetics Thank You Party



U Thein Lin @ More & More Gold and Jewellery Shop Opening



Ko Soe Min Naing and Ma Zar Zar Thae Oo @ Zar & Diamonds Shop 1st Anniversary



Lin Lin, Chuu Kay Khine, Nan Shwe Wah and Aye San @ Aquos Cosmetics Thank You Party



Chan Chan @ Aquos Cosmetics Thank You Party



Ar-T @ Aquos Cosmetics Thank You Party

Free from Stress, Leads to Success

ENERVON-C

Everyday ENERVON-C

UNITED PHARMA

ENERVON STRESS

A NEW STANDARD IN MYANMAR AIR TRAVEL



DOMESTIC FLIGHT SCHEDULES

Days	Flight	Dep	Arr	Days	Flight	Dep	Arr	Days	Flight	Dep	Arr	Days	Flight	Dep	Arr	Days	Flight	Dep	Arr				
YANGON TO NAY PYI TAW				SAT				YANGON TO NYAUNG U				FRI				SAT				WED			
MON	UB-A1	07:45	08:45	YJ 891	06:10	08:15	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YJ 891	07:45	10:25	YJ 891	06:10	09:00	WED	6T 607	10:15	11:40				
	UB-B1	11:30	12:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	6T 401	06:20	08:25	YH 918	07:45	10:25	YH 917	06:10	09:15	THRU	6T 611	11:30	12:55				
	UB-C1	16:00	17:00	6T 401	06:20	08:25	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 401	07:55	10:45	6T 401	06:20	09:20	SAT	6T 607	11:15	12:40				
TUE	UB-A1	07:45	08:45	YH 909	06:30	08:10	K7 222	06:30	08:40	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YJ 911	07:00	08:10	SUN	K7 422	06:45	08:40				
	UB-B1	11:30	12:30	K7 222	06:30	08:40	Y5 131	06:45	08:10	6T 403	06:45	08:05	6T 451	10:45	13:00	6T 611	11:30	12:55					
	UB-C1	16:00	17:00	YJ 001	08:00	08:55	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YJ 761	11:00	12:10								
WED	UB-A1	07:45	08:45	Y5 131	08:00	09:00	6T 403	06:45	08:05	YH 918	07:45	10:25	6T 451	10:45	13:00								
	UB-B1	11:30	12:30	YJ 601/W97601	11:00	12:25	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 918	07:45	10:25	YJ 761	11:00	12:10								
	UB-C1	16:00	17:00	YH 729	11:00	12:55	K7 222	06:30	07:50	YH 732	17:55	19:15	K7 826	12:30	13:45								
THUR	UB-A1	07:45	08:45	6T 501	15:00	17:00	W9 143	07:00	08:20	6T 502	17:15	18:35	K7 224	14:15	15:30								
	UB-B1	11:30	12:30	YH 731	15:00	17:10	W9 109	14:00	16:40	YH 732	17:55	19:15	6T 501	15:00	16:10								
	UB-C1	16:00	17:00					YH 731	15:00	17:55	YH 731	15:00	16:25	YH 731	15:00	16:25							
FRI	UB-A1	07:45	08:45																				
	UB-B1	11:30	12:30																				
	UB-C1	16:00	17:00																				
SAT	UB-A1	08:00	09:00																				
SUN	UB-A1	15:30	16:30																				
NAY PYI TAW TO YANGON				MANDALAY TO YANGON				YANGON TO NYAUNG U				YANGON TO MYITTHINA				YANGON TO HENDO				YANGON TO THANDWE			
MON	UB-A2	09:15	10:15	MON	YH 910	08:10	10:15	MON	W9 503	11:00	13:55	MON	W9 503	11:00	13:55	MON	YJ 911	06:00	08:15				
	UB-B2	13:00	14:00	YJ 892	08:30	10:25	6T 401	06:20	07:40	K7 622	12:00	14:55	K7 622	12:00	14:55	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	UB-C2	17:30	18:30	6T 402	08:45	10:45	6T 401	06:20	07:40	W9 251	11:30	14:25	W9 251	11:30	14:25	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917				
TUE	UB-A2	09:15	10:15	K7 223	09:00	11:05	6T 402	06:20	07:40	K7 622	12:00	14:55	K7 622	12:00	14:55	YH 918	06:10	07:45	YH 918				
	UB-B2	13:00	14:00	W9 502	09:10	11:05	YH 909	06:30	07:50	W9 251	11:30	14:25	W9 251	11:30	14:25	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917				
	UB-C2	17:30	18:30	Y5 132	09:30	10:30	YH 909	06:30	07:50	K7 622	12:00	14:55	K7 622	12:00	14:55	YH 918	06:10	07:45	YH 918				
THUR	UB-A2	09:15	10:15	YJ 002	11:00	11:55	W9 143	06:45	08:05	W9 109	14:00	16:40	W9 109	14:00	16:40	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917				
	UB-B2	13:00	14:00	W9 504	15:45	17:10	6T 403	06:45	08:05	6T 501	14:00	16:55	6T 501	14:00	16:55	YH 918	06:10	07:45	YH 918				
	UB-C2	17:30	18:30	YH 728	16:45	18:10	YJ 141/W97141	06:45	08:05	YH 731	15:00	17:55	YH 731	15:00	17:55	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917				
FRI	UB-A2	09:15	10:15	6T 502	16:25	18:35	6T 501	14:30	17:20	W9 252	17:05	20:00	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	07:45	YH 918				
	UB-B2	13:00	14:00	YH 729	16:45	18:10	YH 731	15:00	17:55	W9 252	17:05	20:00	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917				
	UB-C2	17:30	18:30	YH 732	17:10	19:15	W9 129	15:30	18:10	W9 252	17:05	20:00	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	07:45	YH 918				
SAT	UB-A2	10:00	11:00	YH 732	17:10	19:15	W9 129	15:30	18:10	W9 252	17:05	20:00	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	07:45	YH 917				
SUN	UB-A2	17:00	18:00	YH 732	17:10	19:15	W9 129	15:30	18:10	W9 252	17:05	20:00	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	07:45	YH 918				
YANGON TO MANDALAY				YANGON TO NYAUNG U				YANGON TO MYITTHINA				YANGON TO HENDO				YANGON TO THANDWE							
MON	W9 501	06:00	07:25	MON	YH 910	08:10	10:15	MON	W9 504	14:15	17:10	MON	YJ 911	06:00	08:15	MON	YJ 911	06:00	08:15				
	YJ 891	06:10	08:15	YH 918	08:30	10:25	6T 401	06:20	07:40	K7 623	15:10	18:05	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	6T 401	06:20	08:25	6T 402	08:45	10:45	6T 401	06:20	07:40	W9 251	11:30	14:25	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	08:45	10:45	6T 402	06:20	07:40	K7 623	15:10	18:05	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	K7 222	06:30	08:40	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	YJ 001	08:00	08:55	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	Y5 131	08:00	09:00	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	YH 761	11:00	12:55	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	YH 727	11:15	13:25	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	W9 119	11:45	13:40	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	K7 622	12:00	13:25	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	W9 109	14:00	15:55	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	6T 501	14:00	16:05	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	YH 731	15:00	17:10	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
TUE	W9 141	06:00	07:25	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	YJ 891	06:10	08:15	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	6T 401	06:20	08:25	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	YH 909	06:30	08:10	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	K7 222	06:30	08:40	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	6T 331	06:45	08:10	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	W9 143	06:45	08:50	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	8M 6603	09:00	10:10	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918	06:10	08:30	YH 918				
	YJ 761	11:00	12:55	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917	06:10	08:30	YH 917				
	YH 729	11:15	14:15	YH 909	06:30	08:10	6T 403	06:20	07:40	W9 252	17:05	20:00	YH 918	06:1									



'The Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah Travels on an Elephant' (c 1750) is an Indian gouache painting on view at the Institut du Monde Arabe. Pic: Institut du Monde Arabe

Of magic carpets and bedtime stories

By Jorg von Uthmann

PARIS – Baghdad and Damascus are not exactly considered dream travel destinations.

Yet, once upon a time, those two cities were among the most attractive and glamorous in the world.

The show "Les Mille et Une Nuits" (One Thousand and One Nights) at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris uses the collection of the famous fairy tales to explore that lost era.

Alongside illuminated manuscripts of the tales also known as *The Arabian Nights*, the exhibition displays ancient maps, carpets, ceramics, jewellery and other objects that conjure up the ancient world of oriental splendour.

On sofas, you can listen on headphones to some of the tales – just as Shahriar, the emperor of Persia and India, had listened to Shahrazad, or Scheherazade, his beautiful and clever bride.

Disappointed by women, he had sworn to spend just one night with each new wife and have her executed the next morning.

Yet Shahrazad's tale was so thrilling that he stayed her execution by one day so that he could learn the end of the story. Shahrazad

knew a thing or two about cliff-hangers, and kept him in suspense for 1001 nights until he gave up and married her for good.

For the non-expert, the biggest surprise of the show is that the book, though based on oriental sources, is to a large extent a European creation. The first edition (12 volumes, 1704-1717) was published by the French orientalist Antoine Galland. He translated a Syrian 15th century manuscript, then added other stories a Syrian traveller had told him – including some of the most popular such as "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" and "Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves".

There are many parallels with European literature. Tales embedded in a frame story can be found in Boccaccio's *Decameron* and Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. The adventures of Sindbad the Sailor are similar to those of Ulysses as related by Homer.

No wonder the *Nights* had a lasting influence on European literature, fine arts and music. The show includes amusing canvases by academic painters who catered to a bourgeoisie keen on oriental soft porn.

In 1985 an overzealous

prosecutor in Cairo tried to have the book banned as immoral and an insult to Islam.

Costume designs and photographs remind us that *Scheherazade*, with music by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, was one of the triumphs of Sergei Diaghilev's Ballets Russes.

Hollywood, of course, couldn't resist cannibalising the juicy stories. Dominican Republic-born beauty Maria Montez (in *Arabian Nights*), Marlene Dietrich (in *Kismet*) and others do their best to look exotic.

The most beautiful items, however, come from the Orient. Persian miniatures, Egyptian swords, Syrian panels, Afghan oil lamps and Mughal paintings evoke a universe of high culture and exquisite taste utterly different from contemporary life in those countries.

One of the show's Arabian Nights heroes is the caliph Harun al-Rashid (766-809) under whose reign Baghdad reached its zenith. Legend has it that he acted as a one-man polling institute: On sleepless nights he wandered through the city in disguise and asked people what they thought of their ruler.

"Les Mille et Une Nuits" runs through April 28. Information: www.imarabe.org. – *Bloomberg News*

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SCHEDULES

DAYS	Flight	Dep	Arr	DAYS	Flight	Dep	Arr	DAYS	Flight	Dep	Arr	DAYS	Flight	Dep	Arr
YANGON TO BANGKOK				YANGON TO BEIJING				BANGKOK TO YANGON				TUE			
MON	PG 706	07:15	09:30	TUE	CA 906	14:15	21:55	MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	TUE	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
MON	8M 333	08:20	10:05	WED	CA 906	14:15	21:55	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
MON	8M 335	08:40	10:25	THUR	CA 906	14:15	21:55	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
MON	TG 304	09:50	11:45	SAT	CA 906	14:15	21:55	MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
MON	PG 702	10:45	12:40	SUN	CA 906	14:15	21:55	MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
MON	TG 302	14:45	16:40	YANGON TO FRANKFURT				MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
MON	8M 331	16:30	18:15	WED	DE 2369	05:35	16:40	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
MON	PG 704	18:45	20:40	YANGON TO GAUNGZHOU				MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
MON	TG 306	19:40	21:35	MON	CZ 3056	17:40	22:15	MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
TUE	PG 706	07:15	09:30	TUE	8M 711	08:40	13:15	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
TUE	8M 333	08:20	10:05	WED	CZ 3056	11:20	15:50	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
TUE	8M 335	08:40	10:25	THUR	8M 711	08:40	13:15	MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
TUE	TG 304	09:50	11:45	WED	CZ 3056	17:40	22:15	MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
TUE	PG 702	10:45	12:40	FRI	CZ 3056	17:40	22:15	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
TUE	TG 302	14:45	16:40	SAT	CZ 3056	11:20	15:50	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
TUE	8M 331	16:30	18:15	SUN	8M 711	08:40	13:15	MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
TUE	PG 704	18:45	20:40	YANGON TO TAIPEI				MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
TUE	TG 306	19:40	21:35	MON	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
WED	PG 706	07:15	09:30	TUE	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
WED	8M 333	08:20	10:05	WED	BR 288	11:35	17:20	MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
WED	8M 335	08:40	10:25	THUR	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
WED	TG 304	09:50	11:45	FRI	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
WED	PG 702	10:45	12:40	SAT	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
WED	TG 302	14:45	16:40	SUN	BR 288	11:35	17:20	MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
WED	8M 331	16:30	18:15	THUR	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
WED	PG 704	18:45	20:40	FRI	BR 288	11:35	17:20	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
WED	TG 306	19:40	21:35	SAT	CI 7916	10:50	16:10	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
THUR	PG 706	07:15	09:30	SUN	BR 288	11:35	17:20	MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
THUR	8M 333	08:20	10:05	YANGON TO KUNMING				MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
THUR	8M 335	08:40	10:25	MON	MU 2032	14:40	18:00	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
THUR	TG 304	09:50	11:45	TUE	CA 906	14:15	17:35	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
THUR	PG 702	10:45	12:40	WED	MU 2032	14:40	18:00	MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
THUR	TG 302	14:45	16:40	THUR	CA 906	14:15	17:35	MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
THUR	8M 331	16:30	18:15	FRI	MU 2032	14:40	18:00	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
THUR	PG 704	18:45	20:40	SAT	CA 906	14:15	17:35	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
THUR	TG 306	19:40	21:35	SUN	CA 906	14:15	17:35	MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
FRI	PG 706	07:15	09:30	YANGON TO KOLKATA				MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
FRI	8M 333	08:20	10:05	MON	AI 234	13:40	16:55	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
FRI	8M 335	08:40	10:25	TUE	AI 234	13:40	16:55	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
FRI	TG 304	09:50	11:45	WED	AI 228	18:45	19:45	MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
FRI	PG 702	10:45	12:40	YANGON TO CHIANG MAI				MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
FRI	TG 302	14:45	16:40	THUR	W9 9607	14:20	16:10	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
FRI	8M 331	16:30	18:15	THUR	W9 9607	14:20	16:10	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
FRI	PG 704	18:45	20:40	YANGON TO HANOI				MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
FRI	TG 306	19:40	21:35	MON	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
SAT	PG 706	07:15	09:30	TUE	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
SAT	8M 333	08:20	10:05	WED	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
SAT	8M 335	08:40	10:25	THUR	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
SAT	TG 304	09:50	11:45	FRI	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
SAT	PG 702	10:45	12:40	SAT	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
SAT	TG 302	14:45	16:40	SUN	VN 956	19:10	21:30	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
SAT	8M 331	16:30	18:15	YANGON TO HO CHI MINH CITY				MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
SAT	PG 704	18:45	20:40	MON	VN 942	14:25	17:10	MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
SAT	TG 306	19:40	21:35	TUE	VN 942	14:25	17:10	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
SUN	PG 706	07:15	09:30	THUR	VN 942	14:25	17:10	MON	8M 332	19:15	20:00	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
SUN	8M 333	08:20	10:05	SUN	VN 942	14:25	17:10	MON	PG 705	20:15	21:30	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
SUN	8M 335	08:40	10:25	YANGON TO SINGAPORE				MON	TG 303	08:00	08:45	MON	AK 1420	15:40	16:45
SUN	TG 304	09:50	11:45	MON	8M 601	07:00	08:20	MON	PG 701	09:05	09:55	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
SUN	PG 702	10:45	12:40	TUE	8M 601	07:00	08:20	MON	8M 334	11:30	12:15	MON	AK 1424	06:55	08:00
SUN	TG 302	14:45	16:40	WED	8M 601	07:00	08:20	MON	TG 301	13:00	13:45	MON	MH 740	10:05	11:15
SUN	8M 331	16:30	18:15	THUR	8M 601	07:00	08:20	MON	PG 703	17:05	17:55	MON	8M 502	12:50	13:50
SUN	PG 704	18:45	20:40	FRI	AI 234	13:40	15:00	MON	TG 305	17:55	18:40				

'Burmese Butterfly' to screen in Seoul

By Zon Pann Pwint

IN 2009 local filmmaker Ma Hnin Ei Hlaing released a 12-minute documentary titled *Burmese Butterfly*, in which a gay hairdresser in Yangon looks back on his difficult childhood and adolescence.

The film was aimed at shining a spotlight on the difficulties faced by gay men living in Myanmar society, and since its release it has been shown in 14 countries.

Its next stop is the 15th International Women's Film Festival, which is being held in Seoul, South Korea, from May 24 to 30.

Ma Hnin Ei Hlaing said she was inspired to make the film after reading the novel *Smile as They Bow* by Nu Nu Yi (Innwa), a story about a gay love triangle set at the annual Taungbyone nat (spirit) festival in upper Myanmar.

"The life of the main character in Nu Nu Yi's novel was of interest to me, and at that time the media was still strictly censored so no serious documentaries had been made about the gay community in Myanmar," she said.



A still image from the documentary "Burmese Butterfly". Pic: Supplied

In 2009 Ma Hnin Ei Hlai came across the Miss Red Ribbon gay show in Yangon, and shortly afterward chanced upon a beauty salon where she met the person who would become the protagonist of *Burmese Butterfly*.

"I stumbled upon him at the beauty salon where he

worked as a hairdresser. I was attracted to his manner, but at that time it didn't occur to me to make a documentary about him," she said.

Three months later Ma Hnin Ei Hlai chanced upon another gay show in Yangon, and these coincidences propelled her towards

making a documentary about gay men.

"I went back to the beauty salon to see him again. I explained that I was interested in the lives of gay men, and one day he took me to a venue in Theingyi Market where his gay friends gathered each night at 10pm," she said.

"His friends includes make-up artists, hairdressers and dress designers, and I sat there speaking to all of them."

She started visiting the group twice a week and having conversations in order to build trust. *Burmese Butterfly* focuses on the people she met first, whom she described as just the tip of the iceberg of Yangon's gay community.

"They have their own community, and they live within it. The trouble is that others can't accept their community," Ma Hnin Ei Hlai said, adding that many people in Myanmar view gay people with "contempt".

"Every gay person encounters desperate straits in their childhood and adolescence. Whenever I listened to them, all they talked about was how difficult their childhoods were, and my protagonist did too," she said. "He said it was nature's way of telling him to behave and feel like a woman. He couldn't fight against it."

Ma Hnin Ei Hlai said the gay people she talked to spoke of being rebuked by their siblings, parents and relatives when they were

young, and how the taunts did not stop until they got a well-paying job or made a "notable contribution" to society or their families.

"They have a sad childhood and adolescence because they come into conflict with their families over their manners, which are considered odd," she said.

She said her protagonist's friends said it was rare to find gay men in Yangon who were open about their sexuality because of strict social boundaries.

"These boundaries lie at the very root of their inability to express their own reality, so the gay issue become more and more covert," she said.

Ma Hnin Ei Hlai said that in the film, her protagonist says he is content with his current situation, but he wants to be a man in his next life.

She added that she will make a second documentary following up on the life of her protagonist.

"My documentary has been shown in many countries. They are interested in *Burmese Butterfly* because they are surprised that such work would come from an isolated country," she said.

Events Flash

Ye Lay in MDY

Hip-hop singer Ye Lay will perform at Swan Hotel in Mandalay on April 6 starting at 6pm.

Women artists

An exhibition of more than 200 paintings by local women artists is being held at the Myanmar Artists and Artisan Association in Bogyoke Market from March 29 to April 3.

Three Ladies and on Man Concert

May Sweet, Haymar Nay Win and Htun Eindra Bo will perform at the Three Ladies and One Man Concert at the National Theatre in Yangon on April 7. The Plus 3 Band will provide backing music. Tickets cost K25,000, K15,000 and K10,000, and are available at City Mart, Manthiri Shop and Ko Ko Beauty Salon.

Textiles show

Exquisite loom-woven fabrics will be exhibited in the "Art of Textiles and Accessories" show at Lawkanat Art Gallery (62 Pansodan Street, First Floor, Kyauktada township) from April 7 to 11.

IC in Shan State

IC will hold concerts in Aungban, Shan State, on April 1 and 2 to celebrate the town's 100th

anniversary. The shows will start at 8pm, and tickets cost K15,000, K10,000 and K7000.

Intuition show

The "Intuition" art exhibition, displaying abstract paintings by US-based Myanmar artist Paw Thame, will be held at Gallery 65 (65 Yaw Min Gyi Road, Dagon township) from April 1 to 30.

Re-Please #2 show

An art exhibition titled "Re-Please #2" will be held at Monsoon Restaurant (85-87 Theinbyu Road, Botahtaung township, Yangon) from March 29 to April 30. The show will feature the work of two artists from Myanmar and nine artists from Thailand, focusing on consumer awareness of natural resources in the art creation process.

Wednesday wine

The Wednesday Wine Club meets every (you guessed it) Wednesday at the QP Inya Shop (30 Inya Road). Taste four or five wines for K10,000 a person. Contact chad.quarto@gmail.com or 09-7321-8711.

50th Street live

Jazz band Great Blessings plays 50th Street Bar on Wednesday night, while Friendship Band belts out classic rock tunes on Fridays.



YOUR STARS

By Astrologer
Aung Myin Kyaw

Aquarius

(Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Know that your hidden power is to be replete with pleasant and new suggestions to better your life performance. Introspection will introduce you to an awareness that will make living life so much easier. Focus on changing your retrogressive attitude toward your relationships into a progressive approach. Scrutinising the way you communicate with others will be favourable in seeking love.

Pisces

(Feb 19 - Mar 20)

Your innermost imagination is a powerful creator of your destiny, so be careful how you convert it into decisions and actions. Take risks on unexpected opportunities, relying on your time management skills to ensure success. You are stepping into a brighter future, but you will have to battle to realise your potential qualities. Love will keep your heart feeling healthy and pleasant.

Aries

(March 21 - April 19)

Don't allow external objects to pollute your mind through the influence of the physical senses. Maintaining a strong belief in the laws of cause and effect will help you understand the consequences of unmeritorious deeds. Continue focusing on developing social manners and understanding. Do your best to communicate effectively and to avoid making promises that you cannot keep.

Taurus

(April 20 - May 20)

To make your social position favourable and honourable, your patient and persistent attitude must be alive and available in dealing with any challenges and obstructions. Opportunity must be reflected by your responsibilities. Change nothing about your social promises and commitments. Romantic call-and-response will not stand up to emotional scrutiny.

Gemini

(May 21 - June 20)

You can reduce the darkness of ignorance and bring about a little more peace and happiness in your life. Maintain a positive attitude and be slow to find fault in social relationships, but be quick to forgive. Do not allow worry and lack of confidence to undermine your courage, optimism or capacity to be happy and enjoy life. Show respect for the opinions of the one you love.

Cancer

(June 22 - July 22)

Learning about yourself is the best source of strength to make the right decision for a suitable destination. A feeling of dissatisfaction will be your weakness. Learn to manage your emotional attachments before you embark on moneymaking ventures. Some old friends

may contradict you for reasons that might be hard to determine. Organise yourself as you look to the future.

Leo

(July 23 - Aug 22)

Cultivate the ability to finish one project before embarking on the next. Knowing the truth about the cause of something, especially after so many years of being misled, can be liberating. Spend some time every day performing a selfless service and you will find yourself in the realm of spirituality. Only a certain kind of love can be compatible with you.

Virgo

(Aug 23 - Sept 22)

Your communication skills are great, but you should rely more on psychological language in social relationships. Now is an excellent time to dazzle your friends and colleagues with your endurance and humility. Go happily onward and perform good deeds in your free time. You will feel a void in your love life because of your careless promise.

Libra

(Sept 23 - Oct 22)

Be wise in social relationships. You must learn more about yourself to maintain your beautiful and honourable image. Learn to relax and go with the flow during times of imperfect understanding in your love life. Don't feel disturbed and sorrowful about impartiality; your smart and complete performance cannot be modified by anyone.

Scorpio

(Oct 23 - Nov 21)

In social competition, learn to lead yourself using courage and risk. Be aware that different paths can lead to the same result. Temper your tendency to lose yourself in delusion and to overindulge in emotional pleasure. Remember the principle of reciprocity and free yourself from anger, hatred and bitterness resulting from bad treatment. Don't give your ego free play in love affairs.

Sagittarius

(Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Accept that there is no love without a little doubt to keep you honest. Your upward progress means that you will face ever-increasing difficulties and responsibilities. Welcome social challenges and understand that you cannot give promises, but let others believe that your capabilities and courage will justify your actions. Be careful to maintain your health, and bestow smiles to encourage everyone around you.

Capricorn

(Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Being true to yourself is an important step in the development of freedom of thought and creative ideas. Beware of strong attachments leading to selfishness; if they become too powerful they can disturb your consciousness and addle your memory. Always keep a respectable manner in your social circle, and don't be afraid to ensure that justice is served, especially in family affairs.

For a personal reading contact Aung Myin Kyaw, 4th Floor, 113, Thamaing Bayan Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. Tel: 0973135632, Email: williameast@gmail.com

FREE CLASSIFIEDS

HOW TO GET A FREE AD

By Fax 951-254158
 By Email classified@myanmartimes.com.mm
 advertising@myanmartimes.com.mm
 By Mail 370/383, Bo Aung Kyaw St.
 Kyauktada Tsp, Yangon.

HOW TO GET MORE BUSINESS FROM AS LITTLE AS **K.5,000.**

BUY SPACE ON THESE PAGES

Call: Khin Mon Mon Yi - 951-392676, 392928
 classified@myanmartimes.com.mm

www.mmimes.com

www.mmimes.com

General

Computer

CAN Technical Solution: Computer Maintenance-Network Solution. CCTV, PABX, Finger Print, Door Lock, Fire Alarm, PA, Hotel BMS System. Ph: 228673, 09-730-93068, 09-4253-72631. Add:39, Htarar St, Ahlone, Yangon.

ANOTHER WORLD (Computer System & IT solution Group). Networking Services: Consultation, design ing, Planning, Imple menting

Managing & Maintaining Computer Network, Wireless Solution & hotspot (Indoor & Outdoor), Cisco Devices Solution, VPN, Firewall, NAS& SAN Design

Solutions, Internet load balancing & sharing, Hotel Internet system, Brand ed Server Solution, Microsoft Window Server & Linux Server, Mail, Proxy, Antivirus Server, Data base Server, Internet Cafe & Game Center Solution, Office, Company, customized Server and Network system. Ph : 09-732-48398.

SKYPE PAYMENT Services : Credit 10 \$ = 10000 Ks Malaysia/Korea 400minutes = 13000 Ks Unlimited World = 13000 Ks Unlmited 1 Country = 7500Ks. Ph:09-509-1820. Email : aps. itsolution@gmail. com Add : 40(B), 3rd Flr, Insein Rd, Hledan.

COMPUTER Hardware & Networking Services. Ph: 09-731-33514

ENGLISH classes for Cambridge Young Learners - Starters/ Movers/ Flyers/ KET and PET. Also available Business English for Absolute Beginners (Adults), Reading classes for 6-10 y.o. Creative Writing for 7-10 y.o. & Book Club for 7-12 y.o Call 09-506-2283

HOME TUITION for AP, IGCSE/BIOLOGY. Pls call 09-731-00069.

PART TIME study guide only downtown area. 07:00 Pm to 09:00 Pm Ph: 09-420-106628

SAYA Saw Aung (Ex.A.P) Chemistry Classes for Int'l school (see-levels), IGCSE, GCE 'A' Level & SAT II. Ph : 2300441, 09-500-5470.

EXAM preparation classes for IGCSE MAY/ JUNE 2013 (Edexcel & Cambridge). Only 5 students per class. All subject available. For more info: Tr. Pyae Phyo Kyaw 09-508-8683

Expert Services

UVSV Hygiene kits, FirstAidKits for Emergency Areas with Fair price and fast delivery. Ph -09-516-3209, 09-507-4207

For Sale

ORIGINAL 3DS Game Cartridge (Spirit Camera: The Cursed Memoir) - 20000 Kyats. Original 3DS Game Cartridge (Kid Icarus: Uprising) - 20000 Kyats. Ph: 09-507-9980.

IPAD2 32GB (Black) Already Jailbreak myanmar fonts + Full HD Game Installed Excellent Condition Price - 300000. New Ipad 16GB Wifi (White) With box + Full Original Accessories Price - 350000 Contact - 0973048106

DELL Inspiron 1464 CPU : Intel Core i3 Ram : 2GB. H.D.D :Condition Price - 100000 Kyats.99% New 3 week Used Apple MacBook Air 13 inch (Mid 2012) latest Model Macbook Air Processor - Intel Core i5 Ram - 4GB SSD - 128GB <-Intel HD Graphic 4000 512MB With Box & Full Original Accessories 100% Excellent condition Just like Brand New Price - 800000 Ph: 09-730-48106

FORKLIFT: (1) Mitsubishi (1.5 Ton) - 2 Units. (2) Toyota (2.5 Ton) - 1 Units. Ph: 227418, 214689, 2301487.

ACER 4775 Intel Core i5 Ram 4GB H.D.D 750GB Graphic nvidia 1GB Green Colour Price : 400000. Ph : 09-450-0398-44

IPAD 1 32GB Wifi+3G Price : 230000. Ph : 09-450-039844.

IPOD TOUCH 4G 32GB Black Excellent Condition

Price - 100000 90% New Apple MacBook Air 13 inch (Mid 2012) Latest Model Macbook Air Processor - Intel Core i5 Ram - 4GB SSD - 128GB With Box and Full Original Accessories Price - 750,000 K. Ph - 09-730-48106.

AUSU N43S (1) No CPU : Intel Core i7 4GB 640GB Graphich 2GB (7 Month Warranty Like New) Price : 530000 Ph : 09-450-039844

DELL INSPIRON 1464 CPU : Intel Core i3 Ram : 2GB, H.D.D : 320GB, Display : 14" LE, Price : 280000 Ph : 09-450-039844.

SAMSUNG Galaxy S3 Wite With Original Box & Accessories Price : 330000, Ph : 09-450-039844.

IPOD TOUCH 4th Generation Black 32GB (Black) Excellent Condition Price - 100000 Kyats.99% New 3 week Used Apple MacBook Air 13 inch (Mid 2012) latest Model Macbook Air Processor - Intel Core i5 Ram - 4GB SSD - 128GB <-Intel HD Graphic 4000 512MB With Box & Full Original Accessories 100% Excellent condition Just like Brand New Price - 800000 Ph: 09-730-48106

COMPUTER iMac 27 inch, Mid 2011 4 GB 1333 MHz DDR 3 OSX 10.8.2 (12C60)

price.. 2100000 Kyat. (2). **Car Mazda** RX8 (2 Door) Black. price : 18,000,000 Kyat (3). **Car Celstor** Model 2002. Price : 20,000,000 Kyat. Ph: 01-513995

IPHONE 4S 64GB White Price : 450000 iPhone 3GS 32GB Black Price : 190000 Samsung Galaxy Wonder Price: 130000. Ph : 09-450-039844

SAMSUNG Galaxy Wonder Price : 120000 iPhone 3GS 32GB Price : 180000 Samsung Wave 1 Price : 130000 Ph : 09-450-039844

HANDSET, Huawei C 5600 & Huawei C 5900 Handsets (good second hand) Ph : 09-44-800-6520

CLEARANCE SALE: Clinic used furniture and accessories for quick sale. All are in good conditions and still fresh. Ph: 09-507-6715, 09-421-179537.

DELL VOSTRO 1040 CPU : Core 2 Duo Ram : 2GB, H.D.D : 160GB, Display : 14" LED DVDRW + WiFi+ Bluetooth+ Card Reder Price : 180000. Ph : 09-450-039844

95% NEW iPhone 5 64GB Black Official Unlock With Original Box & Accessories. Price : 720000. Ph : 09-450-039844.

AUSU N43S , CPU : Intel Core i7 4GB 640GB

Graphich 2GB (7 Month Warranty). Price: 530000. Ph : 09-450-039844

IPHONE 3GS 32GB Price : 150000, iPhone 3GS 16GB, Price: 120000 Samsung Galaxy Wondre. Price : 100000. Ph : 09-450-039844

WIMAX (Bagan), McWill Ph : 09-44-800-6520

DAIHATSU Hijet Truck (2003 Model) [AC,PS] Ph : 09-44-800-6520

Buy & Sale

NOT BRAND But Excellent Quality : Apple Iphone Samung HTC LG Sony Huawei Nokia Ipad Ipod Iphone Notebook Mac book Pro Macbook Air Laptop Netbook All kind of Tablet & PSP contact : 09-517-8391

Language

HLC, High Language Centre. Hindi, English & Myanmar. (Writing, Reading & Speaking) by an Expert Teacher. Ph: 09-4210-98790.

MYANMAR Language teaching for Forieners. It is 24 hours teaching in a month. Teacher Htay Win, Ph: 09-4252-95641.

A FOREIGN Language tutor is available for learners, residing at Kyaukmyaung area. Pls contact Saya David, personally at 44, Athoka St, 3rd flr (left), Nat chaung

Ward, Tamwe between 6 & 7 pm.

MYANMAR Language Training Course For Foreigners, Contact: 09-518-1316 or 09-731-27074 for Registration.

GLOBAL Enchanting Education Centre. English Class for Mom. IELTS. General English. Business English. Registration Now! Contact: 09-732-24316-731-27074, 01-2305534.

FOR FOREIGNERS, If you would like to learn spoken Myanmar at your home. And who need study guide for children who are studying at English school. feel free to ask by yourself. Ph: 09-517-9125

SAYA DENNIS Special : English Four skills (Intro-Advanced) , IELTS (Foundation & Prepa ration) , communi cative skill in English, English for Grade 11, Business English, Job Interview and affair. Ph: 09-401-604365

Travel

NYAN MYINT THU Car Rental Service : 56, Bo Ywe St, Latha Tsp, Ph: 246551, 375283, 704335, 09-2132778. Email: colwinkyi@gmail. com, nyanmyintthu@gmail. com

Want to Buy

WIMAX, McWill. Ph : 245 415

Property

Housing for Rent

NEAR Park Royal Hotel, Apartment (1250 Sqft) (2 MBR, 1 SR) fully furnish, USD 2000. (2) , near Yangon University (1100 Sqft) (1MBR, 1 SR) ,no furnish ,USD 1200. (3) Near UNDP , Apartment (750 Sqft 2flat), Hall type. USD 1200. (4) Near Park Royal Hotel, for office (1200 Sqft) Hall type USD 800. (5) Pan Soe dan Street ,dawn town area.(condo) 1250 Sqft (1 MBR,1SR)1725 USD. 09- 4211 77 105.

BAHAN, New University Avenue Road, 25'x55', 6 Flr, 1MBR, 2SBR, 2A/C, Ph: 09-431-64162. E-mail: soseyar001@gmail.com

OFFICE : Bayint Naung Junction, Thirimon Plaza 3rd Fir, 1200 sqft, Hall Type, Internet Access with High Speed (3MB, Unlimited plan) Good for Office (or) Training Room, 500 USD per month (with internet access) 350 USD per month (without internet access) Ph:09-5076408

CHAN THAR GON YAUNG Executive Condominium, 1650 Sqft, Master(1), Single(2), Maid (1), Aircons (4), Full Furnished, SkyNet Satellite System, Water Heaters, Phone, Internet, 24 Hours Electricity, Amazing

Serenity & Satisfactory Facilities, Very Nice RIVERVIEW from Master Bedroom! Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Convenience Store & Club Restaurant! Contact no: 09-73224316

(1) PanSoeDan St, Condo, 1250 Sqft, 2 BM, 1760 USD per month. (2) Near Park Royal Hotel, (for office), 1200 Sqft, Hall type, 850 USD per month. (3) ThanLwin St, 1250 Sqft , 2 RC, 3 MBR, 5882 USD. (4) Near Sedona Hotel, 2 RC, 5 MBR, 5882 USD (5) Near Inyar Lake , 2 RC, 3 MBR, 3529 USD (6) Inya Rd, 2 RC, 3 MBR, 5882 USD. Ph: 09-4921 4276, 09-421177 105.

OFFICE SPACES and Retail Spaces at 2 great locations: Kabaye Pagoda Rd & Pyay Rd. To find out more pls call: 09-732-50365.

KAMAYUT : Baho St - 3 storey. 7MB. unfurnish ed- USD\$12000. fully furnished- USD\$15000. suitable for office use too. pls call 09-520-0654

Housing for Sale

M I N G A L A R TAUNGYUNT ; (506/1), Kyi Taw Housing, Kyi Taw St, (14'x55'), Corner Rm 5th Flr, 2 Bedrooms, 2 Balcony, porcelain floor, Toilet. Price - 340 lakhs. Ph: 09-421-111893

Education

ENGLISH for Young Learners & Adult General English (4 skills). Foundation English Course. Business English Course. One to One, Special class & Home, SA YA Zaw Myo Win, Ph: 09-730-26906.

YOUNG Learners English: Young learners (Age 6-14) (Starters, Movers, Flyers, KET, PET) One to One, Special Class & Home. Adults learners (Age 16 n above). Sa Ya Zaw Myo Win, Ph: 09-730-26906.

TEACHERS who have got Teaching experien ce in Singapore, Grade 10, 11 & Int'l School , GCSE, SAT, IELTS, TOEFL, Sayar Bryan, ME (IT) 09-42 007 0692, Sayar Htet : 09-21 50075, Sayar Min Aung (B.E ,IT) : 09-492-80490


SUMMER ENGLISH Classes (11 March - May 31) for ages 6-12 y.o. Monday - Friday 9am to 12noon. Fees: USD200 for the whole course including materials. Register early as places are limited. Call 09-450-032598, 09-730-97836 for more information.

Apartment for Rent

Lanmadaw, Near Bahosi Hospital & Junction Mawtin, 1500 Sqft, 2MBR, 2BR, 4AC, Ext Ph, Fully furnished, Good for office/Residence, USD 2,500.

Contact Phone No:

0973050896, 09421071352.



Go Further

Ford Motor Company, a global automotive industry leader based in U.S.A., manufactures or distributes automobiles across six continents. With about 1 63,000 employees and about 70 plants worldwide, the company's automotive brands include Ford and Lincoln.

Drive the Future
 Capital Automotive Limited has formed a joint venture company with RMA Group of Thailand, to become the first authorized distributor and dealer for Ford in Myanmar. We lay much emphasis on instilling employees with integrity, professionalism and pro-activeness.

Capital Automotive Limited is seeking to recruit dynamic and customer oriented individuals in enhancing services to its prestigious clients. As a member of our highly competent team, you will have great opportunities for career advancement in the lucrative automotive trade.

<p>Sales Consultants Candidate profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young and smart, car enthusiasts with a driving licence • Computer literate with good communication skills in English • Technical know - how <p>Executive - Marketing Candidate profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A go getter in planning advertising and sales promotions • Exposure to brand development • Possess good analytical skills to work on trade information and statistics • A flair for social media marketing <p>Executive - Fleet Sales Candidate profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced in liaising with Government and institutional officers • Experience in tender procedures & submissions • Knowledge in automotive trade and products will be advantageous <p>Service Advisors/ Trainees Candidate Profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess advanced qualifications in Automotive Engineering • Good Analytical and communication skills 	<p>Service Receptionist/ Documentation Officer (Female) Candidate profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good PR and communication skills. • Possess an excellent command of English - Both oral and written. • Fully conversant in Microsoft Office. • Having a driving license and a flair for cars will be beneficial <p>Parts Assistant Candidate profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer literate with fluency in MS Excel • Fair knowledge in motor spares and/ or automotive technology • Possess relevant qualifications in Stores Management or Inventory Control <p>Technicians/ Trainee Technicians Candidate profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully/ partly qualified from a reputed Auto Engineering School. • Fair knowledge in English. • Dealership experience will be an advantage.
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

If interested, please post or e-mail your application to reach us within 7 days of this advertisement, stating position applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope or the subject column of the e-mail, to:

HR Manager - Aung Thu Win Mg
 No. 27/a Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Near Yeik Tar Bus Station
 Yankin Township, Yangon.
 Email: aungthu.winmg@rmagroup.net

Capital Automotive

Employment

Ingo Positions

BURNET Institute Myanmar is seeking the applications from highly skilled candidate for the following vacant position. This position will be based in Yangon. Position: (1) **Finance Officer** 1 post: Detailed information can be assessed at Burnet Institute Myanmar office. Interested candidates are invited to submit an application letter, curriculum vitae with recent passport sized photo and copies of relevant documents to: Human Resources Officer : Burnet Institute Myanmar : 226, 2nd Flr, Wizaya Plaza, U Wisara Rd, Bahan, Yangon (OR) Email: burnet.myanmar@gmail.com. Closing date : April 26, 2013

HelpAge Myanmar is seeking the **Office Secretary** position: Knowledge and experience: Graduate with at least 2-3 yrs experience in secretarial or administration field and fluent in English both written and spoken with good interpersonal skills; ability to work for long hours; computer literate in Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Internet, Skills in maintain and updating filing system, experience in organizing international/domestic travel and strong familiarity with typing skills using both Myanmar (especially Zawgyi and Myanmar 2, 3) and English fonts. Applicants should submit their Application letter, current CV with complete contact details & 3 professional referees and copy of any testimonies in a sealed envelope address to U Htwe Din, HR and Admin. Manager, HelpAge Myanmar, No. 10, Kanbawza Ave., Shwetaunggya Ward One, Bahan Tsp., Yangon or email to hr.helpagemyanmar@gmail.com. Deadline for

all applications: 4 April 2013. (Encouraged early submission of application candidates can be hired before the deadline) Only short listed candidates will be invited for interview. Date 21-4-2013. Pls submit a resume with cover letter, Via email: inflightcatering.ifcs@gmail.com (OR) to: Rm 206, Shwe Hin Tar Tower B, corner of Shwe Hin Tar St and Pyay Rd, Hlaing, Yangon. Ph: 654100, 654101.

MEDECINS Sans Frontieres is seeking (1) **Epidemiology Coordinator** 1 post: Medical degree. Good command of English. 2 years significant work experience as a Medical Doctor with MSF H, in the public health field in relation to HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria, PHC, Nutrition & STI. Advanced computer skills. (2) **Deputy Project Medical Coordinator** 1 post in Maungdaw, NRS Project. Requirements: MBBS Degree (essential). 1 year clinical experience (essential). Good level of written and spoken English (essential). Computer skills, 2 year experience as Medical Doctor in project with MSF (desirable) Pls send application letter, CV and passport photo, copies of education qualifications & references to: Medical Coordinator. AZG/MSF-Holland (Yangon Coordination). No.62A, Bawdiyektha-Thantwin Rd, Bahan, Yangon. or through msfh.myanmar.recruitment@gmail.com, Closing date 2nd April 2013.

(1) **FINANCE & Admin Associate** (Yangon) 2 Posts. (2) **Human Resources Associate** (Yangon)-1 Post. (3) **Procurement and Logistics Associate** - (Yangon) 2 Posts. (4) **Township Coordinator** (Field) 6 Posts. (5) **Finance and Admin Assistant** (Field) 6 Posts. (6) **ectoral Specialist** (WASH) (Field) 6 Post.

(7) **Sectoral Specialist** (Infrastructure) (Field) 6 Posts. Field positions are meant for Matupi, Mindat and Kanpetlet in Chin State and Pehkon, Pindaya and Pinlaung in Shan State. Details are available at www.themimu.info/jobs Or UN-Habitat, No. 6, Natmauk Rd, Yangon. Ph: 542910-9 Ext: 116. Email: recruitment@unhabitat-mya.org

THE FOUNDATION Terre des hommes (Tdh-L), an int'l Swiss organisation working to assist children & families, wishes to appoint a **social worker** to join our child reintegration team. The team is based in Yangon : 3 years' full-time work experience in the field of child protection, child rights & social work with children & families. Proven knowledge and experience of community mobilisation work. Excellent communication skills with children & adults. Bachelor's degree. Good working knowledge of Myanmar languages. Diploma in social work an advantage. Pls submit a CV giving details of education, training and work experience plus contact information & 2 referees & include a personal statement indicating why they wish to work in the field of child protection and reintegration. Applications must be sent by email only to: U Nyo Htun, Administrator, the Foundation Terre des hommes-Lausanne Email: nyohtun09@gmail.com Add: House No 32 (N1), Avenue 32, 6 1/2 Mile, Pyay Rd, Hlaing, Yangon. Ph: +95 01 525 881, +95 097 321 4890. Closing date: 5th April 2013

UN Positions

IOM Int'l Organization for Migration is seeking **Medical Doctor** (Officer)-HIV/AIDS in Mawlamyine, Mon State : Myanmar national. Advanced university degree in

Nursing, Public Health or Medicine (must have a valid license to practice). Strong management skills are necessary, demonstrated by 3 years experience managing health related projects for int'l organizations of government & institutions focusing on community health. Sound knowledge of HIV project implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Good written & spoken English & Myanmar (speaking Mon and/or Mon would be an advantage). Computer literacy, including Micro soft Office applications. Pls submit CV to IOM Mission in Myanmar - Yangon 12th Flr, Traders Hotel, 223, Sule Pagoda Rd, Email: iomyangon@iom.int, www.iom.int, Tel: 252560, 254008.

Embassy

A FEMALE STAFF at Residence of Head of Foreign Mission. (Must be presentable, neat and tidy) Age: between 21 to 28 years. Height: Not less than 5 feet 4 inches. Contact Mobile: 09-503-3739 (or) Email: tzttz78@gmail.com

Local Position

PAHTAMA GROUP Company Ltd is looking for (1) **Sr. Marketing Supervisor** - M/F 2 Posts : Age 25-35, Any Graduate, 2 years experience, Must be able to lead Marketing Team. Computer literate. (1) **Sales Supervisor** - M 5 Posts : Age 25-35, Any Graduate, 2 years experience, Able to travel. (2) **IT Support** (Software) - M/F 2 Posts : Age under 28, Any graduate, IT / Computer Science or equivalent preferred. (3) **Marketing Coordinator** - M/F 3 Posts : Age 20-25, Any Graduate, 2 years experience. (4) **Finance Coordinator** - F 2 Posts : Age 23-28, Any graduate, LCCI Level III, Can be able to cash control and handle cash book/ ledger, 2

years experience. (5) **Admin Coordinator** - F 5 Posts : Age 20-25, Graduate holder, Prefer to have experience in Administration field. Can be able to drive and must have driving licence. (6) **Accounts / Data Processing Assistant** - F 8 Posts : Age 23-30, B.com/LCCI/ MYOB, Can use Account Software, 1 or 2 years experiences. (7) **I&E Assistant** - M 1, F 1 Posts : Age 20-28, Graduate Holder, 1 year experience, Good personality skills (8) **Asst. Sales Representative** - M /F 30 Posts : Age 22 ~ 30, 10th Standard Passed / Graduate, Must have sales experience (9) **Asst. Sales Representative** (Driving) - M 10 Posts : Age 22-30 years, 10th Standard Passed / Graduate, Must have sales experience, Must have driving skill & Driving License. Pls send - C.V, 2 recent photos, photocopies of labor registration card, N.R.C card, education certificate & others related documents within two weeks to 73-76, Waizayandar Rd, Thingan Gyn, Yangon. Tel: 573286, 565494. Email: hr.pahtama@gmail.com

One of the world's leading manufacturers of paints, coatings and power coatings. It is now looking for ambitious and result-oriented employees to be based in Yangon, Myanmar. **Coating Advisor** Job Responsibilities : Provide professional technical service by ensuring the correct application of paints and supervision of the painting progress to ensure right product and correct usage of the finished coating to achieve the specified requirements. Provide technical guidance of the correct selection and the use of our client's products. Requirements: Diploma

in Engineering, English skills, Computer literate, Able to travel around Myanmar. Closing Date: 5 April 2013 Contact : rvinstitute.cds@gmail.com Management Office Assistant: 44, Than Lwin Rd, Windermere, Bahan, Yangon. Ph: 535 433, 861 2246

IGCSE Assistant Teacher we need assistant teachers for IGCSE, IELTS and English 4 skills. Send your scanned C.V to ielts.consultant@gmail.com. Tr. Solomon. Tel-09-541-7781

WE a foreign trading company, are looking for a competent sales manager/assistant manager in Myanmar. The following qualifications. Age between 25-35, University Graduate, Having experience and knowledge in international trading, To be fluent in English and computer skills, Willingness to develop Myanmar market and customer base, Documents to be submitted: CV Copy of NRC card, Reference letter. Those who are interested can send email to aproster1@gmail.com. For more information, please contact us at 01-378505-7.

WE are looking for : Marketing & Sales Representative Post M/F. Age 22-30. University Degree and or other professional qualifications. Have knowledge of auto machine environment is preferred. Fluent in English and typing ability. Computer proficiency. Responsible for promoting and selling a range of products to customers to meet the monthly sales target. Responsible for ensuring a high level of market penetration through territorial coverage sales activities. Build customer relationship. (Fuji Xerox will provide professional training to you for sales & marketing). Not later than 31st March 2013. Office: Fuji Xerox Myanmar Operation Office: Shwe

Gone Plaza, 4th Fl, Shwe Gond Daing Rd, Bahan. Ph: 556076.

WANTED: Expatriates with writing and communications skill living in Myanmar for contract basis or part time, full time for client service, research and PR work for international clients at a local agency. Please send resumes to admin@advertising-myanmar.com.

AN INTERNATIONAL investment & management company is looking for **experienced Business Development Executives** to assist the Country Head in managing various ongoing projects in Myanmar. Key responsibilities will be assistance in sourcing and structuring new deals, investment analysis, financial modelling, risk calculation, strategic study, deal execution & relationship management. Myanmar nationals with considerable international work experience in business development, finance, strategy or M&A will be preferred. Pls email your resumes at amatizu@mpic.com.ph

SECRETARY urgently required. Must be fluent in English and able to use MS Office. Also must have good communication skills & excellent telephone manner as well as strong organisation and administrative skills. Pls send CV by email to sharl@oxfordbusinessgroup.com

SAVOY HOTEL, Yangon is urgently looking for (1) **Sales & Marketing Manager**-1 post: 2 years experience & very good English skill. (2) **Front Office Supervisor** - 1 post : 2 years experience in related field and good English skill. (3) **Commis chef** (European Food)-2 post : 1 ~ 2 years experience and good English skill. (4) **Concierge** - 1 post : 2 ~ 3 years experience, very good English skill, interpersonal skill. (5)

Restaurant Manager - 1 post : 3 ~ 5 years experience & very good English skill. (6) **Head Barman** - 1 post : 2 ~ 3 years experience, Good English skill. Application letter by email to savoy.hra@gmail.com or 129, Dhammazed Rd, Yangon. Ph: 526298, 526289.

A PHARMACEUTICAL company is looking for **Medical Representative** -M/F : University degree, Fluency in English, Responsible for promoting and selling of pharmaceutical products to meet monthly targets, Responsible for ensuring a high level of market penetration through, Territorial coverage & sales activities, Should build good customer relationship. Pls contact Ph: 09-420-071129 Email: j.moses2007@gmail.com

THE INT'L Republican Institute is seeking **Program Officers, Program Assistants and an Office Manager** to support the Institute's mission in its office in Yangon. Applicants should be interested in IRI's mission of promoting democratic governance as described on the Institute's website. Demonstrated training in political science, sociology or in a related field, university degree highly preferred. Good English language skills also essential. For more information, email asiajobs@iri.org to receive full information on the position. Solicitation closes on April 7, 2013.

URGENT Position Requirement **English and Chinese Translator** Must have highly skill in English and Chinese. (Prefer both skills) Will offer good salary package. Ph : 09 5076 715, 09 4211 79537

MIBA GONG Trading PTE LTD is hiring. (1) **Civil Engineer** 3 Posts : Minimum 3 years experience in related field. (2) **Sales & Marketing** 3 Posts : Minimum 2 years experience in related field. Sales Oriented & Excellent communication skill. Proficient in English. Good computing skill. Pls contact 09-513-1775 or email your detailed resume to mrwin64@gmail.com

ECOAPARTMENT (pearl condo): looking for new project: **Office staffs** - posts, **Receptionist/front desk** - 8 posts: **Housekeeping manager** - 1 post: **Housekeeping/Public attendant** -20 posts: **Guest relation officer** - 2 posts, **Sales Asst** - 5 posts, **IT** - 3 posts (good English is essential) **Plumber** 3 posts, **Electrician** - 5 posts **Accountants** - 5 posts. Sent CV to ECO Apartment (Pearl condo) Ga21 (between tower C & D.) Kabaaye pagoda Rd, Bahan.

Job Wanted

I AM a female **Medical doctor**, who recently graduated & interested in joining an N.G.O for a suitable vacancy. My Stints includes: HIV/AIDS, ART, OI Multidisciplinary basic & advanced Training course from "Salus World" Research Methodology & critical thinking Course. Community Services includes :Morbidity & Mortality Survey, Diarrhea Action Programme, Health services during the Nargis Campaign. OBR campaign. For further information pls contact me on pearl.june@gmail.com or Ph: 09-513-0011.

Power 7 Real Estate Service Co., Ltd.
Power 7 房地產中介服務

Warmly Welcome...!
Our Company Special service...
Rental-Single house, Condominium, apartment, office and warehouse.

Please Contact us-09-4921 4276, 09-420 114749,
09-421 177105, Power7may@gmail.com

Career Opportunity CHARLTONS Legal Consulting Limited

Charltons Legal Consulting Limited practice covers a wide range of corporate transactions including corporate finance, restructurings, capital markets, securities, funds and M&A. We offer interesting work and excellent prospects.

Charltons Legal Consulting Limited currently has a career opportunity for the following positions:

Position : Legal Translator (Myanmar to English/English to Myanmar)
Qualifications and Experience required:

- ▶ University degree holder in relevant field or higher diploma in translation or languages
- ▶ Minimum two years of experience of translating legal documents from Myanmar to English and vice versa preferred
- ▶ Familiar with legal terms and regulations
- ▶ Fluent spoken and written English and Myanmar are necessary
- ▶ Good knowledge of MS Office applications
- ▶ Experience in translation of listing prospectuses and similar documents is an advantage

Position : Legal Research Assistant/ Paralegal
Qualifications and Experience required:

- ▶ University degree holder in law
- ▶ Minimum two years of experience with research work preferred
- ▶ Experience in conducting in-depth legal research and compile information
- ▶ Fluent spoken and written English and Myanmar are necessary
- ▶ Good knowledge of MS Office applications

Position : Accountant
Qualifications and Experience required:

- ▶ University degree holder in accounting or related field
- ▶ Minimum three years experience in related field preferred
- ▶ Fluent spoken and written English and Myanmar are necessary
- ▶ Good knowledge of MS Office and Excel.

To apply in strict confidence please send a full CV (clearly identifying the post you apply) to Head of Management, Charltons Legal Consulting Limited, 116-A, Inya Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon. Email : myanmar@charltonslaw.com. Fresh graduates are also encouraged to apply.

***(Personal data collected will be used only for recruitment purposes)**

IFES Myanmar, Vacancy Announcement Yangon

IFES is an international, nonprofit organization that supports the building of democratic societies. IFES promotes democratic stability by providing technical assistance and applying field-based research to the electoral cycle in countries around the world to enhance citizen participation and strengthen civil societies, governance and transparency. Founded in 1987 as a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, IFES has developed and implemented comprehensive, collaborative democracy solutions in more than 120 countries. The program provides assistance to stakeholders such as the Union Election Commission (UEC) and national civic society organizations.

Position: Program Officer (Nay Pyi Taw), Duration: 1 year contract (renewable)
Requirements :

- At least 5 years or comparable of experience of working in an international environment, ideally with significant experience in implementing democratic development projects and international program management;
- Fluency in English and Burmese both written and oral;
- A high level of self-motivation and ability to work autonomously within a fast-paced environment;
- Strong analytical skills; - Ability to take initiative and work within tight deadlines; - Basic computer skills (Microsoft Office Programs, Excel, Internet) required;
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills and ability to make independent decisions;
- A degree in political science or related field.

The program provides assistance to stakeholders such as the Union Election Commission (UEC) and national civic society organizations.

Position : Senior Advisor, Duration: 1 year contract (renewable)
Requirements:

- At least 10-15 years or comparable of experience of working in an international environment, ideally with significant experience in implementing democratic development projects and international program management;
- Experience with electoral sector projects, including technical knowledge of electoral assistance and electoral sector needs. - Fluency in English and Burmese, both written and oral;
- A high level of self-motivation and ability to work autonomously within a fast-paced environment; - Strong analytical skills; - Ability to take initiative and work within tight deadlines;
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills and ability to make independent decisions;
- A degree in political science or related field.

Position: Accountant/ Finance Specialist, Duration: 1 year contract (renewable)
Requirements:

- Relevant qualifications in finance, administration or related field;
- At least 5-7 years working with USAID/AusAID (or other donor) programs managing overall support functions (finance, procurement, HR)
- Experience managing finance systems, and delivering standard reporting for significant donor initiatives;
- Excellent communication skills and excels in working in and leading a team;
- Experience in managing human resource systems;
- Excellent financial management skills;
- Fluent English (essential)

Position: Office Assistant, Duration: 1 year contract (renewable)
Requirements:

- Fluency in English and Burmese, both written and oral;
- A high level of self-motivation and ability to work autonomously within a fast-paced environment;
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills;
- Experience in administration function minimum 3 years ;
- A university degree in secretarial/business administration/ finance

If you are interested in applying for this position, please submit your letter of application and detailed resume at the latest by **30 April 2013** to : **ifesmyanmarjobs@gmail.com**. Please put the position you apply IFES-MY-HR Vacancy Announcement - Program Officer (NPT) on the subject of the email. Only applications in English will be accepted. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. No phone inquiries.

The Essentials

EMBASSIES

Australia 88, Strand Road, Yangon. tel : 251810, 251797, 251798, 251809, 246462, 246463, fax: 246159

Bangladesh 11-B, Than Lwin Road, Yangon. tel: 515275, 526144, fax: 515273, email: bdootygn@mptmail.net.mm

Brazil 56, Pyay Road, 6th mile, Hlaing Tsp, Yangon. tel: 507225, 507251, 507482. fax: 507483. email: Administ.yangon@itamaraty.gov.br

Brunei 17, Kanbawza Avenue, Golden Velly (1), Bahan Tsp, Yangon. tel: 566985, 503978, fax: 512854 email: bruneiemb@bruneiemb.com.mm

Cambodia 25 (3B/4B), New University Avenue Road, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. tel: 549609, 540964, fax: 541462, email: RECYANGON@mptmail.net.mm

China 1, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Yangon. tel: 221280, 221281, 224025, 224097, 221926, fax: 227019, 228319

Egypt 81, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Yangon. tel: 222886, 222887, fax: 222865, email: egyptmbyangon@mptmail.net.mm

France 102, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Yangon. tel: 212178, 212520, 212523, 212528, 212532, fax: 212527, email: ambaf.rance.rangoun@diploatie.fr

Germany 9, Bogyoke Aung San Museum Road, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. tel: 548951, 548952, fax: 548899 email: info@rangun.diplo.de

India 545-547, Merchant Street, Yangon. tel: 391219, 388412, 243972, fax: 254086, 250164, 388414, email: indiaembassy@mptmail.net.mm

Indonesia 100, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Yangon. tel: 254465, 254469, 229750, fax: 254468, email: kuyygn@indonesia.com.mm

Israel 15, Khabaung Street, Hlaing Tsp, Yangon. tel: 515115, fax: 515116, email: info@yangon.mfa.gov.il

Italy 3, Inya Myaing Road, Golden Valley, Yangon. tel: 527100, 527101, fax: 514565, email: ambyang.mail@esteri.it

Japan 100, Natmauk Road, Yangon. tel: 549644-8, 540399, 540400, 540411, 545988, fax: 549643
Embassy of the State of Kuwait Chatrium Hotel, Rm: No.416, 418, 420, 422, 40 Natmauk Rd, Tarmwe Tsp, Tel: 544500.

North Korea 77C, Shin Saw Pu Road, Sanchaung Tsp, Yangon. tel: 512642, 510205, fax: 510206

South Korea 97, University Avenue, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. tel: 527142-4, 515190, fax: 513286, email: myanmar@mofat.go.kr

Lao A-1, Diplomatic Quarters, Tawwin Road, Dagon Tsp, Yangon. tel: 222482, fax: 227446, email: Laoembcab@mptmail.net.mm

Malaysia 82, Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Yangon. tel: 220248, 220249, 220251, 220230, fax: 221840, email: mwkyangon@mptmail.net.mm

Nepal 16, Natmauk Yeiktha, Yangon. tel: 545880, 557168, fax: 549803, email: nepemb@mptmail.net.mm

Pakistan A-4, diplomatic Quarters, Pyay Road, Yangon. tel: 222881 (Chancery Exchange) fax: 221147, email: pakistan@mptmail.net.mm

Philippines 50, Sayasan Road, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. tel: 558149-151, fax: 558154, email: p.e.yangon@gmail.com

Russian 38, Sagawa Road, Yangon. tel: 241955, 254161, fax: 241953, email: rusinmyan@mptmail.net.mm

Serbia No. 114-A, Inya Road, P.O.Box No. 943-Yangon. tel: 515282, 515283, fax: 504274, email: serbemb@yangon.net.mm

Singapore 238, Dhamazedi Road, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. tel: 559001, fax: 559002, 559922, email: singemb_ygn@sgmfa.gov.sg

Sri Lanka 34 Taw Win Road, Yangon. tel: 222812, fax: 221509, email: slembassy.yangon@gmail.com, info@slembyangon.org, www.slembyangon.org

Thailand 94 Pyay Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. tel: 226721, 226728, 226824, fax: 221713

United Kingdom 80 Kan-na Road, Yangon. tel: 370867, 380322, 371852, 371853, 256438, 370863, 370864, 370865, fax: 370866

United States of America 110, University Avenue, Kamayut Township, Yangon. tel: 536509, 535756, 538038, fax: 650306

Vietnam Building No. 72, Thanlwin Road, Bahan Township, Yangon. tel: 511305, fax: 514897, email: vnemb_myr@cybertech.net.mm

Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia No.287/289, U Wisara Rd, Sanchaung Tsp. tel: 01-536153, 516952, fax: 01-516951

UNITED NATIONS

ILO Liaison Officer Rm (M1212-1220), 12 Fl-A, Traders Hotel. 223, tel: 242 393, 242811. fax: 242594.

IOM 12th Flr, Traders Hotel, 223, tel: 252560 ext. 5002

UNAIDS Rm: [1223-1231], 12 Fl, Traders Hotel. tel: 252361, 252362, 252498. fax: 252364.

UNDCP 11-A, Malikka St, Mayangone tsp. tel: 666903, 664539. fax: 651334.

UNDP 6, Natmauk Rd, Bahan tel: 542910-19. fax: 292739.

UNFPA 6, Natmauk Rd, Bahan tsp. tel: 546029.

UNHCR 287, Pyay Rd, Sanchaung tsp. tel: 524022, 524024. fax 524031.

UNIAP Rm: 1202, 12 Fl, Traders Hotel. tel: 254852, 254853.

UNIC 6, Natmauk St., BHN tel: 52910-19

UNICEF 14-15 Flr, Traders Hotel. P.O. Box 1435, KTDA. tel: 375527-32, fax: 375552 email: unicef.yangon@unicef.org, www.unicef.org/myanmar.

UNODC 11-A, Malikka Rd., Box 650, TMWE tel: 542911-19, 292637 (Resident Coordinator), fax: 292739, 544531.

UNOPS Inya Lake Hotel, 3rd floor, 37, Kaba Aye Pagoda Rd, Mayangone Tsp. tel: 951-657281-7. Fax: 657279.

UNRC 6, Natmauk Rd, P.O. Box 650, TMWE tel: 542911-19, 292637 (Resident Coordinator), fax: 292739, 544531.

WFP 3rd-flr, Inya Lake Hotel, 37, Kaba Aye Pagoda Rd. tel: 657011-6 (6-lines) Ext: 2000.

WHO 12A Fl, Traders Hotel. tel:250583.

ASEAN Coordinating Of. for the ASEAN Humanitarian Task Force, 79, Taw Win st, Dagon Township. Ph: 225258.

FAO Myanma Agriculture Service Insein Rd, Insein. tel: 641672, 641673. fax: 641561.

General Listing

ACCOMMODATION-HOTELS

Avenue 64 Hotel No. 64 (G), Kytewine Pagoda Road, Mayangone Township. Yangon. 09 8631392. 01 656913-9

Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon 40 Natmauk Rd, Tarmwe. tel: 544500. fax: 544400.

Clover hotel No.7A, Wingabar Road, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. Tel : (951) 546313, 430245. 09-731-77781-4. Fax : (01) 546313. www.cloverhotel.asia. info@cloverhotel.asia

Confort Inn 4, Shweli Rd, Bet: Inya Rd & U Wisara Rd, Kamaryut, tel: 525781, 526872

Eden Palace Hotel No. [356/366], Kyaukkasan Rd, Tamwe Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph: 542826, Fax: 545650 Email: reservation@edenpalacehotel.com

Hotel Yangon 91/93, 8th Mile Junction, Mayangone. tel: 01-667708, 667688.

Inya Lake Resort Hotel 37 Kaba Aye Pagoda Rd. tel: 662866. fax: 665537.

MGM Hotel No [160], Warden Street, Lanmadaw Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar. +95-1-212454-9. www.hotel-mgm.com

PANDA hotel No. 205, Corner of Wadan Street & Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road, Lanmadaw Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: (95-1) 212850 ~ 3, 229358 ~ 61, Fax: (95-1) 212854. info@myanmarpandahotel.com http://www.myanmarpandahotel.com

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

Royal Kumudra Hotel, (Nay Pyi Taw) Tel : 067- 414 177, 067- 414 188 E-Mail: maxhotelsreservation@gmail.com

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

Sweet Hotel 73, Damazedi Road, San Chaung Tsp, Ph: 539152

Sedona Hotel Kabar Aye Pagoda Rd, Yankin. tel: 666900.

Strand Hotel 92 Strand Rd. tel: 243377. fax: 289880.

Summit Parkview Hotel 350, Ahlone Rd, Dagon Tsp. tel: 211888, 211966.

Thamada Hotel 5, Alan Pya Phaya Rd, Dagon. tel: 243639, 243640, 243641.

Traders Hotel 223 Sule Pagoda Rd. tel: 242828. fax: 242838.

Windsor Hotel No.31, Shin Saw Pu Street, Sanchaung, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph: 95-1-511216-8, www.hotelwindsoryangon.com

Winner Inn 42, Than Lwin Rd, Bahan Tsp. Tel: 503734, 524387. email: reservation@winnerinnmyanmar.com

Yangon YMCA 263, Mahabandoola Rd, Botataung Tsp. tel: 294128,

Yuzana Hotel 130, Shwegondaing Rd, Bahan Tsp, tel : 01-549600, 543367

Yuzana Garden Hotel 44, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Mingalar Taung Nyunt Tsp, tel : 01-248944

ACCOMMODATION-HOTELS (Nay Pyi Taw)

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

HAPPY HOMES REAL ESTATE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
Tel: 09-7349-4483, 09-4200-56994. E-mail: aahappyhomes@gmail.com, http://www.happyhomesyangon.com

MiCasa Hotel Apartments 17, Kabar Aye Pagoda Rd, Yankin Tsp. tel: 650933. fax: 650960.

Sakura Residence 9, Inya Rd, Kamaryut Tsp. tel: 525001. fax: 525002.

The Grand Mee Ya Hta Executive Residence 372, Bogyoke Aung San Rd, Pabedan Tsp. tel 951-256355 (25 lines).

AIR CONDITION

Chigo 216, 38 St (Upper), Kyauktada Tsp, tel : 373472

FRESH Air Conditioning Systems

The First Air conditioning systems designed to keep you fresh all day **GUNKUL Engineer supply Co., Ltd.**

No.437 (A), Pyay Road, Kamayut. P., O 11041 Yangon, Tel: +95-1) 502016-18, Mandalay- Tel: 02-60933. Nay Pyi Taw- Tel: 067-420778, E-mail : sales.ac@freshaircon.com. URL: http://www.freshaircon.com

General 83-91, G-F, Bo Aung Kyaw St, Kyauktada Tsp, tel : 706223, 371906

BARS 50th Street 9/13, 50th street-lower, Botataung Tsp. Tel-397160.

Green Garden Beer Gallery Mini Zoo, Karaweik Oo-Yin Kabar.

INYA 1 Restaurant & Bar INYA 1 Restaurant & Bar No.(1), Inya Road, Kamayut Tsp. Tel: 01-527506 email: inyaone@gmail.com www.inya1.com

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

ROYAL KUMUDRA HOTEL (Nay Pyi Taw) 123, Alanpya Pagoda Rd, Dagon Township Tel : 951- 255 819-838

Emergency Numbers

Ambulance ☎tel: 295133.
Fire ☎tel: 191, 252011, 252022.
Police emergency ☎tel: 199.
Police headquarters ☎tel: 282541, 284764.
Red Cross ☎tel:682600, 682368
Traffic Control Branch ☎tel:298651
Department of Post & Telecommunication ☎tel: 591384, 591387.
Immigration ☎tel: 286434.
Ministry of Education ☎tel:545500m 562390
Ministry of Sports ☎tel: 370604, 370605
Ministry of Communications ☎tel: 067-407037.
Myanma Post & Telecommunication (MPT) ☎tel: 067-407007.
Myanma Post & Tele-communication (Accountant Dept) ☎tel: 254563, 370768.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs ☎tel: 067-412009, 067-412344.
Ministry of Health ☎tel: 067-411358-9.
Yangon City Development Committee ☎tel: 248112.

Yangon Children Hospital ☎tel: 222807, 222808, 222809.
Yangon General Hospital (East) ☎tel: 292835, 292836, 292837.
Yangon General Hospital (New) ☎tel: 384493, 384494, 384495, 379109.
Yangon General Hospital (West) ☎tel: 222860, 222861, 220416.
Yangon General Hospital (YGH) ☎tel: 256112, 256123, 281443, 256131.

ELECTRICITY Power Station ☎tel:414235

POST OFFICE General Post Office 39, Bo Aung Kyaw St. (near British Council Library). ☎tel: 285499.

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Yangon International Airport ☎tel: 662811.

YANGON PORT Shipping (Coastal vessels) ☎tel: 382722

RAILWAYS Railways information ☎tel: 274027, 202175-8.

HOSPITALS

Central Women's Hospital ☎tel: 221013, 222811.
Children Hospital ☎tel: 221421, 222807
Ear, Nose & Throat Hospital ☎tel: 543888.
Naypyitaw Hospital (emergency) ☎tel: 420096.
Worker's Hospital ☎tel: 554444, 554455, 554811.

ADVERTISING

WE STARTED THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRY IN MYANMAR SINCE 1991

SAIL

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS ADVERTISING

SAIL Marketing & Communications
Suite 403, Danathiha Center 790, Corner of Bogyoke Rd & Wadan Rd, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: (951) 211870, 224820, 2301195. Email: admin@advertising-myanmar.com www.advertising-myanmar.com

BEAUTY & MASSAGE

Coréana Esthetic

Marina Residence, Yangon Ph: 650651-4, Ext: 109 Beauty Plan, Corner of 77th St & 31st St, Mandalay Ph: 02 72506

DR. FACE

Aesthetic Medical Spa
5 (C), Race Course Condo, South Race Course Street, Tarmwe, Yangon. Mobile: 09-5202781 dr.face.aesthetic@gmail.com

LS Salon

Junction Square, 3rd floor. Pyay Rd, Kamayut Tsp. Tel 527242, ext 4001

La Source Beauty Spa
-80(A), Inya Rd, Kamayut Tsp. tel: 512 380, 511 252. www.lasourcebeautyspa.com

Lemon Day Spa
No. 96 F, Inya Road, Kamayut Tsp, Yangon. Tel: 514848, 09-732-08476. E-mail: lemondayspa.2011@gmail.com

A Little Dayspa
No. 475 C, Pyi Road, Kamayut, Yangon. Tel: 09-431-28831.

Spa & Boutique Fashion
No. 24, Inya Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: 951 534 654, 09-73200147 theredscarf99@gmail.com

BOOK STORES

Innwa Book Store
No. 246, Rm.201/301, GF, Pansodan Street (Upper Block), Kyauktada Tsp. Tel. 389838, 243216, 374324, 514387

MONUMENT BOOKS

Monument Books
• 150 Dhamazedi Rd., Bahan T/S, Yangon. Tel: 536306, 537805.
• Room 308, 3rd Flr., Junction Center (Maw Tin), Lanmadaw T/S, Yangon. Tel: 218155, Ext. 1308.
• 15(B), Departure Lounge, Yangon Int'l Airport.
• 45B, Corner of 26th & 68th Sts., Mandalay. Tel: (02) 66197. Email: yangon@monument-books.com

MYANMAR BOOK CENTRE
Nandawun Compound, No. 55, Baho Road, Corner of Baho Road and Ahlone Road, (near Eugenia Restaurant), Ahlone Township. tel: 212 409, 221 271, 214708 fax: 524580. email:info@myanmarbook.com

CAFÈS

La Brasserie (International)
PARKROYAL Yangon. 33, Alan Pya Phaya Road, Dagon Tsp. tel : 250388.

Acacia Tea Salon
52, Sayar San Rd, Bahan Tsp, Tel : 01-554739.

Cafe47
47-A, Pyay Rd, 7 1/2 miles, Mayangone Tsp, Tel : 01-651774.

Traders Café
Traders Hotel, Yangon. #223, Sule Pagoda Rd. Tel: 242828 ext: 6519

COLD STORAGE

GLOVER
ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES PTE. LTD.

Est. 1992 in Myanmar Cold Storage Specialist, Solar Hot Water Storage Solutions.
Tel: 09-504-2196, 09-731-94828. E-mail: gei.ygn2@gmail.com, glover2812@gmail.com

CONSTRUCTION

ZAMIL STEEL
total steel building solutions

Zamil Steel
No-5, Pyay Road, 7 1/2 miles, Mayangone Tsp, Yangon. Tel: (95-1) 652502-04. Fax: (95-1) 650306. Email: zamilsteel@gmail.com zamilsteel.com.mm

CONSULTING

THURA SWISS
Myanmar Research | Consulting | Technology

Shwe Hinthar B 307, 6 1/2 Miles, Pyay Rd., Yangon. Tel: +95 (0)1 654 730 info@thuraswiss.com www.thuraswiss.com

DUTY FREE

Duty Free Shops
Yangon International Airport, Arrival/Departure Tel: 533030 (Ext: 206/155)

Office: 17, 2nd street, Hlaing Yadanarmon Housing, Hlaing Township, Yangon. Tel: 500143, 500144, 500145.

ELECTRICAL

GLOVER
ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES PTE. LTD.

Est. 1992 in Myanmar Electrical & Mechanical Contractors, Designers, Consultants.
Tel: 09-504-2196, 09-731-94828. E-mail: gei.ygn2@gmail.com, glover2812@gmail.com

ENGINEERING

SUPER MEGA
Engineering Group Co., Ltd.

One stop Solution for Substations, Lines & Switchgears Best Quality & Reasonable Price

193/197, Shu Khin Thar Street, North Okkalapa Industrial Zone, Yangon. Tel: 951-691843-5, 951-9690297, Fax: 951-691700 Email: supermega97@gmail.com www.supermega-engg.com

ENTERTAINMENT

HOLA
Dance Club & Bar

No.94, Ground Floor, Bogalay Zay Street, Botataung Tsp, Yangon.Tel: 392625, 09-500-3591 Email : danceclub.hola@gmail.com (Except Sunday)

FASHION & TAILOR

SEIN SHWE TAILOR

Sein Shwe Tailor, No.797 (003-A), Bogyoke Aung San Road, Corner of Warden Street, MAC Tower 2, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon, Ph: 01-225310, 212943-4 Ext: 146, 147, E-mail: uthetlwin@gmail.com

FITNESS CENTRE

Traders Health Club.
Level 5, Traders Hotel Yangon#223 Sule Pagoda Rd, Tel: 951 242828 Ext: 6561

Balance Fitness
No 64 (G), Kytewine Pagoda Road, Mayangone Township, Yangon 01-656916, 09 8631392 Email - info@balancefitnessyangon.com

KETTLER
Sports & Fitness
Grand Meeyahta Executive Residence. Shop 4-5, Ph: 256355, Ext: 3015, 3204 09 731 94684 email:natraysports@gmail.com

Mr. Betchang
No.(272), Pyay Rd, DNH Tower, Rm No.(503), 5th flr, Sanchaung Tsp, Tel: 095041216

FLORAL SERVICES

Floral Service & Gift Shop
No. 449, New University Avenue, Bahan Tsp. YGN. Tel: 541217, 559011, 09-860-2292.
Market Place By City Mart
Tel: 523840-43, 523845-46, Ext: 205.
Junction Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 067-421617-18 422012-15, Ext: 235. Res: 067-414813, 09-492-09039. Email : eternal@mptmail.net.mm

Rosana
Flora Service & Gift Shop
No.173(B), West Shwegonedaing Rd, Bahan Tsp, YGN. Tel: 09.731 800 30

No.75/77, Yaw Min Gyi St.
Dagon Tsp, YGN. Tel: 09.431 432 34.

Home: 01-577 387,
Email: rosanafloral.ygn@gmail.com

Sandy's
Floral Service & Gift Centre 102(A), Dhamazaydi Rd, Yangon.tel: 500142 Summit Parkview Hotel, tel: 211888, 211966 ext. 173 fax: 535376.email: sandy@sandymyanmar.com.mm.

FOAM SPRAY INSULATION

COOL SPEED
FOAM SPRAY INSULATION

Foam Spray Insulation
No-410, Ground Floor, Lower Pazuntaung Road, Pazuntaung Tsp, Yangon. Telefax : 01-203743, 09-730-26245, 09-500-7681. Hot Line-09-730-30825.

GAS COOKER & COOKER HOODS

Rinnai
Yangon : A-3, Aung San Stadium (North East Wing), Mingalartaungnyunt Tsp. Tel : 245543, 09-730-37772. **Mandalay** : Room No.(B,C) (National Gas), 35th St, Btw 80th & 81st, Chanayetharzan Tsp. Tel : 09-680-3505, 02 34455, 36748, 71878.

GEMS & JEWELLERIES

Diamond Queen
75, Oo Yin Lane, New University Avenue Rd, Bahan Tsp. Tel : 01-548001, 704398

Diamond & Me
Junction Square, Ground Floor, Kamayut Tsp. Tel : 01-527242, [Ext : 1082]

MANAWMAYA HOUSE OF JEWELS
Ruby & Rare Gems of Myanmar
No. 527, New University Ave., Bahan Tsp. Yangon. sales@manawmaya.com.mm www.manawmayagems.com Tel: 549612, Fax : 545770.

Natural Gems of Myanmar
No. 30 (A), Pyay Road (7 mile), Mayangone Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: 01-660397, 654398-9. E-mail: spgems.myanmar@gmail.com

GENERATORS

Winning Way
No. 589-592, Bo Aung Kyaw St, Yangon-Pathein highway Road. Hlaing Tharyar tsp. Tel: 951-645178-182, 685199, Fax: 951-645211, 545278. e-mail: mkt-mti@winstrategic.com.mm

HEALTH SERVICES

Asia Pacific
98(A), Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon. Tel: 553783, 549152, 09-732-16940, 09-730-56079. Fax: 542979 Email: asiapacific.myanmar@gmail.com.

Acupuncture, Medicine Massage, Foot Spa
Add:No.27(A), Ywa Ma Kyaung Street, Hlaing Township, Yangon. Tel: 01-511122, 526765.

PIYAVATE HOSPITAL
BANGKOK, THAILAND
Piyavate Hospital (Bangkok) Myanmar Represent ative (Head office)
Grand Mee Yahta Executive Residences. No.372, Bogyoke Aung San Rd, PBDN. Ph: 256355, Ext: 3206. Hotline: 09-7377-7799. Email: piyavate@cnt.com.mm, piyavate.cnt@gmail.com, Website: www.piyavate.com

LEGAL SERVICE

U Min Sein, BSc, RA, CPA.,RL Advocate of the Supreme Court 83/14
Pansodan St, Yangon. tel: 253 273. uminsein@mptmail.net.mm

MCOG
24 hours Cancer centre
No. 330, Yangon International Hotel, Ahlone Road, Dagon Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: (951) 218388, 218292 Fax: (951) 218389

LEO medicare
24 Hour International Medical Centre @ Victoria Hospital
No. 68, Tawwin Rd, 9 Mile, Mayangon Township, Yangon, Myanmar Tel: +951 651 238, +959 495 85 955 Fax: +959 651 398 24/7 on duty doctor: +959 492 18 410 Website: www.leo.com.mm "One Stop Solution for Quality Health Care"

Vibhavadi Hospital
214, 1st Floor, Waizayanter Rd, Thingangyun Tsp.Email: vibhavadiyanmar@gmail.com, Hot line: 09-2011-772, 09-731-650-45, 09-86-250-86

PHI-H-Specialist Clinic
FMI Centre (4th Floor) #380, Bogyoke Aung San Road, Pabedan Tsp. tel: 243 010, 243 012, 243 013

HEAVY MACHINERY

KOHLER on
ATC Co., Ltd.
27 (A), Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin TSP., Yangon, Myanmar. T & F : 665610, 667498 atc-admin@wimaxmail.net.mm

JCB
ATC Co., Ltd.
27 (A), Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin TSP., Yangon, Myanmar. T & F : 665610, 667498 atc-admin@wimaxmail.net.mm

HOME FURNISHING

Casabella
22, Pyay Rd, 9 mile, Mayangone Tsp. tel: 660769, 664363.

Franzo Living Mall
15 (A/5), Pyay Rd, A-1, 9 Miles, Mayangone Tsp, Yangon. Ph: 664026

SMART DESIGNS CO., LTD.
European Quality & Designs Furniture Suitable for Outdoor or Indoor Use
No. 422 - 426, FJVC Centre, Ground Floor, Room No. 4, Strand Road (Corner of Botahtaung Pagoda Road), Botahtaung Township, Yangon 11161, Myanmar. Tel: 01 202063, 01 202064 H.P: 09 509 1673 Fax: 01 202063 E-mail: contact@smartdesignstrading.com Website: www.wovenfurnituredesigns.com

Buy space for as little as K. 4500

DENTAL CLINICS
Dr Tin Tun Thwe 339 2nd Fl, Sakara Tower, Bogyoke Aung San Rd, Kyauktada Tsp, tel: 255118. Web: www.dentist-myanmar.com
Micasa Dental Clinic 17, Kubar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, tel: 650933 (30 to 40), Ext: 171, fax: 296138, email: aptgroup@protonmail.net.mm

DRINKING WATER
Kizen Drinking Water 17b, 49th St, Pazuntaung Tsp tel: 202928, 297659, 297921 email: kizen@taip.com.mm

Duty Free
Dream Works Limited
Duty Free Shops
Yangon International Airport, Arrival/Departure Tel: 533030 (Ext: 206/155)
Office: 17, 2nd street, Hlaing Yadanarmon Housing, Hlaing Township, Yangon. Tel: 500143, 500144, 500145.

CALL US NOW: 392928, 392676

MARINE COMMUNICATION & NAVIGATION



Top Marine Show Room
No-385, Ground Floor,
Lower Pazundaung Road,
Pazundaung Tsp, Yangon.
Ph: 01-202782, 09-851-5597

Media & Advertising



Intuitive Design, Advertising, Interior Decoration
Corporate logo/Identity/ Branding, Brochure/ Profile Booklet/ Catalogue/ Billboard, Corporate diary/ email newsletter/ annual reports, Magazine, journal advertisement and 3D presentation and detailed planning for any interior decoration works. Talk to us: (951) 430-897, 553-918 www.medialane.com.au 58B Myanma Gon Young Housing, Than Thu Mar Road, Tamwe, Yangon.

OFFICE FURNITURE



Monday to Saturday (9am to 6pm)
No. 797, MAC Tower II, Rm -4, Ground Flr, Bogyoke Aung San Rd, Lamadaw Tsp, Yangon. Tel: (951) 212944 Ext: 303 sales.centuremyanmar@gmail.com www.centure.in.th



Bld-A2, Gr-Fl, Shwe Gabar Housing, Mindama Rd, Mayangone Tsp, Yangon. email: eko-nr@myanmar.com.mm Ph: 652391, 09-73108896



Bld-A2, Gr-Fl, Shwe Gabar Housing, Mindama Rd, Mayangone Tsp, Yangon. email: eko-nr@myanmar.com.mm Ph: 652391, 09-73108896

PAINT

World's No.1 Paints & Coatings Company



Sole Distributor For the Union of Myanmar Since 1995
Myanmar Golden Rock International Co.,Ltd. Level 6, FJV Commercial Center, Botahtaung Tsp Yangon. Ph-202092-96, Fax: 202079



TOP MARINE PAINT
No-410, Ground Floor,
Lower Pazundaung Road,
Pazundaung Tsp, Yangon.
Ph: 09-851-5202

PLEASURE CRUISES



Moby Dick Tours Co., Ltd.
Islands Safari in the Mergui Archipelago
4 Days, 6 Days, 8 Days Trips
Tel: 95 1 202063, 202064
E-mail: info@islandsafari.mergui.com. Website: www.islandsafari.mergui.com



Road to Mandalay
Myanmar Hotels & Cruises Ltd. Governor's Residence 39C, Taw Win Rd, Dagon Tsp, Yangon. Tel: (951) 229860 fax: (951) 217361. email: RTMYGN@mptmail.net.mm www.orient-express.com

REAL ESTATE

Win Real Estate Agency
Our Services - Office, House & Land (For Rent) [Agent Fees Free]
Tel: 09-501-8250, 09-732-02480.

REMOVALISTS



Relocation Specialist
Rm 504, M.M.G Tower, #44/56, Kannar Rd, Botahtaung Tsp. Tel: 250290, 252313. Mail: info@asiantigers-myanmar.com



Legendary Myanmar Int'l Shipping & Logistics Co., Ltd.
No-9, Rm (A-4), 3rd Flr, Kyaung St, Myaynigone, Sanchaung Tsp, Yangon. Tel: 516827, 523653, 516795. Mobile: 09-512-3049. Email: legandarymyr@mptmail.net .mm www.LMSL-shipping.com



Crown Worldwide
Movers Ltd 790, Rm 702, 7th Flr Danathiha Centre, Bogyoke Aung San Rd, Lanmadaw. Tel: 223288, 210 670, 227650. ext: 702. Fax: 229212. email: crown.worldwide@mptmail.net.mm

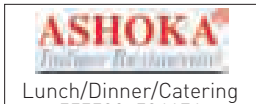


Schenker (Thai) Ltd. Yangon 59 A, U Lun Maung Street. 7 Mile Pyay Road, MYGN. tel: 667686, 666646.fax: 651250. email: schenker@mptmail.net.mm.



Bo Sun Pat Tower, Bldg 608, Rm 6(B), Cor of Merchant Rd & Bo Sun Pat St, PBDN Tsp. Tel: 377263, 250582, 250032, 09-511-7876, 09-862-4563.

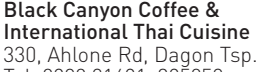
RESTAURANTS



Lunch/Dinner/Catering 555539, 536174



No.430(A), Corner of Dhamazedi Rd & Golden Valley Rd, Building(2) Market Place (City Mart), Bahan Tsp, Yangon. Tel : 01-523840(Ext-309), 09-73208079.



330, Ahlone Rd, Dagon Tsp. Tel: 0980 21691, 395052.



Heaven Pizza
38/40, Bo Yar Nyunt St. Yaw Min Gyi Quarter, Dagon Township. Tel: 09-855-1383



INYA 1 Restaurant & Bar
No.(1), Inya Road, Kamayut Tsp. Tel: 01-527506 email: inyaone@gmail.com www.inya1.com

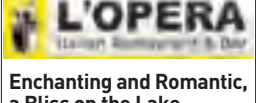


Kohaku Japanese Restaurant
Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon 40, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Tsp, Lobby Level, Tel: 544500 Ext 6231



22, Kaba Aye Pagoda Rd, Bahan Tsp. tel 541997. email: leplanteur@mptmail.net.mm. http://leplanteur.net

Little Tokyo
168-C, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan Tsp. Tel: 09-731-85168, 09-731-78946.



Enchanting and Romantic, a Bliss on the Lake
62 D, U Tun Nyein Road, Mayangon Tsp, Yangon Tel. 01 665 516, 660976 Mob.09-4210-34875 operayangon@gmail.com www.operayangon.com



Monsoon Restaurant & Bar 85/87, Thein Byu Road, Botahtaung Tsp. Tel: 295224, 09-501 5653.

Pansweltaw Express Cafe:
228, Ahlone Rd, Ahlone Tsp. Tel: 215363 (1)-Rm-309, 3rd flr, Ocean, East Point Shopping Center, Pazundaung Tsp. Tel:397900 Ext: 309. (2)-G-Flr, Ocean North Point Shopping Center. Tel:652959, 652960, Ext: 133.

Royal Garden
Nat Mauk Road, Kandaw Gyi Natural Park, Bahan Tsp. tel: 546202

Signature
Near U Htaung Bo Round, about Bahan Tsp. tel: 546488, 543387.

Spicy Forest Thai, Korean and European Food
Rm-051/Basement-1 (B1), Taw Win Center, Pyay Rd. Tel : 09-7320-9566, 01-8600111 (1151)

Summer Palace (Chinese) Restaurant
Level 2, Traders Hotel, #223, Sule Pagoda Road. tel: 242828. ext:6483



The Ritz Exclusive Lounge
Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon 40, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Tsp, Ground Floor, Tel: 544500 Ext 6243, 6244



The Emporia Restaurant
Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon 40, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Tsp. Lobby Level, Tel: 544500 Ext 6294

Traders Gourmet Corner
Level 1, Traders Hotel, #223 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Tsp. Tel : 242828 ext : 6503

Traders Gallery Bar
Level 2, Traders Hotel, #223 Sule Pagoda Road. tel: 242 828. ext: 6433

Traders Lobby Lounge
Level 1, Traders Hotel, #223 Sule Pagoda Road. tel: 242 828. ext: 6456

Western Park
Thakhin Mya Park, Ahlone. Tel: 225143



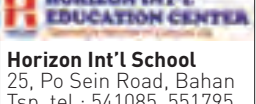
1. WASABI :No.20-B, Kaba Aye Pagoda Rd, Yankin Tsp.(Near MiCasa), Tel: 666781,09-503-9139
2. WASABI SUSHI :Market Place by City Mart (1st Floor). Tel: 09-430-67440
Myaynigone (City Mart)
Yankin Center (City Mart)
Junction Mawtin (City Mart)

SANITARY WARE



Grohe
79-B3/B3, East Shwe Gone Dine, Near SSC Women's Center, Bahan Tsp. Tel : 01 401083, 09-73056736.

SCHOOLS

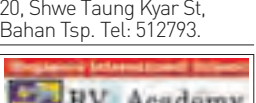


Horizon Int'l School
25, Po Sein Road, Bahan Tsp, tel : 541085, 551795, 551796, 450396-7. fax : 543926, email : contact@horizonmyanmar.com, www.horizon.com

ILBC
180, Thunandar 9th Lane, Thumungalar Housing, Thingungyung.tel: 562401.



ILBC IGCSE SCHOOL
No.[34], Laydaunkan Road, Tamwe Tsp, Yangon. Tel: 542982, 545720, 549106,545736,400156 Fax: 541040 Email: info@ilbc.net.mm www.ilbcdedu.com

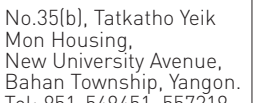


Admissions Office:
Than Lwin Campus: 44, Than Lwin Road, Bahan Tsp, Yangon. Tel: 951-535433, 959-8503073. Email: rvacademygn@rvcentre.com.sg Website: www.rvcentre.com.sg



Yangon International School
Fully Accredited K-12 International Curriculum with ESL support No.117,Thumungalar Housing, Thingangyun Township, Yangon. Tel: 578171, 573149 www.yismyanmar.net
Yangon International School
New Early Childhood Center Pan Hlaing Golf Estate Housing & U Tun Nyo Street, Hlaing Thar Yar Township, Yangon. Tel: 687701, 687702

Streamline Education
24, Myasabai Rd, Parami, Myangone Tsp. tel: 662304, 09-500-6916.



No.35(b), Tat Katho Yeik Mon Housing, New University Avenue, Bahan Township, Yangon. Tel: 951-549451, 557219, 540730. www.yangon-academy.org

STEEL CONSTRUCTION



PEB Steel Buildings
21/5, Thirimingalar Avenue, Kabaaye Pagoda Rd, Yankin Tsp, Yangon. Tel: 653410, 09-7325-7042, 09-515-0332, 09-4016-01948. marketing@pebsteel.com.mm www.pebsteel.com.mm

SUPERMARKETS

Asia Light
106, Set Yone Rd.tel: 294074, 294083.

Capital Hyper Mart
14(E), Min Nandar Road, Dawbon Tsp. Ph: 553136.

City Mart
(Aung San Branch) tel: 253022, 294765. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(47th St Branch) tel: 200026, 298746. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(Junction 8 Branch) tel: 650778. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(FMI City Branch) tel: 682323.

City Mart
(Yankin Center Branch) tel: 400284. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(Myaynigone Branch) tel: 510697. (9:00 am to 10:00 pm)

City Mart
(Zawana Branch) tel:564532. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(Shwe Mya Yar Branch) tel: 294063. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(Chinatown Point Branch) tel: 215560-63. (9:00 am to 10:00 pm)

City Mart
(Junction Maw Tin Branch) tel: 218159. (9:00 am to 9:00 pm)

City Mart
(Marketplace) tel: 523840-43. (9:00 am to 10:00 pm)

City Mart
(78th Brahch-Mandalay) tel: 02-71467-9. (9:00 am to 10:00 pm)

IKON Mart
IKON Trading Co., Ltd. No.332, Pyay Rd, San Chaung P.O (11111), Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: 95-1-535-783, 527705, 501429. Fax: 95-1-527705. Email: sales-ikon@myanmar.com.mm

Junction Mawtin
Bogyoke Aung San Rd, Cor of Wadan St. Lanmadaw.

Ocean Supercentre
(North Point), 9th Mile, Mayangone Tsp. Tel: 651 200, 652963.

Pick 'n' Pay Hyper Market
Bldg (A,B,C), (14-16), Shwe Mya Yar Housing, Mya Yar Gone St, Mingalartaungnyunt Tsp. Tel: 206001-3, Fax: 9000199

Sein Gay Har
44, Pyay Rd, Dagon Tsp. Tel: 383812, 379823.

Super 1 (Kyaikkasan)
65, Lay Daunt Kan St, Tel: 545871-73

Victoria
Shwe Pone Nyet Yeik Mon, Bayint Naung Rd, Kamaryut Tsp. Tel : 515136.

TRAVEL AGENTS



Asian Trails Tour Ltd
73 Pyay Rd, Dagon Tsp. tel: 211212, 223262. fax: 211670. email: res@asiantrails.com.mm



Car Rental with English Speaking Driver.
(Safety and Professional Services). Tel : +95 9 2050107 robinsawnaing@gmail.com

WATER TREATMENT



Commercial scale water treatment (Since 1997)
Tel: 01-218437-38. H/P: 09-5161431, 09-43126571. 39-B, Thazin Lane, Ahlone.



The Global leader in Water Heaters
A/1, Aung San Stadium East Wing, Upper Pansodan Road. Tel: 251033, 09-730-25281.



Water Heater
Same as Rinnai Gas cooker and cooker Hood Showroom Address

WEB SERVICES



World-class Web Services
Tailor-made design, Professional research & writing for Brochure/ Catalogue/e-Commerce website, Customised business web apps, online advertisement and anything online. Talk to us: (951) 430-897, 553-918 www.medialane.com.au 58B Myanma Gon Young Housing, Than Thu Mar Road, Tamwe, Yangon.

Traditional tournament chess gets underway

By Kyaw Zin Hlaing

SOME of the most talented female traditional chess players in Myanmar gathered last week to compete for a chance to appear in the upcoming Southeast Asian Games. The

Myanmar Chess Federation organised the tournament at Aung San Stadium in Yangon from March 24 to 29. This is the first time that Myanmar traditional chess has been included in the Games.

Nine chess players from Yangon, Mandalay, Mon,

Magwe and Ayeyarwaddy participated. The best players were to be chosen by the Federation to continue training for the SEA Games, which open on December 11 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Players will compete in three forms of chess at the

SEA Games in a total of 18 events. The Myanmar Chess Federation is hoping to collect 12 goals across the disciplines.

In July players from seven nations will gather in Myanmar to participate in a tournament playing the more widely known standard form of chess.

Coach sees promise in MNL

By Aung Si Hein

THE Yangon United Soccer Complex is the training grounds of the reigning Myanmar National League champions and where, Kairu, one of the team's fitness coaches, works daily to emphasise the importance that conditioning plays in building a stronger generation of Myanmar footballers.

Kairu, originally from Malaysia, pointed out some of his success stories last week.

"Kyi Lin was small before but he is growing bigger. As for Yazar Win Thein, he was skinny like a snake but now he is built like a buffalo. Fitness has an important role in playing football. Since Asian players are more or less the same size, people overlook the importance of fitness. But if they play against teams from Africa or Europe, they will realise how fitness comes to play," Kairu said.

Kairu wants Myanmar players to experience playing against international teams so that they can test their fitness and strength at a more professional level.

But despite rumours that an English Premier League team and the Cameroonian national team were coming to Myanmar for friendly matches, the games never materialised.

His job with Yangon United is made easier by top of the line training facilities, which are a rarity for most clubs in Myanmar.

The results are clear. Yangon United has six players on the Myanmar national team roster, a point of pride for Kairu.

"It is a big success when Yangon United players are chosen for national squads. I am very happy as well as proud. Myanmar football clubs are made to support the national squad," he said.

With a strong showing in the AFC Challenge Cup qualifier, Myanmar jumped nine places in the FIFA world rankings in March to 155 overall, fourth in the Southeast Asian region.

"Myanmar is now ranked above Malaysia, my own country, because Myanmar won the AFC Challenge Cup qualifier last month. Compared to Malaysian football players, Myanmar players are strong characters, they do not give up easily," Kairu said of the achievement.

Despite the success of the national team and Yangon United, fan support is lacking, with my preferring to watch matches from leagues aboard at tea shops than attend matches in country.

"In most matches, the cheers of spectators can help decide the results. If there are no spectators for home side, it is just like an away game. These days I see that Myanmar spectators are decreasing. In Malaysia once you enter the stadium, even if you are apathetic, you get excited. You get caught up in the crowd's madness and cheering."

One reason for the decline Kairu believes is the lack of transportation to matches, which is why he prefers Aung San Stadium located downtown to Thuwunna Stadium, outside the city center.

Buses which once picked up the fans from different parts of the city to bring them to Yangon United matches at Thuwunna Stadium. Tickets were also often distributed to fans free of charge.

Kairu explained the reason behind the change.

"In order for a football club to enter the AFC Champions League, there is a requirement that says all the fans must buy their own tickets," he said.



Fiji's Leona Nakarawa (R) is tackled by New Zealand's Tim Mikkelsen during the final day of the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens tournament on March 24. Pic: AFP

Sevens teams set on Olympic glory

HONG KONG – With rugby sevens making its debut as an Olympic sport in Rio in 2016, coaches and players across the world are setting their sights on a place at the Games.

There was already an Olympic buzz at last week's Hong Kong Sevens, as training and team selection is being tailored to 2016 ambitions.

England coach Ben Ryan made it clear that the Games are now a determining factor in his team's development.

"We're part of a collective for Great Britain and our job is to make sure the players coming through the England system are good enough to get themselves on a plane to Rio, and good enough to qualify Great Britain to get on a plane to Rio," he told AFP.

Players from the 15s game are now considering crossing over to sevens, spurred on by the chance to win an Olympic medal – former All Black Sonny Bill Williams has said he is tempted to make the switch for 2016 and All Black Liam

Messam has said he wants to compete for gold.

But legendary New Zealand sevens coach Gordon Tietjens says those coming into the game will have to work hard to make the grade.

"To be good at this game you've got to be playing and training it – we've got some All Blacks that have expressed an interest but they'll have to play in some World Series tournaments and we'll gauge from their performances whether they make the team for the Olympics," he told AFP.

Training players for the explosive sevens game will take time. "It's going to require six or seven months of conditioning and training," says Tietjens.

Twelve teams will qualify for the Olympics in a three-stage process. Four will be taken from the 2014-2015 World Series and six from a qualifying event across the International Rugby Board (IRB) regions.

The remaining spots will be filled through a final tournament, with one slot

available if Brazil has been granted an automatic place and two if it has not.

Despite being hosts, as a fledgling side Brazil need to put in some work to secure a free pass into the Games.

"We're looking at what performance criteria we can set for Brazil over the next two years to see if they can automatically qualify," Mark Egan, head of development at the IRB, told AFP.

"We want Brazil to be strong and we're working closely with them – I think for the success of the tournament you'd want to see Brazil in both the men's and women's events, whether they qualify on merit or get an automatic position."

With Brazil making an impressive debut at the Hong Kong Sevens pre-qualifier this weekend, team captain Fernando Portugal has high hopes.

"Without a doubt I would like to play in the Olympics – it would be a dream come true," he told AFP.

Though rugby is little-known in Brazil, he believes the players' commitment and the Olympic stage will go a long way to changing that.

"Our passion for rugby is contagious for the Brazilian people, and we think in the coming years they will support us more and more," said Portugal.

Speaking before the Hong Kong Sevens, Sebastian Coe, who was chairman of the highly praised London 2012 Olympics, said the inclusion of sevens in the Games would be good for the sport as a whole.

"Rugby sevens will help the globalisation of the game and the number of countries that will play it," he said.

For Tietjens, it's the chance to cap an illustrious 20 years in the sevens game.

"I've been to four Commonwealth Games and I've enjoyed every one of those tremendously," he told AFP. "The pinnacle of my career is taking the team to the Olympics." – AFP



SANY

QUALITY CHANGES THE WORLD



Happy Myanmar New Year

*We wish all our customers having a
prosperous, healthy and happy
Myanmar New Year.*



SANY Authorized Dealer in Myanmar

Address : No.(45/46), 4th Floor, Bahosi Development, Wadan Street, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon.

Marketing Hot Line : 09 402 668668, Service Hot Line: 09 402 668600

E-mail : sanymyanmar@gmail.com

TIMESSPORT

Gay NFL player mulls coming out, report says

NEW YORK—A homosexual National Football League player is strongly considering revealing that he is gay and attempting to continue his gridiron career, CBS Sports reported on its website on March 26.

CBS Sports columnist Mike Freeman wrote that the player, whose identity his sources did not reveal to him, "is strongly considering coming out publicly within the next few months."

"I'm told this player feels the time is now for someone to take this step," Freeman wrote.

No active player in a major American team sport has been openly gay.

Freeman said information from several current and former players indicated the player in question was less concerned about reaction from within the NFL locker room as from actions by homophobic fans.

A group of current and former NFL players, including free agent linebacker Scott Fujita, have filed a brief with the US Supreme Court as it considers two cases on the thorny issue of same-sex marriage.

"I honestly think the players of the NFL have been ready for an openly gay player for quite some time now," Fujita said in the report.

"Trust me, the coming out of a player would create much bigger waves outside the locker room than inside. The way I've seen the conversation around LGBT issues evolve, especially in the past few years, has been encouraging.

"Guys are more accepting than they used to be. Even those who raise personal objections to homosexuality, some of whom are good friends of mine, would still be able to coexist and accept a gay teammate."

That proved to be an issue at this year's Super Bowl.

San Francisco 49ers cornerback Chris Culliver made anti-gay comments five days before his team lost to the Baltimore Ravens in the Super Bowl when asked if any members of the team were homosexual.

"I don't do the gay guys man, I don't do that," Culliver said. "Nah, we ain't got no gay people on the team. They gotta get up outta here if they do. Can't be with that sweet stuff. Nah, can't be in the locker room."

Culliver, who also said gay players should wait 10 years after retiring before revealing their sexuality, later apologized, saying, "It was just something in a joking matter but not what I feel in my heart. I don't have any disrespect of people in other sexualities... I am not that type of guy."

Asked if the NFL was ready for an openly gay player, Culliver said, "I don't know if it is. That would be on that person."

Human Rights Campaign vice president Fred Sainz blasted Culliver for "homophobic" comments that "represented the height of ignorance and the type of homophobic banter that professional athletes rarely use any more." - AFP



March Madness: And then there were eight

Rasheed Sulaimon (14) of the Duke Blue Devils dunks against the Michigan State Spartans during the Midwest Region Semifinal round of the 2013 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament on March 29 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Pic: AFP

Ryder out of coma, no memory of attack

WELLINGTON - New Zealand cricketer Jesse Ryder emerged from an induced coma March 30, but faced "a big battle" ahead as he recovered from a vicious assault, his manager Aaron Klee said.

Ryder required medical assistance to keep breathing when he was rushed to hospital in a critical condition early on the morning of March 28.

He suffered serious head and lung injuries after being attacked as he left a bar in the South Island city of Christchurch.

Two men have been charged with assault and police said they were not looking for anyone else, although witnesses said up to four people were

involved in what they believed was an unprovoked attack.

"Jesse's condition has improved to the extent that he is now out of the induced coma and off the ventilator. Jesse is awake and talking to us," Klee said.

"Naturally we are thrilled with this progress. This is only the start of the recovery process for Jesse and there is still a big battle ahead to full health, but the progress is positive."

Witnesses said Ryder was left "shaking, vomiting and covered in blood" after he was repeatedly punched and kicked.

Klee said Ryder had no recollection of the attack.

"He remembers getting a duck

... not much after that," he said, referring to Ryder's dismissal during his Wellington side's season-ending loss earlier in the day to Canterbury in a limited overs match.

Ryder's mother and girlfriend, who were at his bedside when he woke up, have described the beating as a "heinous crime".

Detective Senior Sergeant Brian Archer said police had watched closed-circuit television footage of the incident and had a "reasonably clear picture of what has taken place".

Ryder has a well-publicised history of alcohol-related trouble and had been drinking before the incident, but Archer said alcohol was not an aggravating factor in the attack. - AFP

Golden Lion
Since 1996
ISO 9001:2008
လျှပ်စစ်အန္တရာယ်ကင်းစေမည့် Golden Lion Wire & Cable သုံးကြရန်
01 - 224351, 710044, 709398, 709233, 707766, 685646, 685647, 02 - 65585, 61299