

LOCAL Business

Export value of various peas up by nearly US\$280million

THE export value of various peas as of mid-December in the current fiscal year amounted to US\$1,057.805million, up from US\$777.960million in the previous fiscal year, an increase of nearly US\$280million, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Rice plays a key role in the agricultural export sector, followed

by peas. Ninety per cent of peas produced in Myanmar, are exported to foreign countries, officials said. India reportedly proposed to purchase 900,000 tonnes of peas from Myanmar, with plans to help boost production.

Myanmar exported agricultural products worth US\$1.894b, animal products worth \$5.628m,

fisheries products worth \$365m, minerals worth \$680m, forest products worth \$166m, industrial goods worth \$3.409b and other commodities worth \$1.199b to foreign countries. Meanwhile, capital goods worth \$4.345b, raw materials worth \$4.012b and personal goods worth \$2.634b were imported into Myanmar.—*Ko Htet*



A pea farm seen in Pyay Township, Bago Region. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

Swiss and UK companies to purchase coffee from Chin State

NAT Coffee from Switzerland and Prisma Coffee from the United Kingdom are gearing up to purchase coffee produced from Chin State, it is learnt from Myanmar Coffee Association.

The purchase commitments are the result of a worldwide search by Switzerland and the UK to find coffee beans that met certain criteria, which they found in Chin State

because of its favourable weather and geographic conditions, said U Ye Myint, the chair of the above said association.

Representatives from Nat Coffee and Prisma held a workshop about coffee plantation and production from 20th to 23rd December in cooperation with the Myanmar Coffee Association and Chin State Coffee Supplier

groups, it is learnt.

Nat Coffee has already noted that coffee from Chin State, Myanmar can be ordered on their website by May or June, 2017. The partnerships with Nat Coffee and Prisma are the best opportunity for estate growers in Chin State because the companies will further expose Chin State's coffee to the global market.—*200*

Real estate sector to recover in mid-2017

MYANMAR Real Estate Services Organization called for early enactment of the real estate services law to attract more foreign investment while predicting recovering of the real estate sector in mid-2017.

"Currently, rental market in the real estate sector in Yangon Region is steady and is also expected to see booming in the mid-2017,

said Daw Mo Mo Aung, General Secretary of the Myanmar Real Estate Services Organization (Central).

On behalf of the organization, she expressed her hope that the real estate services law is coming out in the near future. The organization has more than 4,800 members nationwide.—*Soe Win (MLA)*

Pre 1 Home Centre offering one stop service for construction materials

PRE 1 Home Centre, the biggest distributor of construction materials, is offering one-stop service with construction materials imported from Asia and Europe available.

The centre was opened on 20th December on No. 2 Road in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. The center aims to offer the customer the right products at the right price. All materials used in construction are available. Addi-

tionally, the centre also offers furniture. This place is convenient for the construction sites in Kyauktan, Thanlyin and Thilawa.

Opening of the Pre 1 Home Centre will create over 300 job opportunities for locals. This is the fourth centre of Pre 1 Home, which employs over 1,000 people. There are plans to establish Pre 1 Home Centres in Mandalay and Mawlamyine in early 2017, it is learnt.—*Ko Htet*

De-registration of scrapped old cars increasing

THE number of deregistered old cars hit its highest point this month at over 950 so far, according to the department of road transportation and administration (RTAD).

Especially, the 20-year-old vehicles are mostly found to be de-registered at RTAD, followed by the locally produced cars.

The rate of de-registration this month has significantly risen when compared to other past months, not only in Yangon but also outside Yangon.

The increase in de-registration is a result of a new auto policy that will take effect in a month. After a suspension on the import of per-

mit-free cars, many old car owners de-registered their vehicles to be able to return the slip to import again, it is learnt.

Currently, the competent authorities are under discussion to shorten the term of the cars for de-registration in the coming year. The prices of the cars are recorded high in the local auto market, up by Ks2 to 3million per car, resulting from the suspension on issuing of individual import permits. Similarly, the prices of those model cars which are no longer be granted permits next year are remarkably on the rise, it is learnt from the car market.—*Ko Khant*

FMI's share price hits all-time low, YSX stock trading continues to decline

THE share price of First Myanmar Investment (FMI) at Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) reached its lowest price, down to Ks14,000, on 27th December, 2016. Additionally, the stock trading of all three listed companies are on the decline, according to the statistics released by YSX.

Previously, FMI's stock trading hit its lowest price at Ks15,500 on 25th November. But the share price continued to decline down to Ks15,000 on 22nd and 23rd December. The price slipped further to Ks14,500 on 26th December and remained on the decline at Ks14,000 on 27th

December. FMI hit its highest stock trading price at Ks41,000 on 29th and 30th March at YSX.

Similarly, the share trading of Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH) is also on the decline. After a share split, MTSH's share price reached the highest at Ks5,300 per share and now, the price dropped down to Ks45,000 starting from 23rd December.

In addition, Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB) has received the least interest against the other two listed companies, hitting zero trading seven times in one month.

Moreover, the stock trading in November is seen as the

worst, with a trading value of Ks2,213,328,400, with shares worth Ks4,027,821,700 traded in October.

A total of 8,811 shares of three listed companies were traded at YSX on 27th December, 2016, with a share price of Ks14,000 for FMI, Ks4,500 for MTSH and Ks9,100 for MCB, according to stock trading data of YSX.

YSX is barely over a year old and a publicity campaign will be required to make the public aware of the benefits of stock trading, an official said.—*Mon Mon*



A visitor seen outside Yangon Stock Exchange in Yangon on 11 November, 2016. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH