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Workers make lacquerware in Bagan. Businesses like this should be enabled and supported, the government says. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

## ‘Pragmatic approach’ needed for SME emergence: VP U Myint Swe

To develop small and medium enterprises in Myanmar, a “pragmatic approach” should be used and encouragement should be given for the emergence of new businesses focusing on export and innovation, said Vice-President U Myint Swe, Chairman of the SMEs Development Work Committee.

U Myint Swe made the

comment at the committee’s meeting 1/2017 held yesterday in the meeting hall of the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present at the ceremony were the Vice-Chairman, Union Minister U Khin Maung Cho, and committee members — Union Minister U Kyaw Win, Dr. Myo Aung, Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, Chief Minis-

ters of Regions and States, committee members, professional experts, economists, Permanent Secretaries, departmental heads and responsible officials.

“National economic development includes 99 per cent of SMEs, which play an important role as the main driving engine in upgrading national economic capability. Provided that SMEs

develop, employment, income and Union government’s tax revenue will automatically develop. If so, inland currency flow will normally be running smoothly. Out of 12 national economic policies, the second includes “to support SMEs that will help acquisition of jobs and economic development.”

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## Two reporters, two policemen arrested in Yangon

TWO Reuters journalists were arrested on Tuesday evening in Yangon for illegally obtaining and possessing government documents, according to the Myanmar Police Force.

Two policemen allegedly involved in the case were also arrested, said the MPF.

“Wa Lone, also known as Thet Oo Maung Maung, and Kyaw Soe Oo, also known as Moe Aung, with the Yangon-based Reuters News Agency, were arrested for possessing important and secret government documents related to Rakhine State and security forces (with the intent) to send them to a foreign news agency,” said the news release from the MPF.

The two journalists obtained the documents by deception from the two policemen, who came back from Rakhine State after serving security duties in Maungtau and Buthidaung in Rakhine State, said the MPF.

The two journalists have been charged under the Myanmar Government Secrets Act.

The statement said that actions would also be taken under the same Government Secrets Act and police law against Police Captain Moe Yan Nang and Police Sergeant Khin Maung Lin.—Myanmar News Agency ■



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