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President U Win Myint receives outgoing Chinese ambassador; discusses peace, national reconciliation matters



President U Win Myint meets with Chinese Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

PRESIDENT U Win Myint received outgoing People's Republic of China (PRC) Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang, who completed his tour of duty in Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed the promotion of bilateral Pauk Phaw relations, increasing bilateral eco-

nomie relations through Belt and Road project, friendly visits of heads of state, Myanmar's internal peace and national reconciliation matters were discussed.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and other officials. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Two Reuters reporters, one actor among 6,500 prisoners granted amnesty, released

A total of 6,520 prisoners were released in a presidential amnesty yesterday. Among the prisoners freed from Yangon's Insein Prison were two Reuters reporters and one actor.

Yangon-based reporters Thet Oo Maung, alias Wa Lone, and Kyaw Soe Oo, also known as Moe Aung, were arrested on 12 December on charges of

violating the Official Secrets Act and were sentenced to seven years in jail on 3 September, 2018. Actor Moe Aung Yin was arrested in 2016 on a drug possession charge and was awarded separate jail sentences of 12 years by the Yangon East District Court and 5 years by the Pazundaung Township Court.

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State Counsellor attends 2nd Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the opening address at the second Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Myanmar yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

NATIONAL Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) Chairperson State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered an opening speech at the second Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar organized by Religions for Peace held at Thingaha Hotel Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In her speech the State Counsellor welcomed attendees to the Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar.

Religions for Peace (RfP) International based in the United States of America, New York, consist of religious leaders from religions of the world. It was learnt to be the largest and most representative entity in the world working for world peace. RfP works together with followers of all religions of the world in peace process works with the aims of converting religious conflicts between different religions and raising human development, create a just and harmoni-

ous human society and protect the earth.

It was an honor and pleasure to see RfP organizing this second forum after successfully holding the first Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar at MICC-II, Nay Pyi Taw from 21 to 22 November in 2018. As all religions have teachings, instructions and guidelines that were beneficial for human society and peace, religions promote justice, human culture and human dignity. Religious teachings make a person mature and kind and give him/her peace.

Today's religious leaders were following the teachings of their religion and strive toward establishing a harmonious and peaceful human society, develop and strengthen world peace and security. There are requirements to establish mutual understanding and respect between different religions and strive toward establishing a peaceful, secure and a flourishing human society.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 12th regular session holds fourth-day meeting

THE fourth-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 12th regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning.

Reorganization of districts, village tract, town

At the meeting Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat informed the Hluttaw about re-delineate the borders of Taunggyi and Kyaukse districts and abolishing of Laukkai District in Shan State, two villages of Thabyuchaung and Daybrame in Mon State Thaton District Paung Township Yin Nyein (North) Village-tract combined and formed

as Thabyuchaung Village-tract, Chin State Haka District Haka Township Surkhua village-tract formed as Surkhua Town with two wards and abolishing of Surkhua village tract and Surkhua village. An announcement was made about Hluttaw putting the matters on record.

Second amendment bill to the Settlement of the Labour Dispute Law

Next Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee secretary Dr. Myat Nyana Soe tabled a motion to approve by paragraph the second amendment bill to the Settlement of the Labour



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Dispute Law. After obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's approval. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker an-

nounced further that the works on the matter will be continued as per Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law and rules and adjourned the meeting.

The fifth-day meeting of the 12th regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be held on 9 May it is learnt. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, committee chairpersons hold coord meeting



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat addresses the coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker and committee chairpersons held a coordination meeting 1/2019 at Zabuthiri Hall meeting room in Hluttaw Building, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

First Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat remarked that the day's meeting was held for joint groups to assess and review the budget. During the more than three years term of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw more

than 90 laws were enacted and in conducting the Hluttaw's main responsibility of legislation, not only the bill committee but all relevant committees were to participate and cooperate said the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.

Meeting attending committee chairpersons and secretaries then discussed committee wise works and provided assessment, suggestions and explanations.

Committee wise works to

be conducted were coordinated as required by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat who then delivered a closing speech before the meeting came to a close. The meeting was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairpersons and secretaries and officials from Pyithu Hluttaw Office. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Third Myanmar-Australia Foreign Ministry Consultations held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Third Myanmar-Australia Foreign Ministry Consultations was held on 7 May 2019 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was co-chaired by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, and Mr. Richard Maude, Deputy Secretary of Indo-Pacific Group, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia.

During the meeting, they discussed matters on the promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation, democratic reforms, economic develop-

ment endeavours, situation in Rakhine State and peace process of Myanmar.

They also deliberated on further strategic cooperation in various sectors including agriculture and livestock breeding, education, health, tourism, human resources development, law enforcement, trade, investment and development cooperation.

Permanent Secretary U Myint Thu hosted the working lunch to the Australian delegation at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Representatives from Myanmar and Australia attend the Third Myanmar-Australia Foreign Ministry Consultations in Nay Pyi Taw on 7 May 2019. PHOTO: MNA

We have much to carry on fulfilling the hopes and needs of the people of the country. We must press on until our citizens have their dignity raised and our country can retain its former glory on the global stage.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)

Let us strive collectively for the emergence of a just and free nation—a nation which will guarantee equal rights and equality, a nation which practices a pure ideology.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

State Counsellor attends 2nd Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace



NRPC Chairman State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for the documentary photo with the attendees at the second Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-1

To educate and inform about terrorism resulting from extremist religious groups and suffering caused by wars, conflicts and climate change, Asia Pacific Regional Interfaith Youth Network Conference organized by RfP-Myanmar was held at St. Mary's Cathedral, Yangon from 18 to 20 December 2018. Youths who will be responsible for Myanmar's future were expected to discuss about the essence of eternal peace in this discussion.

Asia Region Multi-Religion consultation with RfP representatives from 21 Asian countries to prepare for RfP World Assembly in Germany in August 2019 was held at St. Mary's Cathedral, Yangon from 5 to 7 March 2019.

Furthermore signing of an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) between Interfaith

Friendship and Unity Group (Myanmar) formed with the aim of achieving internal peace, stability and the country's development via interfaith friendship and unity and RfP-M at the Royal Garden Hotel on 2 April 2019 was believed to enable the effective conduct and implementation of interfaith friendship and unity works.

At this forum in addition to examining human dignity and goodness ought to be shared with others, ways and means to overcome difficulties faced in the transition to a democracy system, ending of conflicts and achieving peace, establishing an open door economic system based on duty and responsibility of the entire international human society will be examined. The forum was also learnt to examine the responsibility and the power to provide benefit by the belief, ethic, social

and cultural guidelines of each religions in Myanmar.

All are urged to cooperate and work together in the nation building works in accordance with the teachings and guidelines of their respective religions and mutual understanding to prevent outbreak of religious conflicts and establish a stable and peaceful social life in Myanmar where many people with diverse religions live, and provide full assistance, care and rehabilitation to those affected by conflicts.

Through conducting meetings like these continuously, may all people — of same religion and different religions — live together in peace and friendship. May all of you be able to propagate the spirit of peace, may you all be able to enjoy the fruits of success. May the country be peaceful and become a modern and developed

country as soon as possible, said the State Counsellor.

Next State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi took a documentary photo with the attendees. Afterwards Religion for Peace-Myanmar (RfP-M) Patron Cardinal Charles Bo, RfP-M Chairperson U Myint Swe and RfP International Honorable President Bishop Gunnar Stalsett delivered speeches on national reconciliation and peace while Dhamma Dutta Sayadaw Ashin Saykainda and Oxford Sayadaw Prof. Dr. Bhaddanta Dhammasami delivered speeches on Dhamma and peace.

The forum was attended by Sayadaws, sanghas, religious leaders of various religions, Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Ministers, Deputy

Ministers, departmental heads, responsible persons from various religions, diplomats, representatives of United Nations organizations, officials from RfP, officials and invited guests.

At the forum presentations and discussions on religion wise development of peace in a positive way; education; equal rights, duties and responsibilities for ethnic nationals and minorities; capacity raising and participation of women; engagement with youth; youth protection; characteristic of Rakhine State; differences and common challenges were made. The forum also listened to the voices of youth. The second Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar will be held for two days from 7 to 8 May at the Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, it is learnt. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



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VP U Myint Swe addresses MSMEDWC meeting 1/2019

THE Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Work Committee (MSMEDWC) Chairman Vice President U Myint Swe addressed the committee's meeting 1/2019 held at the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In addressing the meeting the Vice President said the day's meeting was the fourth meeting of MSMEDWC. To effectively support MSME's manufacturing, services and trade works a 24-member Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Central Committee (MSMEDCC) was formed on 7 June 2016 with 11 duties and responsibilities. In order to effectively implement and conduct its duties and responsibilities MSMEDCC formed MSME Development Work Review, Coordination and Implementation Group, MSME Development Agency and MSME Development Fund Management Group. Furthermore regional agencies were formed in Nay Pyi Taw Council, States and Regions and four self-administered division and zones of Wa, Naga, Danu and PaO while two more in the remaining self-administered zones of Palaung and Kokang would soon be formed.

In the three MSMEDWC meetings held 27 decisions were made out of which 15 were implemented while 12 were still being implemented. Those under implementation decision were to be completed as soon as possible by setting up a time frame for completion.

99 percent of businesses in Myanmar were MSMEs and the country's economy would develop only when MSMEs develop. Therefore MSMEDWC was required to place emphasis towards implementing the four aims described in the MSME Development Law. The four aims were MSMEs to easily acquire economy related information, technical and financial support; increase MSMEs accessibility to local and foreign markets and increase the competitive capability; increase job opportunities and raise their incomes through MSME development; and reduce work difficulties and obstacles for MSME to conduct their works. The Union Government, Nay Pyi Taw Council, State/Region governments and private sectors were to cooperate and successfully implement these aims.

It was known to everyone



Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the speech at the MSMEDWC meeting 1/2019 at the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

that under the leadership of MSMEDWC, MSMEs product exhibition and competitions have been held in states and regions starting from 2018 February and have been held in Mandalay, Magway, Patheingyi, Taunggyi, Monywa, Bago, Yangon, Mawlamyine and Myeik while a union level MSMEs products exhibition and competition was successfully held in Nay Pyi Taw from 22 to 24 March.

In the nine region and state MSMEs product exhibition and competitions, a total of 112 prizes, 39 for micro businesses, 43 for small businesses and 40 for medium businesses were presented. In Nay Pyi Taw union level MSMEs products exhibition and competition a total 14 were presented with 3 first prizes, 5 second prizes and 6 third prizes. Furthermore Ministry of Planning and Finance MSMEs bank loan acquiring work committee also presented MSME loan certificates while all prize winners were permitted to use MSME Product Logo on their products while necessary policy and instructions would be issued.

In addition to this information and education works must be carried out so that MSMEs understand Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Hygiene Practice (GHP) and conduct necessary preparation for it in their works while regional governments and relevant ministerial departments were to cooperate toward evaluating MSMEs with potentials and issue certificates.

Workshops on region wise Action Plans to support MSMEs were being conducted in cooperation with partner organizations and out of the 15 regions that include Nay Pyi Taw Council,

States and Regions, there remain 7 states and regions where the workshops remain to be held. Implementation of the Action Plans and to conduct the workshops in the remaining 7 states and regions would be conducted in cooperation between Union government, state/region governments and NGOs.

Drawing up bills and enacting laws required for MSMEs were being conducted and on January 2019 Industrial Design Law and Trademark Law were enacted while Patent Law was enacted in March 2019. The Literature and Arts Copyright Bill was debated in Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and will be enacted into a law soon.

Policy indicators on setting up and implementing SME development policies for ASEAN region were being jointly indicated by ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (ACMSME) and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) once every four years and assessments and reviews were seen to be conducted according to the 8 points SME Policy Index in 2018.

All need to work together and strive toward raising the country's SME Policy Index Score, said the Vice President.

Relevant ministries, government organizations and public sector were urged to cooperate and assist MSMEs to produce innovative and quality products, expand local and foreign markets, raise technology and economic knowledge, cooperate with local and foreign organizations related to MSME, produce more import substitution products, obtain required loans, consistently obtain changing technologies, strategies, news and

information and raise human resources.

Aims set for MSMEs development which forms the main backbone of the country's economy, duties and responsibilities assigned were to be implemented.

In addition to implementing aims set for MSMEs development which forms the main backbone of the country's economy, duties and responsibilities assigned, emphasis must be placed toward ensuring that the regional work arrangements were in line with set policies and work processes. Meeting attendees were requested to openly report the status of sector-wise work done, future work arrangements as well as providing necessary suggestions, said the Vice President. In the meeting first MSMEDWC Vice Chairman Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho explained about the committee's work and committee secretary Ministry of Industry Permanent Secretary U Ko Ko Lwin explained about the implementation of decisions made at the three work committee meetings.

MSMEs Development Agency Chairman Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo explained about works conducted by the agency, implementation of state/region wise Action Plans, status of holding workshops, meetings held with development partner organizations, status of obtaining technology and market and future plans.

MSME Development Work Review, Coordination and Implementation Group chairman U Khin Maung Kyaw explained about the group's works and future work processes to be conducted based on SME Policy Index.

MSME Development Fund Management Group secretary Budget Department Director General Daw Thida Tun explained about the group's works and loans issued to MSMEs.

MSMEDWC members consisting of Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, state/region Chief Ministers explained about Nay Pyi Taw Council and state/region wise opportunities for MSME development, status of works implemented, future works, difficulties faced and suggestions.

Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Soe Thein, UMFCI President U Zaw Min Win, Small and Medium Industry Development Bank CEO Dr. Zeya Nyunt, MSME Development Agency member U Kyaw Wunna, MSME Development Fund Management Group member U Ye Min Oo and officials also joined in the discussions.

Vice President U Myint Swe gave comments and suggestions to ensure proper coordination and gave his concluding remarks.

The following senior officials attended the above meeting:

The committee's Vice Chairman Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho; work committee members Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, state/region Chief Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor; chairmen and secretaries of MSME Development Work Review, Coordination and Implementation Group, MSME Development Agency and MSME Development Fund Management Group; Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President; experts; heads of departments and officials. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

VP U Henry Van Thio calls for speeding up land use management process

VICE President U Henry Van Thio in his capacity as chairman of National Land Use Council (NLUC) addressed the 3rd meeting of NLUC held at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in Nay Pyi Taw, called for speeding up the implementation of the process for land use management process nationwide.

In addressing the meeting the Vice President spoke of the announcement of National Land Use Policy in January 2016, the content and aims of the policy, holding of coordination meetings and holding of National Land Use Policy Forum in October 2018.

The Vice President urged the earliest implementation of the seven decisions made at the second work coordination meeting and commented on the next level works to be conducted. A motion urging the government to review the National Land Use Policy to establish National Land Law, draw up national land use strategy, mid and long term project goals and work processes, draw up and implement policy



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the 3rd meeting of National Land Use Council (NLUC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

PHOTO: MNA

frameworks was approved at the Second Amyotha Hluttaw 11th regular session 19th day meeting. The NLUC welcomed this decision of the Hluttaw and would work towards drawing up and implementing the National Land Law. Works would be continued towards drawing up a bill and submitting the finalized bill to

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The work process stages would be conducted according to the guidelines set by NLUC, support of technical advice group and cooperation of other work committees, State, Region, Union Territory (Nay Pyi Taw Council) land use committees. NLUC members were required to strive towards sys-

tematic management of land resources, said the Vice President. Next NLUC secretary Union Minister U Ohn Win explained about works conducted on decisions made at the 2nd work coordination meeting.

Members of the Council reported on the completion of work and work in progress. Chairman

of National Land Use Council Vice President U Henry Van Thio then provided a final comment on organizing work committees, importance of works of the committees and spoke of the need for the establishment of a good and systematic land management in Myanmar. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



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Office of the President
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(6 April 2019)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 4 May 2019 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

No	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal actions taken
1	Information received of Daw Myint Myint (a) Daw Khin, who lives in Zinn Village, Kanbalu Tsp, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 2-5-2019, police searched the house of Daw MyintMyint (a) Daw Khin, aged 53, daughter of U Khun Maung, and seized her with stimulant tablets and heroin. A case has been opened her with MaMaSa (Kanbalu), MaYa (Pa) 5 /2019 under Section 16(c)/20 (a) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Hla Min Htwe (a) Kalar, who lives in Mingalar Street, Section 10, Wunzin Ward, Meiktila Tsp, Mandalay Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 28-4-2019, police searched the motorbike driven by Hla Min Htwe (a) Kalar, aged 28, son of U Aye Kyu, and Tun Tun Win (a) Tun Tun, aged 38, son of U Maung Pu, and seized them with stimulant tablets bearing 88/1 letters. A case has been opened both of them with NaMaSa (2) (Meiktila), Ma Ya (Pa) 8/2019 under Section 16(c)/21/22(b) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Nay Htet Lin, who lives in Section 6, Aungzeya Ward, Meiktila Tsp, Mandalay Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 28-4-2019, police searched the house of Nay Htet Lin, aged 23, son of U Myint Oo, and seized him with stimulant tablets bearing 88/1 letters. A case has been opened him with NaMaSa (2) (Meiktila) MaYa (Pa) 9/2019 under Section 16(c)/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Daw Cho Mar Lwin, who lives in Mintaeikin Ward, Aungmyethazan Tsp, Mandalay Region.	On 1-5-2019, police searched the compound of Swethahar sawmill and seized Myint Tin, aged 56, son of U Nwe and Daw Cho Mar Lwin, aged 48, daughter of U Kyaw Din together with heroin. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa (Aungmyethazan) MaYa (Pa) 20/2019 under Section 19 (a)/20(a)/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Zin Min Tun, who lives at No. 1189/a, Ward 70, Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 3-5-2019, police searched the bicycle rode by Ma Thandar Aung, aged 23, daughter of U Maung Oo, with stimulant tablets bearing WY letters. It was informed that all those stimulant tablets were bought from Zin Min Tun (a) Zin Min (a) Wa Toke, aged 40, son of U San Yi. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa (Dagon South) MaYa (Pa) 40/2019 under Section 19 (a) / 21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far a total of 611 cases have been opened files as of 4-5-2019. A total of 962 people, including 805 men and 157 women had been arrested with seizures of 5933.65 g of heroin, 73.67 g of ICE, 38704.74 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 18879.27 g of speciosa powder, 7833.19 g of speciosa, 1.5 liters of opium tincture, 232,305 stimulant tablets, 6424.22 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 513.26 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 23.45 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 16 firearms, different kinds of

- 257 bullets and 1 grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.
4. In addition to the investigations and arrests conducted on drug related complaints mentioned above, the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force have also carried out separate investigations on drug complaints, search and arrests at border gates, and searches of vehicles acting upon given information. During the previous week, multiple arrests were made in the border regions and joint-surveillance gates.
- Acting on tip-off, police searched a man who rode a motorbike on Mawhan-Nanmachi road, near Mawhan Village, MohnyinTsp, KachinStae and caught him with a seizure of 600 stimulant tablets, 1.8 g of heroin and one motorbike. A man was seized with 47 stimulant tablets on the road in front of the People’s Hospital in Phakant Town, Kachin State. Upon acting on tip-off, police caught a man with 162 stimulant tablets in Mawone Group 4, and a man with 975 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle on Mawone-Yadana road. A man was caught with 15990 stimulant tablets and 5 g of heroin in Hmaw Shan Village. Two men were arrested with 191 stimulant tablets in Ward 4, Myawady Town. A man was caught with 81.65 g of speciosa and one motorbike in Thatkaw Village, ChaungzonTsp, Mon State. A man was arrested with 19500 stimulant tablets and one motorbike on Maungtaw-KyeinChaung road, Rakhine State. Police seized a total of ownerless 194,610 stimulant tablets and a three-wheel motorbike on Maungtaw-Buthidaung road, Rakhine State. Three men were arrested with 9,750 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle at the six-mile check-point. Two men were arrested with 1,935 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle near Zalae Village, Taunggyi Tsp, Shan State. A woman was arrested with 2795 stimulant tablets in Yayayekwin Ward. A man was arrested with 1095 stimulant tablets and 130.63 g of opium blocks in Naungkarmye (West) Village, Pinlong Tsp. Three men were arrested with 26640 g of heroin and one motor vehicle near No. 3 Village, Namhsan Tsp. A woman was caught with 70 stimulant tablets and 800 g of opium in SaiPae Village, Monghsan Tsp. A man was arrested with 299600 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle at the milepost 5/7, Lashio-Tangyan raod. Two men were arrested with 1910 stimulant tablets and one motorbike at the Yeypu inspection-gate, Hsenwi Tsp. A man was arrested with 20000 stimulant tablets and one motorbike on Tangyan-Maikaung road. Police seized an ownerless Jinlino car with 4000 liters of Methanol/Nitric Acid and one motor vehicle on the road in Nawnghkio Village. A man was arrested with 800 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Kaunghmutone Ward. A man was arrested with 1694 g of heroin and one motor vehicle near the Oriental toll-gate, Naungcho Town. A man was seized with 40000 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle. Five men were arrested with 179000 stimulant tablets, 690 g of opium, 800 g of heroin and four motorbikes in Sipain Village, Mabein Tsp. Police seized an ownerless 2240 liters of Sulphuric Acid near Tarshikampar Village, Lauk-kai Tsp. A man was seized with 1605 stimulant tablets in Ponehtun Ward, Tachilek Town. A man was seized with 3.5 g of heroin and 1000 g of opium in Parkwe Village. A man was arrested with 1131 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Shwezalote Ward, Monywa Tsp. Two men were arrested with 3725 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Ward 1, Kalewa Town. Two men were arrested with 690 g of heroine warehouse in NaungpoVillage,Homalin Tsp. Police seized a briefcase sending a man together with 1800 stimulant tablets and 600 g of heroin at the Zarmani bus terminal. Seven men were arrested with 1238000 g of ICE, three speed boats and one motorbike in the sea southwestern part of Kawthough Town. Police seized some 60580 stimulant tablets, one Sojen vehicle and one boat in the godaung, Thwaythauk Ward, Mawlamyine Town, Mon State. Police searched a house and seized with 810 stimulant tablets, 1110 g of ICE and one Mark Two vehicle in Myaingtharyar Ward, Mon State. Two men were arrested with 73 stimulant tablets and 1140 g of speciosa powder in the boat near Kyunsu Tsp. Two men were arrested with 120 speciosa on the Thankatawaww Mountain.

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

FROM PAGE-6

A man was arrested with 3875 stimulant tablets in Ywarbe Village, Pyay Town, Bago Region. A woman was arrested with 653.2 g of marijuana in Padan Village, NgapheTsp, Magway Region. A man was seized with 3565 stimulant tablets and one motor vehicle on 62nd Street, Pyigyidagun Tsp, Mandalay Region. Upon acting on a tip-off, police seized some 2200 g of heroin and one motor vehicle in Mogok Town. Three men were arrested with 1000 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Taunglei village road, Thabeikkyin Tsp. A man was arrested with 25 g of marijuana in Ward 4, South Okkalapa Tsp, Yangon Region. Two men were arrested with 35 g of marijuana in Ward 6. A man and a woman were arrested with 5.5 g of marijuana in Ward 4. A man was seized with 400 g of marijuana and one motorbike in No.2 Main Raod, Ward 140, Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Region. A man and two women were arrested with 80 stimulant tablets and one motorbike in Ward 1, Maubin Town, Ayeyarwady Region. A man was arrested with 13200 stimulant tablets, one motorbike and 25 22-point cartridges in Dawsarsee Village, Loikaw Tsp, Kayah State.

There have been three arrests involving foreigners. A Chinese man was arrested with a seizure of 3 stimulant tablets at Padamya industrial zone,

5.

Sagaing Township, Sagaing Region an Indian woman was seized with 262.5 g of heroin in Ward 2, Khampat Town, Tamu Tsp. An Indonesian man was arrested with a seizure of 5600 g of ICE at the Terminal One of the Yangon International Airport.

There have been 196 cases being opened between 28-4-2019 and 4-5-2019. A total of 299 people, including 262 men and 37 women, were seized with 894065 stimulant tablets, 33087.167 g of heroin, 1244710.6 g of ICE, 0.3 g of crushed stimulant tablets, 3110.99 g of opium, 130.63 g of opium blocks, 1276.33 g of speciosa powder, 81.65 g of speciosa, 1129.9 g of marijuana, 5440 liters of Sulphuric Acid, 4000 liters of Methanol/Nitric Acid and 25 22-point cartridges. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President via following contact numbers:

Contacts

Auto Telephone No. — 067-590200

Fax Phone No. — 067-590233

Email Address — antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Two Reuters reporters, one actor among 6,500 prisoners ...



Reuters journalist Kyaw Soe Oo and Wa Lone released as part of an amnesty of 6,520 prisoners by President U Win Myint. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

FROM PAGE-1

President U Win Myint pardoned 9,535 prisoners on 17 April, and 6,948 on 26 April.

The number of prisoners freed in amnesty through

three presidential orders has reached more than 23,000.

"I am delighted with the release of the journalists and actor Moe Aung Yin. I wish other prisoners, except those convicted in criminal cases,

are given amnesty as soon as possible," said Daw Tin Tin Htwe from Dawpon Township, who was among the spectators outside the prison yesterday.—Zaw Gyi (Panita)

(Translated by GNLM)

MFF annual meeting, fishery products expo to be held this month

THE Myanmar Fisheries Federation will hold its annual meeting on 12 May at the Thiri Annawa Hall of the MFF in Insein Township, Yangon.

A fishery products expo will also be inaugurated to mark the annual meeting. The Myanmar fisheries expo will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. from 11 to 13 May.

The expo will include panel discussions on the fisher-

ies business by local and international experts. Related associations and companies will participate in the expo to promote Myanmar fisheries products.

The expo will feature stalls of fish restaurants selling traditional fish curry, along with international cuisines. In addition, preserved fish curry cans produced under good manufacturing practices will

also be sold at the event.

The expo will also include entertainment programs.

Myanmar is more than self-sufficient in fishery products. Myanmar exported more than 590,190 metric tons of fishery products, worth over US\$720 million, in the 2017-2018 Financial Year.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

IT and Cyber Security Dept, US ITC Council for Myanmar sign MoU on capacity building

INFORMATION Technology and Cyber Security Department, the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MOTC), and U.S. ICT Council for Myanmar signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) yesterday morning at the MOTC office in Nay Pyi Taw to cooperate on ICT capacity-building and training activities.

The Deputy Minister for MOTC, U Kyaw Myo and U Tha Oo, the Permanent Secretary U Soe Thein and responsible persons of MOTC, Chairmen and members of e-Government Working Committee and (8) Sub-Committees, representatives of U.S. Embassy to Myanmar, Executive Director and members of U.S. ICT Council for Myanmar attended the signing ceremony of the MOU.

In this occasion, the Permanent Secretary U Soe Thein

delivered the opening speech and Ms. Jennifer Peterson from Economic Section of U.S Embassy to Myanmar and Ms. Max Shu Teasdale, Executive Director from US ICT Council for Myanmar gave welcome remarks respectively. Next, U Sai Saw Lin Tun, Director General, Information Technology and Cyber Security Department and Ms. Max Shu Teasdale, Executive Director of US ICT Council for Myanmar signed the MOU.

Under the MOU, various ICT capacity-building and training activities including "Myanmar - U.S Digital Forum in Nay Pyi Taw" will provide by member companies of US ICT Council for Myanmar to boost digital skills of government officials and staff. These include co-hosting workshops, and ICT trainings, disseminating e-Government and ICT "best practices guides". —MNA



Director-General U Sai Saw Lin Tun and Executive Director Ms. Max Shu Teasdale exchange the notes of MOU in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Rule of law is necessary to overcome challenges in Rakhine

ALTHOUGH progress has been made on resolving the Rakhine issue, we are still facing some challenges with respect to security, human rights, and the socio-economic development of the local people.

We have focused all our energy into the implementation of Kofi Annan's advisory report to bring about development in Rakhine State and witnessed the fruits of our efforts. But, we are not out of the woods yet. That means we still need to step up efforts for implementing the remaining works.

We are confident that we will overcome the challenges for the safe and voluntary repatriation of verified displaced persons, and establishing the rule of law and security in Rakhine, through bilateral cooperation with Bangladesh.

Cooperation will resolve the issues between the neighbours as we are ready to welcome back verified displaced persons through the agreed bilateral mechanism.

We cannot resolve such a long-standing issue overnight. Rakhine's problems are not of recent origin, and go back a couple of centuries.

Like, many other parts of Myanmar, the Rakhine State has suffered from poverty and under-development for decades.

To restore normalcy and improve the situation in Rakhine, we must promote the socio-economic development of the local people.

To overcome the challenges in Rakhine State, upholding the rule of law is necessary. Rule of law is a

fundamental necessity for dealing with the current security crisis, repatriating displaced communities to their homes, and preventing any future violence.

We recognize the grave challenges we have to face and overcome in Rakhine State. From the very beginning of its term in office, our Union Government has identified the imperative need for rule of law and sustainable development in Rakhine as a national priority.

With a view to ensure long-term peace and harmony for all those living in the State, the Union government has been doing its utmost to meet the security and humanitarian needs of the people, in line with the recommendations of the commission led by the late Dr. Kofi Annan.

Much of Rakhine's economic potential still remains untapped, while other parts of Myanmar have benefited to a large extent from the opening up of the country's economy.

The Union Government is committed to finding a lasting solution for peace and prosperity in Rakhine. With that aim, the government is continuing to uphold the recommendations and will implement those that best serve the interest of our nation.

The international community is urged to understand the situation we are in, and support us in this uphill battle.



Educative talks should be the quest to conserve the Forests

By Maung Khinemar
(Ahtetminhla)

PRESENT-DAY world is severely threatened with wars and natural disasters. Deforestation is one the basic factors for creating the occurrence of a natural disaster.

Important roles of forests

People together with animals have been inhabited in the natural environment of water, land and forests in this world mutually dependent for millions of years. Among all factors, trees and forests play an important role for the survival of men. United Nations Forum on Forests describes trees and forests as beneficial:

- 1) World rain forest releases over 40% of oxygen
- 2) Dependence of 89% terrestrial biodiversity on trees and forests
- 3) Supply of medicinal plants to men
- 4) Availability of 25% latex drugs from tropical forests
- 5) Daily livelihood of mankind depends on forests
- 6) Pollination in cultivation of tropical forests.

Benefits of trees and forests

Forests are beneficial:

- 1) Creating a temperate climate (Trees absorb carbon dioxide from atmosphere and a tree absorbs 0.611 kilogram to



big green walls to prevent natural disasters such as storms Deforestation

As forests are very important for human societies, humanity takes shelters from forests but timberlands are destroyed by people. In order to meet human immediate needs, trees are being felled excessively. Forests, bigger than the areas of Australia are lost yearly from 2014 to 2016. The

per minute.

In Myanmar, 0.15% rate of deforestation from 1990-2010, 1.73% rate from 2010-2015, 546 000 hectares are being deforested yearly, putting Myanmar at third rank in the world after Brazil and Indonesia. The reason why the deforestation rate has increased shockingly is due to :

- 1) dense population, 2) urbanization, 3) felling of trees for agriculture, 4) forest fires, 5) extensive uses of wood and forest products, 6) Extension of pastures and unsystematic uses of land 7) unsystematic extraction of metal ,petroleum and gases.

In the way, chopping of firewood is being used as fuel, over 70% of our population live in rural areas; they used firewood and charcoal as main fuel for daily cooking purposes. Daily requirements of firewood is 16.53 cubic tons for the populace of rural and urban areas; it accounts for 76.41% of all energy consumed. In addition, Myanmar is included in the World's biggest production of firewood, fuel and wood charcoal which account for about US\$ 30.5 million; Exports of total 330000 charcoal tons to China, according to UN Contrade and database.

With a population of 53.9 million in 2015 with a possible

increase to 60.2 million in 2030, the requirements of firewood and charcoal will also increase. The use of firewood and charcoal will definitely increase in densely populated areas of Ayeyawaddy, Mandalay, Bago, and Sagaing Regions, according to the report of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD).

In consequence of deforestation

- 1.The consequences cause high temperature, floods, landslides, ecological damages in biodiversity, abnormal weather, spread of diseases, insects and other microbes to men.

2.Sustainable management of forests must be sought by collecting funds from different sources; maintenance and rehabilitation of trees in the damaged forests in the developing countries must be encouraged by giving enough incentives.

In the same way, New York Declaration on Forests dated 23 September, 2014 describes to reduce 2 degree centigrade worldwide, reduce deforestation by 50% in 2020 and no more deforestation in 2030.

3.In the worldwide programs, the objectives of rehabilitation and maintenance of forests should be included .

4. oil-palms, horse grams,

ing 2017-8 to 2027-8 financial years must be implemented. Programs of deforestation and lower standards of forests to carbon reduction are being carried out at a country level.

6) The up-to-date forest laws dated 20 September, 2018 should be prescribed by Pyidaundsu Hluttaw as law no.29

7) REED roadmap was drawn in 2013 and started to implement it in 2015.

Carbon Market in the World

Prior preparations are being carried out by Myanmar to enter World Carbon Market. The Market means to change the abnormal climate and to reduce deforestation in the developing countries with scant forests should be helped by the United Nations and World Bank to establish the Green Climate Funds. From these organizations, aids will be given to the countries which maintain trees and forests.

Brazil plays an important role in the Carbon Market. For Myanmar, for its deforestation and storage of Carbon from the forests, stands at 34th position. By 2030, Myanmar is expected

In Myanmar, timber productions stopped in Bago Yoma during 2016-17 for ten years. Rehabilitation plans of forests in the Regions and States during 2017-8 to 2027-8 financial years must be implemented.

tioned ones. Private businessmen should be helped to reduce deforestation and wipe it out completely.

5.In 2020 ,to reduce deforestation due to other economic businesses.

6. As a basic need for agriculture and charcoal requirement creates deforestation and other ways and means must be sought to reduce deforestation and poverty.

In Myanmar, timber productions stopped in Bago Yoma during 2016-17 for ten years. Rehabilitation plans of forests in the Regions and States dur-

to store up to 90km million. (A tree could absorb an average km of 15 per year) Our country including media focuses on importance and a high price of a tree and maintenance of forests; it needs to be educated from all sides and in different ways.

In conclusion, in a period during which many hectares of forests are being destroyed per second, educative talks on reforestation are strongly urged starting from the moment now.

Translated by Arakan Sein

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order No. 16/2019
4th Waxing of Kason, 1381 ME
(7 May, 2019)

Amnesty Order

As a gesture of marking the Myanmar New Year, to ensure the peace of mind of the people, taking into consideration the humanitarian concerns, to make peace making efforts of the Union Government smooth and success, and to support the national reconciliation, 6,520 prisoners serving jail terms in various correctional facilities across the country have been given unconditional amnesty today under the Sub-section (1), Section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Sd/
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 17/2019
4th Waxing of Kason, 1381 ME
7 May, 2019

Appointment of State Minister

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 262 (f) and article 264 (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 19 (c) and 82 (c) of the Union Government Law, and Section 8 (g), 56 (a) of the Region or State Government Law, U Hla Tun has been appointed as the Minister for Electricity, Energy and Industry of the Mon State Government.

Sd/
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Head of Service Organization appointed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Min Aye Ko, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Deputy Director-General), Office of the Union Minister under the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs as Director-General of the same office on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

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Workshop on Review of Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State concludes

THE second day of Workshop on Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State concluded in Yangon yesterday, with open discussions on achievements and challenges in resolving Rakhine issue.

During the two-day workshop, those taking part in implementing the recommendations of the Annan Commission openly discussed and reviewed the implementations and sought better ways for future tasks, said Dr. Win Myat Aye, Chairman of the Committee for Implementing the Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

The workshop was held as part of efforts for peace and stability and for speeding up socio-economic development in the state; five sectors were discussed.

It was attended by U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor; Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi,



Union Minister U Thaung Tun (Centre) acts as the chairman of the workshop while Dr. Kyaw Yin Hlaing as the speaker and Dr. San San Aye as the discussant. **PHOTO: MNA**

Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Chairman of the Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister

eral, representatives of Hluttaw, members of the Maungdaw Investigation Commission, members of the Advisory Commission for Rakhine State, members of the

discussion while Dr. Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Director of CDNHI acted as the speaker and Dr. San San Aye, Director-General of the Social Welfare Department as the discussant.

Afterwards, in the health education sector, Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe acted as the chairman of the discussion while Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports Dr. Thet Khaing Win acted as the speakers and Dr. Tha Hla Shwe from the Myanmar Red Cross Society as the discussant.

The workshop ended in the afternoon with concluding remarks by Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye.

In his remarks, Dr. Win Myat Aye expressed thanks to those who openly discussed at the workshop and the attendees.

The suggestions produced by the workshop would be helpful for the future work for implementation of the recommendations, said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

The suggestions would be put on record and the future plans and progress would distributed to ministries concerned.

He also called on those from committees concerned working on implementation of the recommendations of the Annan Commission to make more efforts for overcoming challenges of the longstanding deep rooted issue.

A press conference was held following the workshop. —MNA
(Translated by TTN)



Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Dr. Pe Myint, Dr. Myint Htwe, Dr. Win Myat Aye and Dr. Myo Thein Gyi attend the second day of Workshop on Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Ministers for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Investment and

for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, deputy ministers, directors-gen-

committee on implementing the recommendations on Rakhine State and members of the advisory board, representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), diplomats and representatives of the UN agencies and international organizations.

In the social cohesion sector, Union Minister U Thaung Tun acted as the chairperson of the

The suggestions produced by the workshop would be helpful for the future work for implementation of the recommendations, said
Dr. Win Myat Aye.

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

Committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State clarifies achievements, challenges at press conference



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye (2nd from Right), Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham (2nd from Left), Mr. Arnel Capili (Left) and Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Information U Myo Myint Maung are seen at the press conference. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

A PRESS conference was held following the Workshop on Review of the Implementations on Rakhine State in Yangon yesterday.

It was attended by Union Minister of the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, departmental officials, members of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State and Advisory Board, representatives of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management-AHA Centre, diplomats and representatives from the UN agencies and local and foreign media.

The press conference began with a statement by Dr. Win Myat Aye, Chairman of the Committee for Implementing the Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

"The implementation of the recommendations is stagnant because of the additional conflict caused by AA; to address these insecurity issues, heightened

security is needed to prevent both ARSA and AA" said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

"That the best way forward is to implement the bilateral agreement between Myanmar and Bangladesh as has been done previously successfully," said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

"Government should step up its communications effort to disseminate information widely including to the international community. In this regard, a mechanism is needed to be developed to tackle disinformation," he added.

"There are challenges to UEHRD i.e sustainability, be it financial or political sustainability beyond 2020. But we are trying to overcome all the difficulties for sustainability. UEHRD cannot be for short term. It must be for long term. We need the assistance from other INGOs. The development of Rakhine state must be a national task," said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham, member of the Advisory

include clear commitment from the leadership, attention paid for further economic development from Rakhine and significant effort to expand access to both health care and education of both communities," said Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham, member of the Advisory Board of the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State.

"We discussed through the two days how the government can use its initial progress in addressing those recommendations to build momentum toward meeting of the recommendations. Continued development and expanded access to the education come from the basics. Renewed freedom of movement, and expanded access to livelihood and then pave

mar and more importantly between international community and Myanmar towards securing a lasting peace in Rakhine and the safe return of the refugee whose desperate plight continues. This is essential to build on today's progress so that all of its people can live together with dignity and the hope of a better tomorrow," said Lord Darzi of Denham.

Mr. Arnel Capili, Deputy Executive Director of the AHA Centre

Afterwards, Mr. Arnel Capili, Deputy Executive Director of the AHA Centre, said ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management-AHA Centre gathered all the interviews focused group discussion and would sub-



Union Ministers, representatives of UN and diplomats are seen at the press conference. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Board of the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State

"The challenges in Rakhine had been intensified since the initial publication of the report. It is my view that some important steps had been taken. These

the way to improve cohesion and reconciliation. Initial progress and bringing community back together and ensuring government commitment to facilitate the change will help forge the trust," he added.

"We really need to turn this (dialogue) on both within Myan-

mit the completed report to the Union Minister for Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement. "What we have seen there is that the government of Myanmar has done a lot of things. We have seen everything is in place.

SEE PAGE-12



Local and foreign journalists raise questions on implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State at the press conference. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State clarifies achievements, ...

FROM PAGE-11

But there are still a lot of rooms for improvement. ASEAN as a regional body is ready to stand and support our friend and family member. And we will stand ready to be able to provide more assistance to the government of Myanmar," said

Mr. Arnel Capili.

Afterwards, Dr. Win Myat Aye, Rt. Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham and Mr. Arnel Capili replied the questions raised by the journalists.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye answered the question on if the scheme to bring back the displaced persons from

the neighbouring country was delayed, if the government had a plan to hold a forum inviting representatives from local Islamic communities, from Rakhine communities and from Islamic religious organizations in foreign countries.

He also replied to the question about one year

extension for return of displaced people.

Rt. Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham also answered questions raised by journalists.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye answered the question on human rights situation in Rakhine State.—Win Sandi

(Translated by GNLM)

Magway Tsp to cultivate sesame over 13,500 acres using GAP



Sesame plantation in Magway.
PHOTO: ZEYATU (MAGWAY)

SESAME will be cultivated on more than 13,500 acres of land in Magway Township, using Good Agriculture Practices, in the coming season, according to Magway Township's Agriculture Department.

Foreign demand for

black sesame grown under GAP system has increased greatly, and cultivators growing sesame using GAP have earned more profits than ordinary sesame growers. Last year, sesame was cultivated on 5,000 acres

of land, but now growers in Magway plan to bring another 8,500 acres of land under sesame cultivation.

"Sesame cultivated under the GAP system ensures food safety of customers and guarantees high quality in the market. So, the numbers of growers cultivating sesame under the GAP system is increasing. The Magway Region Government is also planning to expand sesame acreage with the use of GAP system in collaboration with other partnering associations," said U Khine Min, the head of Magway Township's Agriculture Department.

Growers are currently learning about Good

Agricultural Practices, such as using organic pesticides, avoiding chemical pesticides, recording data from cultivation to harvest stage, according to one farmer.

The Agriculture Department plans to cultivate over 180,000 acres of sesame and 60,000-80,000 acres of peanut in the coming rainy season in Magway Township.

Earlier only 48 villages in Magway Township cultivated black sesame under the GAP system, but now the number of villages has crossed 50, according to the township's Agriculture Department.—Zeyatu (Magway)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Illegal drugs, two hand grenades confiscated in Indawgyi region

Authorities seized illegal drugs and two hand grenades on 5 May in Ilaytu Village, Indawgyi region, Mohnyin Township, Kachin State according to the report. During anti-narcotic surprise check operation, a combined team comprising members of the police and anti-narcotic drug squad from Mohnyin Township inspected the suspect, Myint Aye (aka) Zaw Min Tun's house.

They discovered and confiscated the 8.5 and 4 inches of hand grenades, 50 stimulant tablets, raw opium weighing 25g, a sword and a knife with the suspect. Action is being taken against the suspect, Myint Aye, 40 from Ilaytu Village under the section 19 (A) and 22 (B) by the Lone-tone Town Police Force.—Ni Toe

(Translated by La Wonn)

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01-8604530

Course on processing value-added dairy products to be held in Mandalay

By Nyein Nyein

A two-day course on processing value-added dairy products will be held on 5 and 6 June at Kalamataung Village in Patheingyi Township of Mandalay Region, according to the Myanmar Livestock Federation.

The federation is working to develop the dairy sector by making value-added dairy products at a reasonable price. Experts from the Livestock Product Research and Development Center, Chiang Mai, Thailand will conduct the course.

The course will cover the production of a variety of dairy products such as cottage cheese, grilled cheese, and halloumi cheese. Trainees will also

learn about making milk soap and milk salt scrub during the course, according to the MLF.

The course is being jointly organized by the Myanmar Livestock Federation and the Thailand Livestock Product Research and Development Center. MLF members are eligible to apply for the course.

The MLF will cover the course fee and food expenses. The trainees will have to pay for the raw materials used in practical lessons. The cost is estimated at K50,000 per person.

Those interested in attending the course can register by calling 013-644041 and 013-644843, within working hours, by 31 May.

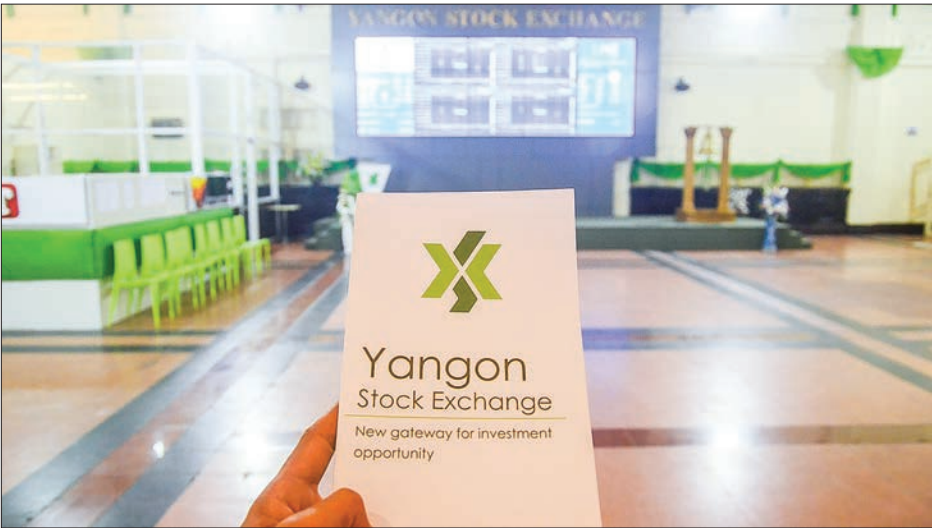
(Translated by La Wonn)

Over 109,000 shares traded on YSX in April

A total of 109,682 shares with an estimated value of K506 million were traded on the Yangon Stock Exchange in April, an increase in terms of both volume as well as value compared to the previous month, according to the monthly report of the YSX.

In the January-March quarter, the value of traded shares dropped to their lowest level in the month of March, when 90,572 shares worth an estimated K396 million were traded on the exchange. In February, 80,179 shares worth K409 million were traded, while 89,576 shares worth K526 million were traded in the month of January.

At present, shares of five listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawasez Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), and TMH Telecom Public Co. Ltd. — are being



Stock Exchange electronic board with indexes showing stock information at YSX. PHOTO: PHOEKHWAR

traded on the YSX.

In April, shares of FMI closed at K8,900, MTSH at K2,900, MCB at K7,100, FPB at K21,500, and TMH at K2,800. “The capital market infrastructure is still lacking. Only 15 per cent of the 36,000 securities accounts are active. For the stock market to gather up momentum, government support is of vital importance. With the support

of the government, more public companies will be encouraged to participate in the stock market and more institutional investors such as financing companies, investment banks, and insurance companies will emerge,” U Thet Htun Oo, the executive senior manager of the YSX had told the Global New Light of Myanmar last year.

Last year, the YSX

increased the stock trade matching time from two to four per day. In addition to this, it had organized a promotional event to attract new investors and encourage existing investors to trade more actively by outlining the financial reviews and future prospects of YSX-listed companies. — Htet Myat (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BALI VOY. NO. (100N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BALI VOY. NO. (100N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (031 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (031 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTER ASIA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V ORNELLA VOY. NO. (918W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ORNELLA VOY. NO. (918W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/T.M.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE)
PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (122 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (122 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 08-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEASHIPPING
LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V NEW JOURNEY

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V NEW JOURNEY VOY. NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of I.B.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES
(SINGAPORE) PTE, LTD
Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V MV ZOE S

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MV ZOE S VOY. NO. (19051) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-05-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING
Phone No: 2301928

Erdogan welcomes controversial re-run of Istanbul vote

ISTANBUL— Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday welcomed an order to re-run the recent Istanbul election, a move the opposition has branded an attack on democracy.

His ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) lost the mayorship of Turkey's biggest city by a narrow margin and has refused to accept defeat.

"We sincerely believe there was organised corruption and irregularities," Erdogan told party members in parliament on Tuesday, saying the re-run was the "best step" for the country.

On Monday, Turkey's top election body annulled the results of the March 31 mayoral vote, which was won by Ekrem Imamoglu of the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP).

The party's leader described the seven members of the election board as "gang members" under Erdogan's control. "Those who take their power from the palace will be brought to account before history one day. We take

our power from the people," CHP leader Kemal Kilicdaroglu said in a televised speech. The loss of Istanbul, the country's economic hub, was a shocking defeat for Erdogan's ruling party.

The Islamic-conservative AKP and its predecessors have ruled the city for 25 years, and it was especially sensitive for Erdogan who grew up in the metropolis and rose to power after himself serving as mayor. Imamoglu, a softly-spoken former district mayor, gave a rousing speech to thousands of supporters in Istanbul late Monday, vowing they would emerge even stronger after the re-run on 23 June.

"Maybe you are upset but never lose your hope," he said, while thousands more took to the streets of the chic Kadikoy district to protest against the election board. "This is the collapse of the declining democracy in Turkey. The coming process is condemned to be even worse," said 60-year-old shopkeeper Ali Yamac.

'Incomprehensible'

The international community has voiced concern.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said Tuesday the decision to annul the election was "not transparent, and incomprehensible to us".

The European Union called for the election body to produce its reasons "without delay". "Ensuring a free, fair and transparent election process is essential to any democracy and is at the heart of the European Union's relations with Turkey," EU diplomatic chief Federica Mogherini said. Paris also urged the Turkish authorities to justify the move and ensure "respect for democratic principles, pluralism, fairness, transparency and, in particular, the presence of foreign observers" in the new poll.

The loss of the mayorship in Istanbul, and a more resounding defeat in the capital Ankara, was a rare setback for Erdogan and his party, reflecting widespread concerns over the deteriorating economy.—AFP ■



The decision to re-run the Istanbul sparked protests by supporters of opposition candidate Ekrem Imamoglu. PHOTO: AFP PHOTO



An escalation to the trade war between China and the United States is the top threat to global growth, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde warned. PHOTO: AFP

IMF chief says US-China tensions 'threat' to world economy

PARIS — The head of the International Monetary Fund said Tuesday that fresh trade tensions between the United States and China were the main threat to the world economy.

"Clearly the tensions between the United States and China are the threat for the world economy," Christine Lagarde told journalists at a conference in Paris, adding that recent "rumours and tweets" made an agreement between the countries less likely.

President Donald Trump jolted global markets on Monday by threatening on Twitter that tariffs already imposed on \$200 billion in Chinese exports to US would more than double to 25 per cent on Friday from their current level of 10 per cent.

Also speaking at the Paris Forum event, French Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire warned about the impact of a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

"We are following the current negotiations very closely between China and the United States and we want them to

respect the principals of transparency and multilateralism," he said.

He called on the two sides to "avoid taking decisions that would threaten and would undermine global growth in the months ahead."

"Increasing tariffs is always a dead-end and a negative decision for the whole world, for the United States, for China, for the eurozone, for Europe and world growth," he said.

China said Tuesday its top trade negotiator will visit the United States for talks with his American counterparts this week.

The countries have been locked in talks to resolve tensions that have seen both of them impose tariffs on goods worth \$360 billion.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has described the negotiations as 90 per cent complete but told reporters that in recent days the talks went "substantially backward", which he blamed on China reneging on previous commitments.—AFP ■

Japan finds Debris of crashed F-35 jet

TOKYO — Japanese Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya said Tuesday that debris believed to be pieces of the cockpit and flight recorder has been recovered from a Japanese Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) F-35A stealth fighter jet that crashed off northern Japan last month.

Speaking at a press briefing on the matter, Iwaya said that

the debris was retrieved from the seabed of the Pacific Ocean close to where the F-35A is believed to have crashed.

He said that a US military-chartered vessel had retrieved the debris on 3 May or thereafter. Iwaya said that while it appears that the F-35A's flight recorder had been retrieved, the data storage unit has yet to be

recovered, meaning determining the exact cause of the jet's crash might be difficult.

The defense minister said that joint operations between Japan and the US will continue to try and recover more debris from the jet. A vessel from the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, as well as a Japanese SDF ship, has also

been involved in the search for the crashed fighter jet and its pilot, who still missing.

The plane, some wreckage of which has already been found, crashed into the Pacific Ocean off the northeast coast of Aomori Prefecture in Japan, in waters thought to be as deep as 1,500 meters, leaving the pilot unaccounted for.

Along with Japan's ever-increasing outlays for constitutionally questionable next-generation military hardware, military experts have also questioned Japanese pilots' ability to fly the 5th generation multi-role stealth fighter, intimating that the cutting-edge aircraft requires a significant amount of knowledge and expertise to fly.—Xinhua ■

No rush to cut agriculture tariffs in Japan-US trade talks: Motegi

TOKYO — Japan's top trade negotiator said Tuesday there are no plans to cut tariffs on US farm products ahead of a wider bilateral trade deal.

"As a rule in trade negotiations, there won't be an agreement in any particular category before the others," Toshimitsu Motegi, minister for economic and fiscal policy, told reporters.

He made the remark in reference to US Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's comments last week seeking to prioritize an agreement on farm products to improve the competitiveness of US produce against that of Pacific trade pact members who export to Japan at lower tariff rates.

The United States is no longer part of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership whose members include major agricultural producers such as Austral-

ia, Canada and New Zealand.

Tokyo and Washington began trade negotiations in mid-April as part of US President Donald Trump's push to reduce his country's large trade deficit and increase jobs.

Motegi and his counterpart in the talks, US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, have agreed to include agriculture and industrial goods as well as digital trade such as e-commerce and music streaming services, a point Motegi said the two recently reaffirmed.

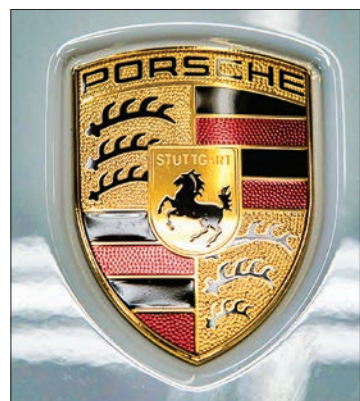
While Japan remains wary of granting the United States greater access to its agriculture market without securing lower tariffs for one of its main exports, automobiles, Trump has expressed hope that a deal on farm products will be reached before he visits 25-28 May to meet with new Emperor Naruhito.—Kyodo News



US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer (far right) welcomes Japanese economic revitalization minister Toshimitsu Motegi (front left) in Washington on 25 April, 2019, ahead of their trade talks.

PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Porsche fined euros 535 mln over diesel cheating



The levy against Porsche is the latest in a string of fines against VW over its years-long "dieselgate" scandal. **PHOTO:AFP**

STUTTGART — German sports car maker and Volkswagen subsidiary Porsche will pay a 535-million-euro (\$598 million) fine over diesel vehicles that emitted more harmful pollutants than allowed, Stuttgart prosecutors said Tuesday.

"The Stuttgart prosecutor's office has levied a 535-million-euro fine against Porsche AG for negligence in quality control," the investigators said.

Porsche "abstained from a legal challenge" against the decision, the prosecutors office added. Tuesday's levy against Porsche is the latest in a string of fines against VW over its years-long "dieselgate" scandal.

The auto behemoth admitted in 2015 to manipulating 11 million vehicles worldwide to

appear less polluting in laboratory tests than they were in real driving conditions.

Following fines against VW, high-end subsidiary Audi and now Porsche, no further investigations over "administrative offences" remain open against the group, a spokesman told AFP.

But legal proceedings against individuals, including former chief executive Martin Winterkorn, remain open.

Meanwhile, thousands of investors are suing the company for the losses they suffered on its shares when news of the scandal broke, while hundreds of thousands of drivers are also demanding compensation.

In its own statement, Porsche said the negligence punished by prosecutors was identified "several levels below the board".

The firm also said that the cost of the fine was included in a provision of around one billion euros booked by the VW group in the first quarter.

So far the total costs of "dieselgate" for the Wolfsburg-based behemoth have mounted to 30 billion euros.

Shares in VW were down 2.2 per cent around 2:00 pm in Frankfurt (1200 GMT) at 154.10 euros, against a DAX index of blue-chip shares down 0.7 per cent.—AFP ■

S Korea's foreign reserves falls on strong USD

SEOUL — South Korea's foreign currency reserves fell last month as the strong U.S. dollar reduced the conversion value of non-dollar assets, central bank data showed Tuesday.

Foreign reserves amounted to 404.03 billion US dollars as of end-April, down 1.22 billion dollars from a month earlier, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

The downturn came as the dollar ascent lowered the

conversion value of non-dollar assets.

The dollar index, which gauges the dollar value against six major peers, gained 0.7 per cent in April from the previous month.

The euro depreciated 0.4 per cent versus the dollar, and the British pound declined 0.9 per cent to the greenback.

The Australian dollar and the Japanese yen slipped 0.3 per cent and 0.9 per cent each

against the dollar last month.

The foreign reserves were composed of 374.16 billion dollars of securities, 19.38 billion dollars of deposits, 4.79 billion dollars of gold bullion, 3.18 billion dollars of special drawing rights and 2.51 billion dollars of IMF positions.

South Korea was the world's ninth-largest holder of foreign reserves as of end-March, down one notch from the prior month.—Xinhua ■

Indonesian consumer confidence drifts up on economy

JAKARTA — Consumers in Indonesia stoked a stronger upbeat response over the country's economy on the backdrop of a higher consumer confidence index in April, a survey of the central bank showed here on Monday.

According to the central bank, Bank Indonesia, consumer confidence index edged higher to 128.8 in April from 124.5 in March.

Reading above 100 suggests consumers are optimistic on the country's economy, while the reading sort of the figure indicates pessimism.

The figure also came above

the consumer confidence index for the whole of last year of 123.6.

The consumer's upbeat stance was factored by their expectation on the sound economic condition in the future and improving their perception of economic condition at present.

The consumers were optimistic over business activities within the next 6 months, improving of their earnings at present and to purchase durable goods.

The price pressure in the next three month suggested softening as the demand of goods

and services ahead of the Islamic festivity was projected to recover.

The higher consumer confidence index in April was in line with the annualized core inflation, excluding administered prices and volatile food prices, in the month which ticked up to 3.05 from 3.03 per cent in March, according to data from national statistics bureau.

Consumption represents more than half of the Indonesia's gross domestic product, which is looked at 5.3 per cent this.—Xinhua ■

Myanmar's U-15 Girls National Team arrives at Chonburi, performs light exercise program

THE Myanmar's U-15 Girls National Team arrived at Chonburi, the capital city of Chonburi Province, Thailand on 7 May afternoon. The squad will compete in the ASEAN Football Federation (AFC)'s I-15 Girls Championship 2019 set to play from May 9 to 22 in Chonburi.

The Myanmar's U-15 Girls

National Team took some light exercise drill around 5 p.m yesterday on the ground near the Chon Inter Chonburi Hotel where they are staying, as stated in the website of Myanmar Football Federation.

23 outstanding players have been selected for the squad recently. —Aung Htein ■



Myanmar's U-15 Girls National Team takes some light exercise drill near the Chon Inter Chonburi Hotel where they are staying. **PHOTO: MFF**

Liverpool seek new 'heroes' with Salah absent against Barcelona



Mohamed Salah was concussed during Liverpool's 3-2 win at Newcastle on Saturday.

LONDON— Liverpool must turn to unlikely heroes to overturn a 3-0 Champions League semi-final, first leg deficit against Barcelona on Tuesday, according to defender Trent Alexander-Arnold after Mohamed Salah was ruled out with concussion.

Roberto Firmino will also be absent against the Spanish champions at Anfield, leaving Jurgen Klopp without two of his most potent attacking weapons for what is already a massive challenge.

"Obviously we've got two of our main goalscorers out, but it also presents an opportunity for some of the other lads to come in, make a name for themselves and make themselves heroes," said Alexander-Arnold.

"If we do overturn the deficit tomorrow then whoever scores, their name will always be remembered because I am sure it will be one of those really special nights."

Salah was stretchered off during Liverpool's tense 3-2 win at Newcastle on Saturday that kept alive their chances of a first Premier League title in 29 years after colliding with Magpies' goalkeeper Martin Dubravka.

"It's a concussion so that means he would not even be allowed to play," Klopp said on Monday.

"He feels OK but it is not good enough from a medical point of view that is all. He's desperate (to play) but we cannot do it."

Klopp, speaking before Manchester City ensured they remain in the driving seat for the Premier League title by beating Leicester 1-0 on Monday, was realistic about his side's chances of progressing to a second consecutive Champions League final.

But the German refused to give up hope.

"Together with our supporters it was a long season and there is at least a little chance to make it even longer," Klopp added.

"Two of the world's best strikers are not available tomorrow night and we have to score four goals against Barcelona to go through after 90 minutes.

"It doesn't make life easier, but as long as we have 11 players on the pitch, we will try it."

Anfield an extra man

Luis Suarez scored the opening goal against his former club in last week's first leg at the Camp Nou, but ahead of his return to Anfield, the Uruguayan warned his current teammates of the lift playing on home soil will give Liverpool.

"To play at Anfield is like playing with an extra man for what the fans transmit to the Liverpool players," said Suarez.

And Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde believes attack will be the best form of defence as if the Catalans get an away goal, Liverpool will need to score five.

"What we have to do is score," said Valverde.

Suarez will be joined by Lionel Messi and Philippe Coutinho on his return to Anfield after a £142 million (\$186.5 million) move to Barca from Liverpool last year.

But the often-injured Ousmane Dembele is absent for the visitors due to a hamstring problem and Valverde believes the Frenchman's absence will be felt just as much as Salah and Firmino.

"We don't want any player to be injured. It would have been extraordinary to see them all on the field. They are all important," he said.

"Dembele's absence is a problem. Against a team that concedes space (in behind) it is always important to have player like Ousmane." — AFP ■

Japan name squad for Poland 2019

TOKYO— Japan have named their squad for the 2019 FIFA U-20 World Cup which is set to start in Poland later this month.

The East Asians lost to eventual winners Saudi Arabia in the semi-finals of last year's AFC U-19 Championship, and some 13 members of that squad have been retained for the global extravaganza which will see Japan take on Mexico, Italy and Ecuador, who they open their Group B campaign against on May 23.

Rising star Jun Nishikawa – named Most Valuable Player when Japan claimed the 2018 AFC U-16 Championship title – has also been included by head coach Masanaga Kageyama.

Tokyo FC's Takefusa Kubo, Kashima Antlers forward Hiroki Abe and Sanfrecce Hiroshima goalkeeper Keisuke Osako are, however, notable absentees, with the trio now expected to feature for Japan's senior team at the upcoming Copa America.

Japan have featured in nine previous FIFA U-20 World Cups since making their tournament debut in 1979. Their best performance to date came in 1999 when they made it through to the final only to be beaten by Spain.

Saudi Arabia, Korea Republic and Qatar complete the quartet of teams flying the flag for Asia in Poland. — AFC ■



Japan squad for the 2019 FIFA U-20 World Cup prepares to compete in the competition which is set to start in Poland later this month.