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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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VP U Myint Swe addresses 10th private sector development committee meeting

Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the speech at the coordination meeting of Private Sector Development Committee (PSDC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

VICE PRESIDENT U Myint Swe said that the main obstacle toward Myanmar's economy was the illegal trade sector. As the illegal trade sector still remained strong it was a great hindrance to businesses conducted legally.

He said this as Chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee, while addressing the 10th coordination meeting of the Private Sector Development Committee (PSDC) held at the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In addressing the meeting the Vice President said that the PSDC had been formed with 20 members by Notification No. 79/2016 dated 24 October 2016 of the Office of the President to accomplish five main tasks. Five work committees led by 3 deputy ministers and 2 permanent secretaries had been formed to implement the Committee's main tasks.

The first meeting of the PSDC was held on 28 November 2016. Four meetings were held in 2017, three meetings in 2018 and two, including this one were held in 2019. From the first to the ninth meeting 77 decisions were made out of which 69 were implemented while 8 were still being implemented. Relevant departments and organizations were urged to cooperate and work together towards completing the remaining 8 decisions by setting up a time frame.

> The main obstacle to the development of Myanmar's economy is illegal trade.
>
> Vice President U Myint Swe

Trade plays an important role in the economic development of the country and private sector involvement was found to be more than 80 percent of the economy. To support the works for private sector development, regular meetings were held with business persons and to date 28 meetings had been held where 353 issues raised by business persons were resolved and responded to.

Some of the responses were related to laws and procedures requiring up to two or three stages of works that needs time. Furthermore meetings of officials from the five work committees, relevant ministerial departments and business persons were held to resolve the issues in steps. It was known by all that works implemented for private sector development had achieved some successes. Relevant ministerial departments, Nay Pyi Taw Council, State/Region governments were placing much emphasis toward conducting private sector development works quickly. The country's economic development will show good improvement only when the aims of private sector development were achieved.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues debate on Constitution amendment report

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held a second debate on the report submitted by the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution during its seventh-day meeting, 13th regular session, yesterday.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw holds 7th day meeting of 13th regular session in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Speaker's foreword

Speaker U T Khun Myat first announced that the assembly will continue hearing MPs remaining to debate on the joint committee's report. He said the comments of certain MPs during the previous meetings contained unsuitable language that threatened to undermine ethnic solidarity, and were consequently erased from the Hluttaw records.

The Speaker said while the assembly had been notified to debate only on the contents of the report and its suggestions and opinions, MPs have been found to be providing suggestions that are linked towards making amendments to a bill.

The Speaker urged the Hluttaw representatives to focus their debate on only the content of the report and warned them be mindful of comments that may subvert the integrity of any one department, organization, individual or ethnic race.

MP U Sai Tun Sein. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Soe Thein. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Pe Thein. **PHOTO: MNA**

Debate on constitution amendment report begins

Firstly, MP U Sai Tun Sein of Mongpyin constituency said he did not oppose amending the Constitution and supports making necessary changes to benefit the nation. He said all MPs have sworn an oath of office in line with Schedule Four, Section 125 of the Constitution and had to adhere to this oath while ensuring consistency with existing laws.

Next, MP U Soe Thein of Kayah State constituency 9 said the actual process of making changes to the Constitution requires ample time for serious consideration and implementation. He asked what criteria were used to assign priority among the 3,765 amendment suggestions made by the 45-member joint committee.

He said voiced his opinion that while there may be facts that indeed require amending, negotiating the determination, possibilities and obligations would be the more suitable course of action. He said none of the members of the current constitution amendment committee are legal experts and thus, their meetings are akin to drafting a new constitution instead.

MP U Khin Maung Thi. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Toe Win. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Thet Naung. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Yi Mon. **PHOTO: MNA**

The MP rejected section 23 of the joint committee's report and suggested forming a commission to draft a new constitution, with members comprised of legal experts, historians and representatives of the 135 ethnic groups, political parties, civil servants, EAOs implementing the peace process, the farmers and labourers, Hluttaw representatives and other necessary individuals.

Next, MP U Pe Thein of Myebon constituency said having the resolve to amend the Constitution shows the admiration for democracy and belief in the federal system. He said those in authority must balance the wants, needs and potential of the situation and be careful not to fan the flames.

After that, MP U Khin Maung Thi of Loilem constituency said the joint committee's report does not provide clear explanations nor complies with sections 433 and 434, Chapter XII, of the Constitution that outline the steps to make amendments to it. Therefore, this report should not be continued and further processes should follow Chapter XII, suggested U Khin Maung Thi.

Following, MP U Toe Win of Tamway constituency said the joint committee's report was complied by members from 14 political parties and nonpartisan MPs elected by the people. As such, it cannot be denied that this report does not represent the interest of the people, he said. He urged everyone to show their support to the joint committee's reports, citing solidarity as the strength of a nation heading towards a democratic federal republic. Next, MP U Thet Naung of Lahe constituency close inspection of the joint committee's report reveals that they have adhered to their own five objectives outlined in section three of the report. He said this and the 3,765 amendment proposals indicate that the 2008 Constitution needs further progress to become a genuine reflection of the will of the people and democratic values.

U Thet Naung called for MPs to grasp the opportunity to make progress towards reconciliation and peace and unite the nation's internal strength. He said sections 22 and 24 of the joint committee's report show plans to follow the provisions in the 2008 Constitution and draft and submit a bill to amend it. He urged MPs to practice open-minded negotiations with each other as they work together on this matter. He seconded the motion approve the report.

Next, MP U Yi Mon (a) U Tin Thit of Pobbathiri constituency said amending the Constitution will bring the likelihood of achieving peace, ending armed conflicts and establishing a democratic federal republic much closer. He said failing to amend it would mean the government elected by the people would be deprived of a portion of its authority in handling national affairs.

He said the 45-member joint committee has performed their duties with constructive intention and enthusiasm, and the process must be continued until a proper bill to amend the constitution materializes to carry out the provisions in Chapter XII.

U Yi Mon said the duty to make the Constitution more democratic and incorporate genuine federalism is now present before the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He urged MPs to take this opportunity to fulfil their responsibilities as representatives of the public.

The report was then further debated by 17 Hluttaw representatives.

The report compiled by the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution was first submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 15 July. Since then, it has been debated once on 30 July by 17 MPs, and again by 24 MPs in yesterday's meeting. The remaining programmes related to the report will be announced in a future date.—Myo Myint, Han Maw ■ *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

VP U Myint Swe addresses 10th private sector development committee meeting

FROM PAGE-1

The main obstacle to the development of Myanmar's economy is illegal trade. A strong illegal trade poses a great impediment to conducting businesses legally. Illegal imports through the border are threatening the existence of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and a 40-member Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee with 13 duties was formed by the Office of the President on 25 June 2019. In addition to this illegal trade control and prevention groups were formed in nine regions and states and 669 arrests had been made with an estimated K 11828 billion worth of illegal imports up to June this year.

A 14-member Ease of Doing Business Ranking Promotion Working Group led by the Deputy Minister for Commerce was formed with 12 work duties which had been conducting works to ensure smoothness in conducting businesses for private sector development as in conducting businesses internationally. Recognition was given to ten support groups formed for each "ease of doing business indexes" for their efforts.

Three points of reform were designated and instructed to relevant sector wise indexes on Reform Action Plans for Doing Business Report to be published in 2020. As of this date a total of 40 points for reforms were submitted by relevant indexes. Relevant ministerial departments were urged to cooperate and implement those reform points, said the Vice President.

Only then can business persons conduct matters like company registration, construction of stores, acquire electricity, acquire loan and pay taxes in a short time frame with efficiency and cost effectiveness. In addition to this all departments related to improving ease of doing business ranking must reform and change laws, rules, regulations and policies to be in accord with present day requirements and use modern methods to conduct reform and changes.

Union Ministers, officials from 5 work committees, officials from Ease of Doing Business Ranking Promotion Working Group and departmental officials in attendance were urged to openly discuss status of sector wise works conducted and future works and provide suggestions, said the Vice President.

PSDC Vice-Chairman Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint. **PHOTO: MNA**

Next Committee Vice-Chairman Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint explained about status of works conducted for development of cooperation between the government and the private sector, status of posting economic attachés to foreign countries, status of increasing the export sector, relaxation on investments and works conducted to restrict entry of illegal goods.

Afterwards Committee Secretary Permanent Secretary U Aung Soe explained about the status of implementing decisions made at past meetings and future work processes.

This was followed by Ministry of Education Director-General Dr Aye Myint, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win, Union Attorney-General Office Director General Daw Nu Nu Yin, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo and Ministry of Planning and Finance Permanent Secretary U Tun Tun Naing explaining about the status of work committee wise works and future works.

Later Committee members Union Ministers U Thant Sin Maung, U Soe Win and U Han Zaw, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Union Ministers U Thein Swe, Dr Myo Thein Gyi and U Ohn Maung, Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Soe Thein and UMFCCI President U Zaw Min Win discussed and explained about the status of private sector participation in transport and communication sector; status of providing bank loan to SMEs; Ministry of Construction participating in private sector development; providing legal advice to enact laws, rules and procedures; works conducted within the ministry on increasing Ease of Doing Business Ranking; status of developing human resources for private sector development; cooperation works conducted by the ministry on private sector development; importance of the Financial Sector on development of businesses and status of loan made; and works conducted for private sector development and acquiring loans.

Ease of Doing Business Ranking Promotion Working Group secretary Ministry of Commerce Permanent Secretary U Aung Soe then explained about index wise reform works conducted for Doing Business Report 2020 and work processes.

Meeting attendees also discussed status of works conducted for private sector development.

Vice President U Myint Swe gave comments and suggestions to ensure proper coordination after which he gave his closing remarks.

The meeting was attended by the following dignitaries and senior officials:

PSDC Vice-Chairman Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint, Union Ministers U Thant Sin Maung, U Thein Swe, Dr Myo Thein Gyi, U Soe Win, U Han Zaw and U Ohn Maung, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Ministers U Aung Htoo and U Maung Maung Win, Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Soe Thein, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of five work committees, officials from Ease of Doing Business Ranking Promotion Working Group, Permanent Secretaries, directors general, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) President, Myanmar Industries Association (MIA) President and departmental officials.— MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

> A strong illegal trade poses a great impediment to conducting businesses legally. Illegal imports through the border are threatening the existence of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)

Mandalay Region's Shan Ethnic constituency candidacy appeal dismissed

THE Union Election Commission has dismissed the appeal from Mandalay Region's Shan Ethnic constituency candidate Daw Nan Htwe Hmone, concerning her objection of elected candidate U Sai Pan Hsai (a) U Sai Tun Sein (a) U Kyaw Sein, after hearing from both sides on 17 July.

The UEC tribunal, chaired by Chaiman U Hla Thein, passed the final verdict yesterday, judging that U Sai Pan Hsai was legitimately elected to the position.

Daw Nan Htwe Hmone had previously submitted a letter of objection against U Sai Pan Hsai to the UEC, and her objections was ruled out by the Electoral Tribunal-2. She submitted this appeal towards the decision as Appellate Case No 2/2019. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Myanmar Mily delegation visits Varanasi, 39 Gorkha Training Centre in India

THE Myanmar delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla visited the Chaukhandi Stupa near Varanasi yesterday morning during their visit to India.

Next they visited the Dharmarajika Stupa and Dhamekha Stupa in Migadawun Park and Buddha relic building built by Sri Lanka near Migadawun Park offering flowers, water, oil lamps and gold leafs. Later, the Senior General and wife made cash donations to the Buddha relic building Sayadaw and paid respects to the image of the Buddha giving his first sermon to the five disciples.

Afterwards the Tatmadaw delegation went to the Myanmar monastery in Varanasi, took Five Precepts from the Sayadaw and donated offertories to samghas and nuns.

Later the Senior General and party went to the 39 Gorkha Training Centre (GTC) in Varanasi and observed trainees conducting small arm firing from DRONACHARYA Fire Control Centre and also observed a demonstration of Kukri knife fighting, according to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for a photograph with officers of the 39 Gorkha Training Centre in Varansai. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

MoI looks to revitalize its print media with quality cartoons

UNION MINISTER for Information Dr Pe Myint held a meeting with cartoonists in Yangon yesterday, and sought advice from script creators to revitalize the newspapers and journals published by the Ministry of Information with the help of quality cartoons.

At the meeting held at the Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road, the Union Minister sought the advice of cartoonists to revive the ministry's Shwe Thwe weekly comic journal to its former glory, promising that the ministry would turn the suggestions into reality.

He also asked the artists to give their views on the publishing of cartoons in the ministry's dailies — the Myanma Alin, the Mirror, and The Global New Light of Myanmar —- and the Do Kyae-ywa Journal, published by the Information and Public-Relation Department.

Afterwards, the officials concerned spoke about the space given to cartoonists in print media, and cartoonists discussed their possible contribution, based on their experiences, to the media.

The meeting came to an end with Union Minister Dr Pe Myint making the concluding remarks.—MNA

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint addresses the meeting with cartoonists held at the Printing and Publishing Department in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin receives Vietnamese delegation

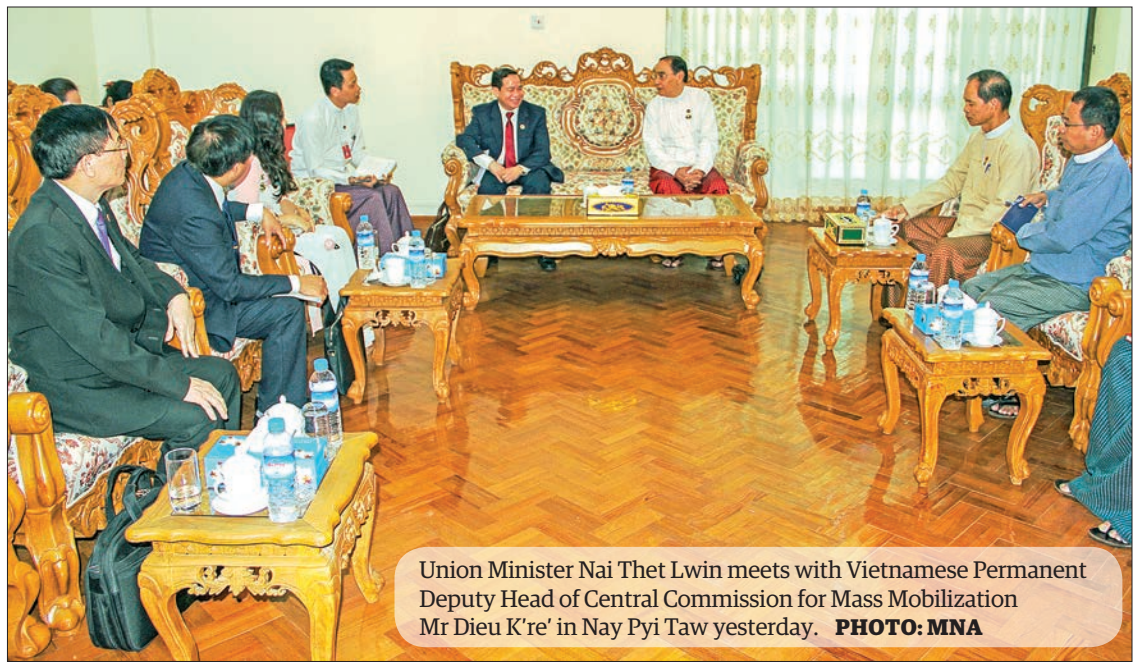
UNION MINISTER for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin received a Vietnamese delegation led by Mr Dieu K're', the Central Committee member and Permanent Deputy Head of Central Commission for Mass Mobilization, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Vietnamese Ambassador Dr Luan Thuy Duong was also present at the meeting.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to establishing policies on socioeconomic development of two countries' ethnic people and in their regions, works on getting the ethnic people equal rights, equally development and unity by forming committees, creating job opportunities, conducting vocational classes and providing educational assistances. They also discussed matters related to the ethnic people's literary culture development and traditional customs, cooperation with neighboring countries, and future cooperation on the ethnic affairs by exchanging experiences based on mutual respect, honesty and faith.

Before the meeting, the Vietnamese delegation observed the traditional culture booth at the ministry. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin meets with Vietnamese Permanent Deputy Head of Central Commission for Mass Mobilization Mr Dieu K're' in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Amyotha Hluttaw Dy Speaker receives UK's Clerk of Legislation, OMI separately

U AYE THA AUNG, Chairman of the Hluttaw Rights Committee and Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, received Mr Liam Laurence Smyth, Clerk of Legislation in UK House of Commons, and a delegation from the Open Myanmar Initiative-OMI separately yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting with Mr Liam Laurence Smyth at 1 pm, they openly discussed Hluttaw affairs. At the meeting with the delegation of OMI at 2 pm, the two sides discussed matters related to Hluttaw rights.

Also present at the meetings were Secretary of the Amyotha Hluttaw's Hluttaw Rights Committee U Maung Maung Latt, members of the committee and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung holds talks with Mr. Liam Laurence, Clerk of Legislation, UK House of Commons, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin pose for a photo with guests at the Swiss National Day commemoration in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

National Day of Switzerland celebrated in Yangon

THE National Day of Switzerland was celebrated at Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday, with Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint and wife Daw Khine Nwe Oo in attendance.

The ceremony was opened with the Myanmar and Swiss national anthems.

Afterwards, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar Mr Tim Enderlin and Union Minister Dr Pe Myint delivered speeches.

Next, the union minister and the ambassador had commemorative photographs taken, together with other officials. The ambassador also hosted the attendees a dinner.

Also present at the celebration were Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and wife, ambassadors and chargé d'affaires from foreign embassies in Myanmar, representatives from the United Nations, and invited guests.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated naval patrol

MYANMAR and Bangladesh conducted a coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River on 31 July, according to the information released by Myanmar Police Force.

The patrol of Myanmar was led by Police Captain Naing Aung Thu from Ma Gyi Chaung police outpost, No10 Border Police sub-division, Area 7, Maungtaw Township, while the Bangladeshi side was led by Subedar Md, Nure Alam from No 2 Border Guard Force, Shahparirdip BOP outpost of Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB).

The Myanmar troops in the two water crafts, including vessel No 002 and Bangladeshi troops on their two water crafts patrolled together from nautical mile 2 (Ma Gyi Chaung creek mouth) to nautical mile 5 (Kanyin Chaung creek mouth) along the Naf River. After the patrol, the two forces held a discussion on watercraft No 002.—GNLM ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)*

Union Minister for Commerce receives Chinese Ambassador in Nay Pyi Taw

UNION Minister for Commerce, Dr Than Myint received Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai yesterday at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed promoting the trade and investment of Myanmar and China, exporting Myanmar's agricultural and marine products to China, preliminary ministerial discussions for launching border economic zone of Myanmar and China and enhancing people-to-people ties, intergovernmental and business relations between the two countries.—MNA ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*

Union Minister Dr Than Myint discusses with Chinese Ambassador Mr Chen Hai in a meeting at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITOR
Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT
Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS
Zaw Min
Zaw Htet Oo
Win Ko Ko Aung

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR
Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS
Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

TRANSLATORS
Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTER
Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Aye Yamon Oo

PHOTOGRAPHER
Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAM
Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe

EDITORIAL SECTION
(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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K300-mln YBS bus terminal being built in Hlinethaya

By Nyein Nyein

A YBS bus terminal worth K300 million is being constructed at Tamargone in Hlinethaya Township, said U Hla Aung, the Joint Secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

The bus terminal is being built on a 1.836-acre plot of land in Tamargone by the Pyay Aung Company, which won the tender for the project.

"We are constructing the YBS bus terminal with the aim of accommodating buses which are currently stopping outside that area. We also have plans to supply CNG in that area. However, it is only our intention. Currently, the Pyay Aung Company is clearing the ground. We will contribute to the development of the YBS," he added.

The YRTA's target is to construct a parking space for school ferries in Pazundaung Township. In addition, the transport authority is scouting sites to construct YBS terminals in other townships.

"The YRTA is not operating with the government's budget. We are spending the funds allocated proportionately by the YRTA management. The bus terminal located in front of the Dagon University cost a million Kyats. So, the Yangon regional government put the shares in the Yangon Bus Public Company (YBPC), which constructed that bus terminal. The plot of land for the bus terminal located in Htaukkyant was purchased by the YBPC, which constructed the bus terminal," said U Hla Aung. With land becoming scarce, the YRTA is facing problems finding suitable sites for constructing the bus terminals, he said. Currently, the transport authority is building terminals by renting land belonging to the Yangon City Development Committee, he added.

As there are not enough bus terminals currently, YBS buses are being parked along the roadside, leading to accidents and traffic jams, according to the YRTA.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Thailand repatriates 103 migrant workers to Myanmar

OFFICIALS from Thailand's Ranong Immigration Department handed over 103 migrant workers — 86 men, 16 women, and one child — to Myanmar authorities on Wednesday evening at the Kawthoung border gate.

The migrant workers were repatriated to Myanmar after they were found with expired visas and without proper documents, prompting Thai authorities to initiate legal action against them.

Officials from the Kawthoung District and Township General Administration Department, Labour, Immigration and Population Department, Anti-Trafficking in person Police Force, Labour Department, and Disaster Management Department received the migrant workers. After the Township Public Health Department provided the necessary medical care to the workers, they were sent back to their native towns. — Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Myanmar migrant workers arriving back home from Thailand. **PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)**

One killed, one injured in Shwebo road mishap

AN accident involving a six-wheeled truck and a motorcycle around 9:30 pm on 31 July near Zeetaw Village in Shwebo Township left one person dead and one injured.

The accident occurred after two motorcyclists, identified as Hein Htet, 24, and Min Khant Kyaw, 18, travelling north to south on the Shwebo-Mandalay road, collided and fell to the ground, causing the driver of a six-wheeled truck, coming from the opposite side of the road, to lose control and hit Hein Htet's motorcycle. The truck driver has been identified as Nay Lin Aung.

Hein Htet was injured in the accident, while Nay Soe Htet, 20, who was seated behind him, died on the spot, according to the Township Police. Nay Myo Thu, 24, who was riding pillion with Min Khant Kyaw escaped unhurt.

The Shwebo Township police have initiated action against Nay Lin Aung, Hein Htet, and Min Khant Kyaw for reckless driving under Sections 304(A) and 337 of the Penal Code. — Moe Thauk (Shwebo)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Rain-induced landslide wreaks havoc on Myitkyina-Tanai Road

FOLLOWING heavy rain, a 100-feet long hillside collapsed on the evening of 30 July on the Myitkyina-Tanai Road in Mogaung Township of Kachin State, according to the Township Fire Services Department.

The landslide occurred on a section of the Myitkyina-Tanai Road between KM/14-5 and KM/15 near Mayankahtaung village, Lweliyan village-tract, Mogaung Township.

The Mogaung Township administrator, the head of the Township Fire Services Department, the hillside engineer of the Township Highways Department, and other concerned officers inspected the site of the hillside collapse and cleared blockages. The Taw Win Co was brought in to remove the debris, and the road was reopened at 7 pm the same day. —Win Naing (Kachin Myay)

(Translated by La Wonn)

A member of a rescue team clearing the blockage on the Myitkyina-Tanai Road due to heavy rain in Mogoung Township of Kachin State. **PHOTO: WIN NAING (KACHIN MYAY)**

Market Place (6.5 Mile)
Market Place (Damasidi Road)
Market Place (Junction City)
City Mart (Yankin)
City Mart (China Town)
City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
City Mart (FMI)
City Mart (Junction Square)
City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
City Mart (Sule Square)
City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
City Mart (Waizayandar)
City Mart (Hledan)
City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
City Mart (Junction 8)
City Mart (St. John)
Ocean North Point (9 mile)
Ocean Shwegonedine

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Over 10,000 beehives raised in Magway Region

Bee-keepers inspect beehives for honey production in Magway. **PHOTO: ZAYYATU (MAGWAY)**

A total of 86 beekeepers have produced honey on a manageable scale by placing around 13,000 beehives near local sesame and plum farms in Magway Region.

Pollination by bees has benefited local farmers, too. While sesame and plum growers have seen high yields, beekeepers from the region have produced 250 tons of honey in 2018, and exported 200 tons of honey.

"Last year, we exported 200 tons of honey from Magway. This year, we have already exported one container of honey to the US. Last year, at least 2,500 to 3,000 tons of honey were exported from across the country. Farms reported high yields on account of pollination by bees. Most villages have agreed to rear bees alongside farming," said U Soe Naing, the head of the Magway Apiculture Division.

Beekeepers move their beehives, depending on the blossoming period of crops. The beekeepers produced honey in the irrigated sesame farms of Minbu, Pwintbyu, and Salin townships on the western side of the Ayeyawady river in April and May, while monsoon sesame farming was taken up in Magway township in June and July. Corn farming was undertaken in Myothit and Taungdwingyi townships in August, whereas plum farming was done in Kani, Sagaing Region, from September to November, and at Moenyo and Minhla in Bago Region in the summer. "In other countries, sunflower farmers have to hire beekeepers on their farms to breed bees. In Myanmar, some local farmers are aware of the advantages of breeding bees alongside farming. Some watermelon farmers from Daik-U in Bago Region hire beekeepers. We have to explain to local farmers that bees can fly one to two miles," said U Thein Zaw, the chairman of the Magway Region Beekeeping Association.

While the Magway Region depot purchases a viss of honey for K2,500 for export, beekeepers sell a liter of honey for K4,000 in the market. Honey producers tour sesame, plum, lychee, and watermelon farms across the country to produce honey. (One viss equals 3.6 pounds.) Plum honey production accounts for 60 per cent of the total production across the country.—Zayyatu (Magway) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Auto show to be held in Yangon

By Nyein Nyein

THE 'SUV show 2019' will be held on 10 and 11 August at the Novotel Yangon Max hotel.

The auto show is being organized by Cars DB with the aim of developing the Myanmar motor vehicle industry by enabling people to purchase vehicles in the local market from car manufacturers, distributors, car-related businesses with the help of auto loans provided by banks, according to the media conference held on 1 August at the Novotel Yangon Max hotel to announce the show. "Car sale expos are being held around the world. So, our country should also host such sale expos. The car expo is being held with the aim of bringing sellers and buyers in one place. The expo will also be attended by businesses related to the automobile industry, banks providing automobile insurance, showroom partners, sellers, and manufacturers," said U Myo Thiha, Operation Manager, Cars DB. "By holding car sale expos, more than hundred vehicles can be sold. Moreover, we are holding such auto expos for the development of the motor vehicle sector," said U Wai Phyo Kyaw, Chief Operating Officer, Cars DB. The SUV show 2019 will feature BMW X1, BMW X2, GAC GS 5, GAC GS 7, GAC GS 8, Hyundai Creta, Hyundai Tuscon, JLR Jaguar F Pace, JLR Land Rover All New Discovery, JLR Range Rover All New Evoque, Toyota Rush, Toyota Fortuner, Volvo XC 40, Volvo XC 60, and Volvo XC 90. Buyers will be allowed to take a test drive at the expo.

In addition, car accessory shops and car-related services will also be showcased at the expo. Cars DB emerged as an online portal in Myanmar in 2012 for connecting sellers and buyers directly. Cars DB has held the CarsDB Auto Show Yangon in 2017, CarsDB Auto Show Mandalay in 2018, CarsDB Luxury Auto Show in 2019, CarsDB Auto Show Reloaded in 2019, and CarsDB Auto Show Mandalay in 2019. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Abide by the law to reinforce national stability

LOOKING back at the establishment of the 2008 Constitution, we can see that Myanmar's democratic journey is almost a decade old. Yet, its foundational principal of the rule of law is still surrounded by hesitation and trepidation.

Even now, society needs to be reminded to strengthen and support the rule of law and be educated on it. We have not made much progress in that regard. The people have become numb to the notifications and directives published over the years but are still largely clueless on the context of the law, have misunderstandings, or fear the law as a weapon wielded by those in office.

On close inspection, laws are rules to implement peaceful co-existence between people and communities and ensure their sustainability, development, coherence and fairness. The law is direct and explicit on what is right and wrong, and what should be done or avoided. It also clearly illustrates the penalties for breaking the law.

> A vital ingredient to a democratic system, the rule of law must be strengthened by repealing or amending existing laws to be coherent with the modern era, and new ones must be legislated to meet the needs of the people.

The law administers equity, freedom and justice without discrimination. Therefore, it goes without saying that no one is above the law, and any citizen who respects human rights and impartiality would abide by it.

This, of course, encompasses not just the general public, but also the government institutions and private organizations residing in the country. The administrating government and the administrated public both need to have their own sense of responsibilities and accountabilities. Only then will society be governed with the rule of law.

The people need to grasp the fact that they cannot simply explain away transgressions by stating they did not know or understand existing laws. Likewise, it is the government's duty to ensure every citizen is literate on enacted laws and respectfully adheres to them.

The government and their numerous agencies and departments must do their best to regularly educate the people on the laws, bylaws, regulations and directives they have enacted or issued, and ensure their services are clearly communicated to the public.

The government needs to have certain restrictions on their authority for there to be strong rule of law. In other words, it must not become a totalitarian government. Furthermore, they must be free of corruption, have a transparent administrative system, promote the basic entitlements and rights of the citizens, ensure the stability and security of the whole society, and strengthen public faith and trust in the judicial system.

For decades, our country has lived through a complete reversal from the key requirements mentioned above. Authority was placed above the law, bribery and corruption were rampant, government accountability was non-existent, human and civil rights standards dropped abysmally, and the justice system was looked down on.

It comes to reason that those holding legal authority and the general public need to practice responsibility and accountability to proliferate the rule of law.

A vital ingredient to a democratic system, the rule of law must be strengthened by repealing or amending existing laws to be coherent with the modern era, and new ones must be legislated to meet the needs of the people.

In conclusion, the citizens and institutions of the nation must comprehend and adhere to the living laws to strengthen our justice system and safeguard the benefits of the nation and its people.

■■■

Innovative Thinking and Action for Health

By Dr Than Lwin Tun, Honey Soe (Ministry of Health and Sports)

GRAPHIC: BT

INNOVATION means the introduction of new things, ideas or ways of doing something. The process of thinking up something new or thinking about something old in a new way is called innovative thinking. The Union Minister for Health and Sports mentioned that we will do out of the box thinking, innovative thinking, and identifying newer approaches and practicing epidemiologic thinking. Moreover Peter Ferdinand Drucker, the widely known management consultant, educator and author said, "all organizations require one core competency: innovation." Innovative thinking is nothing like we are born with and how we develop innovative thinking. As it is far from being something we are born with, we can all become innovative and creative by developing the attributes that are common to all innovative people; thinking outside of the box, continually curious, looking at life from another's perspective, good listeners, lack of emotional attachments, etc.

Among all the good and progress being made in the world, there are much more yet to be done. Nowadays, the world is facing so many problems; climate change, pollution, malnourishment and hunger and substance abuse, etc. The global temperatures are rising and are estimated to increase from 2.6 degrees Celsius to 4.8 degrees Celsius by 2100. This would cause more severe weather, crises with food and resources and the spread of diseases. Pollution is one of the most difficult global issues to combat. People all over the world are challenged by various types of pollution; water, air, noise and soil, etc. Currently, there are 795 million people who do not have enough food to eat. The problems of hunger and malnourishment are closely intertwined with poverty.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) address the global challenges, including poverty, climate, environment degradation, prosperity and peace & justice. At the same time, SDGs are considered a universal competence which should be added to all governments' compulsory agenda.

According to the Alma-Ata Declaration in 1978, health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity and is a fundamental human right and that the attainment of the highest possible level of health is a most important world-wide social goal whose realization requires the action of many other social and economic sectors in addition to the health sector.

As it is widely accepted that health and wellbeing cannot be addressed from within the health sector alone, mental and social factors make themselves a room for health. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), mental health is a state of wellbeing in which individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community. The WHO stresses that mental health "is not just the absence of mental disorder." Mental health can affect daily life, relationships and even physical health. Mental health includes a person's ability to enjoy life to attain a balance between life activities and efforts to achieve psychological resilience. It is important at every stage of life from childhood to adult and common among people. Mental disorders are also associated with more than 90% of the one million suicides that occur annually. Suicide is a global public health problem that deserves attention from national health authorities in order to make policies and directives aimed to promote the public's mental health. According to the WHO, more than 800,000 people die by suicide a year, making it the principal cause of death among people fifteen to twenty-nine years old. Myanmar's mental health policy was last revised in 1995, including within the general health policy. The last revision of the mental health plan was in 2006. The mental health legislation which was enacted in 1912, entitled the Lunacy Act 1912 is outdated. Myanmar Medical Association and Sanofi created Community-Based Intervention Program to increase access to treatment.

> In 2017, Myanmar has developed Strategic Action Plan for Strengthening Health Information (2017-2021) in which e-Health and information technology (IT) architecture are considered and included to the strategy.

Social health is a person's ability to interact and form appropriate relationships with other individuals. If a person is socially healthy, he or she is more likely to have a stronger immune system and even when he or she suffers from one health problem or another, he or she is more likely to recover from it quickly. Socially healthy persons are less likely to have depression; which means they are mentally and emotionally healthier. It has significant impact on a person's mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

In 2017, Myanmar has developed Strategic Action Plan for Strengthening Health Information (2017-2021) in which e-Health and information technology (IT) architecture are considered and included to the strategy. The dynamic, robust, responsive and efficient health information system (HIS) is a basic prerequisite for effective functioning of the health care delivery system.

The role of IT in health care cannot be omitted as it has potential to improve the quality, safety and efficiency of healthcare. Entering data into a computerized system is much less time-consuming than paper-based methods. It also reduces the risk of errors in patient data. Accessing patient records digitally can be done in an instant and viewed via portable devices increasing efficiency and productivity.

In Myanmar, Township and Station medical officers and Basic Health Staff are major health care givers in rural and remote area, where 70% of population including ethnics group reside. Recently, the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) has launched Information Technology (IT) supported capacity building program through distribution of mobile tablets to those health care givers, with the objectives of enhancing their ability, promoting health literacy of community and providing effective and efficient health care to public. It is served as a knowledge sharing platform and also provides Information and Communication Technology (ICT) support services for health facilities. The tablet contains standardized health messages, essential manuals, guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for health professionals regarding public health care, medical care, laboratory, food and drug administration, planning, budgeting and staff affairs and research.

Myanmar's government has expressed a strong commitment to accelerating progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in which all people have access to needed health services of quality without experiencing financial hardship. Getting access to clean water and nutrition run first on the way to Health. In the endeavor to achieve UHC, we need to consider integrative parallel thinking of harmonized effective development by working together with collaboration of the following sectors; transportation as well as agriculture, communication and electricity.

The Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) Community should put their efforts in this endeavor as the environment is an important factor contributing to disease and mortality in the developing world, including countries in Asia. We need to think globally and at locally. The importance of disease control programmes become increasingly pressing. For example, the "Actions Against Dengue: Dengue Day Campaigns Across Asia" was subsequently produced by ASEAN and WHO to document regional and national activities to commemorate ASEAN Dengue Day, every 15th June of each year. Another example gives us the Southeast Asia Tobacco Control Alliance (SEATCA), emerged as a major catalyst which works closely with key partners in ASEAN Member States for the advances made in tobacco control in South East Asia Region.

The Member States of ASEAN have a rich heritage of traditional medicine. As traditional medicine is the most widely available and affordable source of health care in ASEAN, its role in the primary health care cannot be omitted. In Myanmar, traditional medicine has existed since time immemorial. It is kind of like we are born with and the reliability of the public on traditional medicine has never been the least. So the risk of exploitation on people's reliability is an issue to be considered. Different ethnic groups have traditional knowledge and practices evolved from different ethnological, cultural, geographical, philosophical backgrounds. The main purpose is to put this knowledge into good use in the daily routine of their life.

In conclusion, while all the countries are marching to the UHC, it should be highlighted that innovative thinking and action for health is an essential platform for achieving UHC.

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order No 35/2019

1st Waxing of Wagaung, 1381 ME
(1 August 2019)

Appointment of State Minister

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 262 (f) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 19 (c) of Union Government Law and Section 8 (g) of Region or State Government Law, U Zaw Win has been appointed as Minister for Immigration and Human Resources in the Kachin State Government.

Sd/-
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

U Myo Thant Pe appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to the People's Republic of China

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Myo Thant Pe, Director-General of Consular and Legal Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the People's Republic of China.—MNA

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Thursday 1st August, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 02ndAugust, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay and Magway regions, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing Region and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavyfalls in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states and isolated heavyfalls in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon regions. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)mph. Wave height will be about (9 – 11) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Taninthayi Region, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 02ndAugust, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 02ndAugust, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 02ndAugust, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Pyithu Hluttaw CFRC Chairman receives Human Rights expert

CHAIRMAN of the Pyithu-Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Rights Committee U Saw received a delegation led by Ms Mohottalalage Thanuja Dayadari Navartne, expert of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, at the Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed the rights and responsibilities of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, activities of the commission in the Asia-Pacific Region, the strategy 2020-2024 of the MNHRC.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental Right Committee U Saw holds talks with AFP Expert Ms Mohottalalage Thanuja Dayadari Navartne yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Gold AYA Motors Int'l Group to manufacture 5,000 units annually

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region Dr Zaw Myint Maung and officials observe automobile plant of the Gold AYA Motors International Group in Myotha industrial park, Mandalay. **PHOTO: KHINE SET WAI**

GOLD AYA Motors International Group in Myotha Industrial Park, Mandalay Region can manufacture 5,000 cars annually. They are to manufacture 10 models of 7 types of cars. They include SUV, MPV and Pickup trucks. The company said that they are going to penetrate ASEAN market.

The manufacturing was demonstrated and introduced at the factory in Myotha Industrial Park, and Regional Chief Minister of Mandalay Dr Zaw Myint Maung, officials and media attended the event.

Dr Zaw Myint Maung said "Foreign Direct Investment is mandatory in a developing country like Myanmar. Good environments are necessary for FDA to come in, so they must be created. Investment comes for profit. We will get benefits from the profit they make. Only one cannot win. We must use win-win method."

Gold AYA Motors International Group Co, Ltd was established in Myanmar in 2017 by Shinning Star Group to implement The Belt and Road project. This assembling company has invested $30,000,000.

"We intend to manufacture 50,000 cars in 5 years' time. We plan to reach above 10 per cent market share and above 40 per cent productivity in country. The cars are up to standard to be exported to ASEAN countries," said Deputy General Manager Mr Jacky Yan.

The factory is located 100 kms from Mandalay. There are parking spaces for manufactured cars, warehouses for machines and parts and showrooms. The car assembling was 7,200 square meters wide.

The engine displacement of cars are 1.5L (Auto Gear) and the maximum speed is 160km/h. Each car weighs 13 tons. Fuel consumption is only 8 liters for 100 km.

"Car production is a foundation for the development of Myanmar's economy and apart from manufacturing the whole car, there are other related work places which can employ 113 locals. Theory and practice will be exchanged. 82 per cent of workers are locals" said Mr Yan.

The company is working in coordination with BAIC CHANGHE, BAIC DODA and local Royal Ye Htut Moe Kaung International Co Ltd in car production and related businesses.—Khine Set Wai ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Students to advise ideas for Mandalay Smart City Programme after field trip

After the excursion tour in Mandalay from 22nd to 31st July, a group of students from three countries will report their findings and suggestions to ministries concerned as part of efforts for assisting in Mandalay Smart City Programme.

A group of 51 professors, teachers and students from Mandalay Government Technological University, Ton Duc Thang University of Viet Nam and Hangdong Global University of Korea will make suggestion on the Urban architecture laid out in the surrounding of the Myanansankyaw Shwe Nandaw Palace.

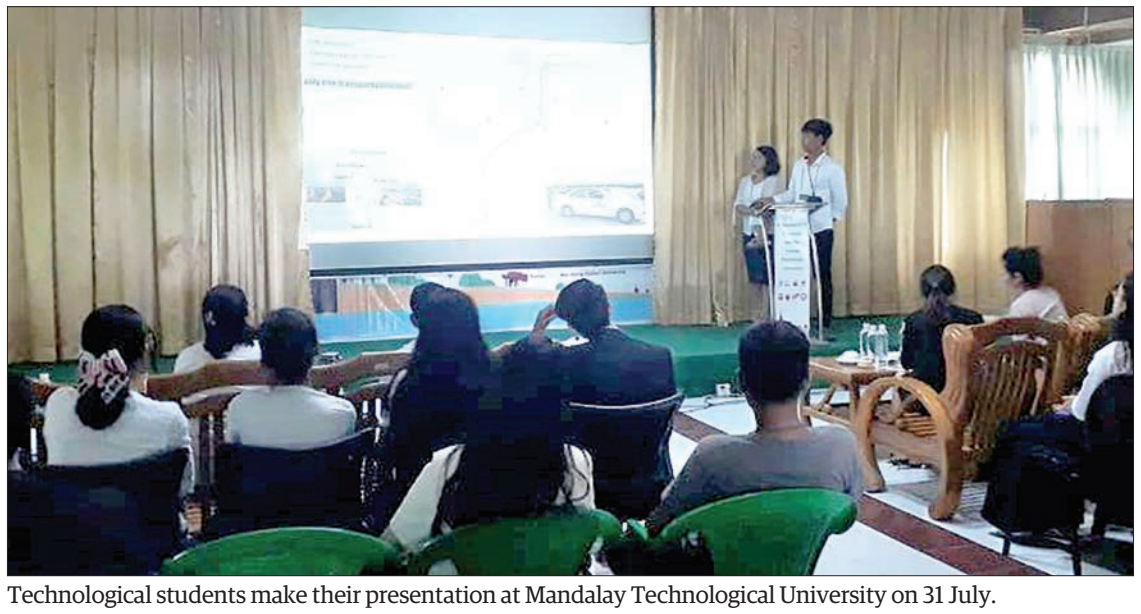
This effort is to assist transforming Mandalay into a smart city. The surrounding of the Mya Nansankyaw Shwe Nandaw Palace was selected as site case to develop urban planning and architecture, said Prof Daw Zar Chi Oo who also took part in the tour.

This program by students is aimed at bringing comfort to visitors, using smart technology.

The study conducted in 5 groups is named International Summer Studio Camp Myanmar.It was planed in January 2019 and funded by UNSECO UNITWIN.

On 31 July programs were awarded at Mandalay GTU.

Ma Mya Thandar Aung from Mandalay GTU said "Our group will preserve the palace. We will make other places assessable from the palace by designing food paths. One will be able to take boat ride around fortification to see the beauty of the palace. There will be electric cars, which don't emit carbon dioxide, to tour around the palace.—Khine Set Wai ■



Technological students make their presentation at Mandalay Technological University on 31 July. **PHOTO: KHINE SET WAI**

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Democratic presidential hopefuls clash over health care in Detroit debates

WASHINGTON — Ten more Democratic presidential hopefuls clashed over health care on Wednesday, with heated exchanges on other topics during the second night of the party's second round of primary debates in Detroit, Michigan.

Senator Kamala Harris, responding to former Vice President Joe Biden's criticism of her recently-released health care plan, said Biden probably didn't read it.

She released a "Medicare for All" plan on Monday after months of inconsistency on the issue, clarifying that she does not support the total elimination of private insurance plans, a step back from her previous stance akin to that of Senator Bernie Sanders.

Biden's campaign later responded that Harris refused "to be straight with the American middle class" on the hefty tax burden brought by her plan.

Harris explained on the debate stage that her plan is responsive to American's needs, considering that private "insurance companies have been jacking up the prices for far too long."

Biden doubled down, telling potential voters to be cautious of a 10-year phase-in period proposed by Harris' plan. "Anytime someone tells you — you're going to get something good in ten years, you should wonder why it takes ten years."

Jim Watson, AFP | Democratic presidential hopefuls Former Vice President Joe Biden (r) and US Senator from New Jersey Cory Booker gesture during the second round of the second Democratic primary debate of the 2020 presidential campaign season. **PHOTO: AFP**

The two polling frontrunners shared the stage with seven other contenders, including Senator Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, who challenged the two by saying they were "at risk of losing the forest for the trees," when the Republicans are chipping away at the Affordable Care Act enacted by former President Barack Obama. The Wednesday night debate lasted over two and a half hours, during which candidates also battled around topics including education, law enforcement, race, climate change, trade, national security, the Russia investigation, and their individual electability.

Many condemned the current administration's immigration policy. "There's not a single person on this stage if were president would ever separate a child from their parents at the border," Senator Michael Bennet of Colorado said. "That is what his administration has done in the American people's name, they have turned our border into a symbol of hostility."

Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey also weighed in on the administration's treatment of undocumented immigrants, citing his visit to detention facilities. "Seeing children sleeping on pavement, people being put in cages, nursing mothers, small children, this is not necessary," he said.—Xinhua ■

Double attack targeting police kills dozens in Yemen's Aden

ADEN — Separate attacks by Shiite rebels and a jihadist suicide bomber killed at least 27 people in Yemen's government-held second city Aden Thursday, many of them newly trained police cadets, security and medical sources said.

The attacks were the first to hit the southern port city in more than a year and dealt a heavy blow to the government's reorganised security forces, which have been trained and equipped by the United Arab Emirates.

The first attack was a suicide car bombing carried out by jihadists on a police station, a security source said.

Ten people, including three officers, were killed and at least 20 others were wounded, according to medics and a security source.

An AFP correspondent saw dozens of troops and police reinforcements helping the wounded outside the entrance to the police station in Aden's Sheikh Othman district.

"Ten people were killed, and we admitted 16 injured, including two in critical condition in MSF surgical hospital in Aden, following this morning explosion in Sheikh Othman police station," Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said on Twitter.

The second attack was carried out by the Huthi Shiite rebels, who said they launched a drone and a ballistic missile at a training camp west of Aden.

At least 17 policemen were killed and dozens wounded, a medical source told AFP.

The aerial attack hit as senior commanders were overseeing a passing out parade for newly graduated cadets at Al-Jala Camp, 20 kilometres (13 miles) from the centre of Aden.—AFP ■

Yemeni security forces rush to the scene of a missile attack on a military camp west of Yemen's government-held second city Aden, on 1 August, 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

US has intel that Osama bin Laden's son is dead: report

WASHINGTON — US intelligence has received information that Al-Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden's son Hamza has died, NBC News reported Wednesday.

NBC said three US officials had confirmed they had information of Hamza bin Laden's death, but gave no details of the date or place, and did not indicate if they had confirmed the information. Questioned by reporters in the Oval Office, President Donald Trump did not confirm or deny the report.

"I don't want to comment on it," he said. In February the US government put a $1 million bounty on Bin Laden's head, saying the man sometimes dubbed the "crown prince of jihad" was "emerging as a leader in the Al-Qaeda franchise." He had put out audio and video messages calling for attacks on the United States and other countries, especially to avenge his father's killing by US forces in Pakistan in May 2011.—AFP ■

Boko Haram kills 27,000 in Nigeria in decade-long militancy: UN

ABUJA — Over 27,000 people were killed in Boko Haram's militancy in Nigeria since the group launched operation in the northeast region of the country in 2009, according to data by the United Nations (UN).

A statement made available to Xinhua in Abuja on Thursday quoted Edward Kallon, the UN humanitarian coordinator in Nigeria, as saying 130,000 people have also been newly displaced from their homes.

"Rising insecurity in recent months has pushed over 130,000 newly displaced people on a long trudge. Arriving en masse to displaced camps, they are looking upon us for aid and protection," the statement said. Boko Haram, whose agenda is to maintain a virtual caliphate in the most populous African country, had also spread its tentacles to neighboring countries including Chad, Niger, and northern Cameroon.—Xinhua ■

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono (R) and his British counterpart Dominic Raab. **PHOTO: KYODONEWS**

Japan's Kono asks new UK foreign secretary for orderly Brexit

BANGKOK — Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono urged his new British counterpart Dominic Raab on Thursday to achieve an "orderly" exit from the European Union to minimize the impact on the global economy.

In their first talks since Raab was named as foreign secretary by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on 24 July, Kono also called for efforts to ensure the withdrawal does not hurt Japanese companies operating in Britain, according to Japan's Foreign Ministry.

Several Japanese financial firms are preparing to move their main European offices away from London, while Honda Motor Co. said earlier this year it will close its Swindon plant in 2021 and Toyota Motor Corp. has said it may pull out of production in Britain around 2023 if the country exits the bloc without an agreement.

During the talks on the sidelines of annual ASEAN-related meetings in Bangkok, Kono said he hopes Britain will remain an attractive investment destination for Japanese companies even after leaving the European Union.

Raab, seen as a hardline Brexiteer, assured Kono that the utmost effort will be made to address such concerns, the ministry said.

Johnson is seeking to strike a deal with the European Union by 31 October but has vowed to leave the bloc "come what may" by the deadline, fanning concerns of a no-deal Brexit.

Kono, meanwhile, welcomed Britain's interest in joining a revised Trans-Pacific Partnership, an 11-member free trade deal that covers 13 per cent of the world's gross domestic product and gives access to a market of 500 million people.

The member countries of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, which took effect in late December, are looking to expand the pact's membership base by inviting other countries.

The United Sates withdrew from Trans-Pacific Partnership after President Donald Trump took office. —Kyodo News ■

China says has begun purchase of more US farm goods

BEIJING — China said Thursday that it had begun purchasing more US farm goods, addressing a key sticking point in efforts to resolve a drawn-out trade war between the two economic giants.

US farm exports to China are estimated to be the lowest in years as a result of Beijing's retaliation against President Donald Trump's tariffs on $250 billion of Chinese goods.

Trump said this week that China was supposed to start buying more American agricultural goods but had shown "no signs that they are doing so".

Chinese enterprises started approaching US suppliers in mid-July to discuss buying new agricultural goods including soybeans, cotton, pork and sorghum, commerce ministry spokesman Gao Feng told reporters Thursday.

US and China trade delegations before the start of talks at the Xijiao Conference Center in Shanghai. **PHOTO: AFP**

His comments came a day after Chinese and US trade negotiators in Shanghai wrapped up their first face-to-face talks since Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to a truce in June.

Companies "have already purchased some agricultural products", Gao added, noting the companies had applied for exemptions to punitive tariffs China has slapped on US farm goods. —AFP ■

TRANSFERING DISTRIBUTOR FOR REGISTERED PESTICIDES

The manufacturer of Viet Trung Pesticide Joint Stock Company (Viet Nam) has registered the following products in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board to distribute in Myanmar by Myanmar Kaung Hman Group Company Limited.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	REG. No	Registration Type
1	V.T RAIN 25 SC	Azoxystrobin 25%	2016-3130	Provisional
2	V.T MANME 72 WP	Mancozeb 64% + Metalaxyl 8%	2016-3131	Provisional
3	V.T FUN 400 SC	Tricyclazole 400 g/L	2016-3132	Provisional
4	V.T TWO FOUR 82.5 SL	2,4-D Amine Salt 82.5%	2016-3133	Provisional
5	V.T XIM 25 WP	Acetamiprid 20% + Lambda-cyhalothrin 5%	2016-3134	Provisional
6	V.T TAP 95 SP	Cartap Hydrochloride 95%	2016-3135	Provisional
7	V.T SUPER 550 EC	Chlorpyrifos Ethyl 500g/L + Cypermethrin 50g/L	2016-3136	Provisional
8	V.T OVER 44 EC	Cypermethrin 4% + Profenofos 40%	2016-3137	Provisional
9	V.T YOO 15 WP	Emamectin 5% + Lambda-cyhalothrin 10%	2016-3138	Provisional
10	V.T SHOW 50 WP	Benomyl 50%	2016-3139	Provisional
11	V.T CAB 500 SC	Carbendazim 500 g/L	2016-3140	Provisional
12	V.T BAT 77 WP	Copper Hydroxide 77%	2016-3141	Provisional
13	V.T BULL 2 SL	Kasugamycin 2%	2016-3142	Provisional
14	V.T MANN 80 WP	Mancozeb 80%	2016-3143	Provisional
15	V.T NINE 25 WP	Metalaxyl 25%	2016-3144	Provisional
16	V.T JADE 80 WDG	Sulfur 80%	2016-3145	Provisional
17	V.T KILL 480 SL	Glyphosate 480 g/L	2016-3146	Provisional
18	V.T KING 300 EC	Pretilachlor 300 g/L	2016-3147	Provisional
19	V.T ONE 75 SP	Acephate 75%	2016-3148	Provisional
20	V.T BOSS 3 GR	Carbofuran 3%	2016-3149	Provisional
21	V.T O.K 70 WP	Imidacloprid 700g/kg	2016-3150	Provisional
22	V.T MOON 5 EC	Lambda-cyhalothrin 50 g/L	2016-3151	Provisional
23	V.T SHOOT 50 EC	Profenofos 50%	2016-3152	Provisional
24	V.T KAN 48 EC	Chlorpyrifos Ethyl 480 g/L	2016-3153	Provisional
25	V.T FIGHT 90 WP	Atrazine 90 WP	2017-3936	Provisional
26	V.T SUN 325 SC	Azoxystrobin 200g/L + Difenoconazole 125 g/L	2017-3937	Provisional
27	V - T LAUNG 32 WP	Bensulfuron Methyl 4 % + Quinclorac 28% WP	2017-3938	Provisional
28	V - T FAN 25 EC	Fomesafen 25 %	2017-3939	Provisional
29	V - T CONE 5 SC	Hexaconazole 5 %	2017-3940	Provisional
30	V.T BOOM 276 SL	Paraquat 276 g/L	2017-3941	Provisional
31	V - T ONI 33 EC	Pendimethalin 33 %	2017-3942	Provisional
32	V - T ZEAL 25 EC	Quizalofop-P- ethyl 25 %	2017-3943	Provisional
33	V.T BEE 35 EC	Diclovos 25% + Chlorpyrifos 10%	2016-3129	Provisional

Now, Viet Trung Joint Stock Company has changed distributor from Myanmar Kaung Hman Group Company Limited to Viet Trung Myanmar Co., Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within 14 days from this advertisement date.

Myanmar Kaung Hman Group Co., Ltd.
829/A, Thumingalar Road, 7-Ward,
South Okkalapa Township, Yangon, Myanmar

First driverless subway line in west China under construction

CHENGDU — The first driverless subway line in the city of Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, is under construction and the tunnel was dug through on Tuesday, according to the subway constructors.

The line, named the No. 9 Line of Chengdu, is a project co-built by Chengdu Rail Transit Group Co., Ltd. and China Railway Group Ltd.

Construction of the subway line started at the end of 2016, and it will become the first fully-automatic driverless subway line in west China.

Visitors look at the latest models of urban rail trains shown at the International Urban Rail Exhibition in Beijing. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

The phase-I project runs approximately 22 km, with a designed top speed of 140 km per hour and 13 stations.

The subway line is scheduled to be operational by the end of 2020.—Xinhua

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (020N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (020N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V STELLAR MAESTRO VOY. NO. ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V STELLAR MAESTRO VOY. NO. ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.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 (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301191, 2301178

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Yara International ASA, a company incorporated in **Norway** and having its registered office at **Drammensveien 131, 0277 Oslo, Norway** is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

PROMICRO

Reg. No.4/15423/2019 (25.1.2019)

In respect of "Chemicals for use in agriculture, industry, horticulture and forestry, aquaculture and animal husbandry; fertilizers and manures; compost; plant growth regulators; seed and seed grain treatment preparations; soil treatment preparations; chemicals for coating of fertilizers and seeds and seed grain; granulated lime; chemical additives; nitrates" included in **International Class 01.**

The above mark has been filed as **European Union Trademark Application No. 017944882**, on August 15, 2018.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, *H.G.P*
For **Yara International ASA**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 2nd August 2019 hh@kcyangon.com

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Yara International ASA, a company incorporated in **Norway** and having its registered office at **Drammensveien 131, 0277 Oslo, Norway** is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

TROPICOTE

Reg. No. 4/5609/2016 (12.5.2016)

In respect of "Chemicals used in industry, agriculture, horticulture and forestry; fertilizers" in **International Class 1;**

CALCINIT

Reg. No. 4/5610/2016 (12.5.2016)

In respect of "Fertilizers" in **International Class 1.**

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, *H.G.P*
For **Yara International ASA,**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated **2nd August 2019** hh@kcyangon.com

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Invitation for Prequalification

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Health and Sports
Department of Medical Services
National Health Laboratory (YANGON)
Design and build of the National Health Laboratory Project

The *Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar* has received funds from the *Agence Française de Développement* ("AFD") towards the cost of the "National Health Laboratory Project" and intends to apply part of the funds to payments under the contract for ***"the Design and Build of the new National Health Laboratory, rehabilitation of NHL historical building and renovation of the Public Health Laboratory in Mandalay"***.

The Employer intends to prequalify firms for all the works and the conceptional design (architectural and technical design) at the same time. The Applicants (single entity or jointventure) shall have all qualifications necessary for the whole design/ build contract.

Interested eligible Applicants may obtain the complete set of the prequalification documents in English electronically on https://tenders-afd.dgmarket.com/tender/28991350 and at *National Health Laboratory/ Ministry of Health and Sports*, 35th Mawkun Tike street, Dagon Township, Yangon.

Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to administration *office of National Health Laboratory/ Ministry of Health and Sports*, at the address mentioned above. by *not later than 20th of September, 2019* 4:00 PM (Myanmar time), and be clearly marked "Application to Prequalify for *Design and Build contract of National Health Laboratory* (*Contract No.* MM-MoHS-DB-P-01)".

To Correction

Announcement of transferring distributor for Registered Pesticide in The Global New Light of Myanmar Newspaper of Myanmar Kaung Hman Group Co., Ltd from the date of 31-7-2019 in No.5,6,7.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient
5	Top Line 25 WP	Dimenthomorph 25%WP
6	Konan 2EC	Emamection Benzoate2%EC
7	Main pam 5 EC	Fenpropathrin 5% EC

True word of these Phase is the following, instead of the above.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient
5	Top Line 25 WP	Dimethomorph 25% WP
6	Konan 2EC	Emamectin Benzoate 2% EC
7	Mani Pam 5 EC	Fenpropathrin 5% EC

To Correction

Announcement of transferring distributor for Registered Pesticide in The Global New Light of Myanmar Newspaper of Close Friend Co., Ltd from the date of 31-7-2019 in No.1,2,16,17,18.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient
1	Irazer 15 EC	Fluzaifop-p-butyl 15% EC
2	GA.TOP 3.1 SP	Glbberellic Acid 3.1% SP
11	Karu Q 25 EC	Proploconazole 25% EC
16	Gardner 5DC	Difenconazole 5% DC
17	Mycol 40 EC	Dimenthoate 40% EC
18	Konan Gold 15 WP	Emamectio Benzoate 5% + Lambadacyhalothrin10%WP

True word of these Phase is the following, instead of the above.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient
1	Irazer 15 EC	Fluazifop-P-butyl 15% EC
2	GA.TOP 3.1 SP	Gibberellic Acid 3.1% SP
11	Karu Q 25 EC	Propiconazole 25% EC
16	Gardner 5 DC	Difenoconazole 5% DC
17	Mycol 40 EC	Dimethoate 40% EC
18	Konan Gold 15 WP	Emamectin Benzoate 5% + Lambda-Cyhalothrin10%WP

N Korean leader Kim oversaw launch of new type of rocket: KCNA

BANGKOK/BEIJING — North Korea confirmed Thursday that it fired projectiles the previous day, with state-run media reporting that leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the test firing of a "newly-developed large-caliber multiple launch guided rocket system."

The rocket system "would be an inescapable distress to the forces becoming a fat target of the weapon," the Korean Central News Agency quoted Kim as saying, adding he "expressed satisfaction over the result."

A South Korean military official, however, maintained the previous day's assessment by Seoul that the North had fired two short-range ballistic missiles, judging from their flight characteristics.

The South has said they were fired from the Kalma area near the North's eastern port of Wonsan at 5:06 am and 5:27 am and flew about 250 kilometers while reaching an altitude of about 30 km before falling into the Sea of Japan.

On 25 July, North Korea launched two short-range ballistic missiles as a warning against South Korea's plan to carry out a joint military exercise with the United States this month.

Photo courtesy of Korea Media. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

The new type of rocket "will play a main role in ground military operations," the news agency said.

Thursday's KCNA report also did not refer to the US-South Korea military drill, slated to be held from Aug. 5 to 20. Pyongyang has denounced such exercises as a rehearsal for an invasion. —Kyodo News ■

US reaffirms commitment to "one-China policy": foreign minister

BANGKOK — Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi emphasized Thursday that the United States has reaffirmed its commitment to the "one-China policy," amid growing tensions between Beijing and Taiwan.

After bilateral talks with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Bangkok, Wang told reporters that they also discussed issues related to the Korean Peninsula, although the Chinese foreign minister did not refer to North Korea's recent launches of projectiles.

"No matter how many problems there are, it is important for the two sides to sit down and have face-to-face dialogue," Wang said.

He and Pompeo met one day after Beijing said it will suspend independent travel to Taiwan by mainland Chinese tourists from Thursday, citing the current state of relations with the self-governed island. Taiwan and mainland China have been governed separately since they split following a civil war in 1949. Beijing has since then endeavored to undermine Taipei's quest for international recognition. China has stepped up such efforts, particularly since President Tsai Ing-wen — who belongs to the independence-leaning Democratic Progressive Party — came to power in Taiwan in May 2016.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

The government of US President Donald Trump, meanwhile, has bolstered already close ties with Taiwan, which China considers a renegade province awaiting reunification. In Hong Kong, mass protests continue, with citizens in the special administrative region calling for a withdrawal of a controversial extradition bill that would allow the transfer of fugitives to mainland China. —Kyodo News ■

Chinese army backs Hong Kong's handling of protests

HONG KONG — The head of China's People's Liberation Army in Hong Kong gave full support to the local authorities' handling of protests targeting the government but stopped short of saying if the army will intervene to help maintain public order, according to media reports Thursday.

Speaking at a reception celebrating the 92nd anniversary of the PLA Wednesday night, the commander of the army's Hong Kong garrison Chen Daoxiang said the series of violent events is "not to be tolerated and strongly condemned."

The Hong Kong garrison will support Chief Executive Carrie Lam's administration in governing according to law, the Hong Kong police, and relevant government departments and the judiciary in punishing violent lawbreakers, Chen told the guests, as seen in a video clip posted by media.

Guests attend a reception held to mark the 92nd anniversary of the PLA's founding in Hong Kong, south China, 31 July, 2019. The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Garrison in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) hosted a reception on Wednesday to mark the 92nd anniversary of the PLA's founding. **PHOTO XINHUA**

Protests have been held almost every weekend since June against the government's effort to amend a law that would allow the transfer of fugitives to mainland China and other jurisdictions.

While Lam, the territory's leader, has since suspended the legislative process in an attempt to restore calm, protesters are calling for the bill's full withdrawal.

Their demands have also grown to include greater democracy, the release of those arrested and an inquiry into alleged police misconduct.

While mostly peaceful, some of the protests have turned violent, with riot police firing tear gas, rubber bullets and sponge grenades to disperse the crowds.

The escalating violence between the groups has raised questions whether the Chinese military should be deployed to help bring the chaos under control. According to the Garrison Law, the Hong Kong authorities could, after seeking approval from Beijing, ask for the troops' deployment in the territory.

A three-minute video showcasing the Chinese army's might was posted on the Hong Kong garrison's official Weibo social media account late Wednesday. It includes a segment showing the army's ability to tackle terrorists and maintain public order that seemed to be targeting Hong Kong's protesters.

"All consequences are at your own risks," a soldier yelled through a speaker in Cantonese, the common dialect used in Hong Kong, in one scene, before a formation of troops equipped with anti-riot gear marched while firing what is believed tear gas at dozens of people dressed as protesters.

Armored vehicles, portable barbed wire and water cannon were showed before another scene in which scores of protesters were captured with their arms tied behind their backs. —Kyodo News ■

Johnson faces UK election test as Brexit battle looms

LONDON — Britain's Boris Johnson faces his first test at the ballot box Thursday in a by-election that could reduce his parliamentary majority to one, making it harder to enact his Brexit plan.

Just over a week after he took office as prime minister, Johnson's governing Conservative party looks set to lose the Welsh seat of Brecon and Radnorshire to a pro-European candidate.

He is already facing strong opposition in the 650-seat parliament to his plan to take Britain out of the European Union without a deal if necessary on 31 October.

Victory for the anti-Brexit Liberal Democrats in Brecon would embolden those opposition MPs and some Conservatives who have pledged to do whatever it takes to stop a "no deal" departure.

Finance minister Sajid Javid on Wednesday announced an extra £2.1 billion ($2.6 billion, 2.3 billion euros) to prepare for the possibility of no-deal, with a parliamentary showdown looming when MPs return in September.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative Party looks set to lose a by-election cutting his parlimantary majority to just one. **PHOTO: AFP**

The extra cash will be used to launch a public information campaign and "accelerate preparations at the border, support business readiness and ensure the supply of critical medicines," said a government statement.

Brexit party challenge

Thursday's by-election was called after former Conservative MP Chris Davies was forced out, following his conviction for making false expenses claims.

He insists it was an honest mistake and is standing again, but polling points to a win for the Lib Dems, who have previously held the seat.

Number Cruncher Politics, a polling consultancy, put the Lib Dems on 43 per cent, the Conservatives on 28, Nigel Farage's Brexit party on 20 and Labour on eight percent.

However, another Wales-wide survey by YouGov published this week gave an unexpected boost to the Conservatives, which experts attributed to a modest "Boris bounce".

Brecon and Radnorshire voted 52 percent to leave the European Union in the 2016 vote -- echoing the UK-wide result.

Johnson, a leading Brexit campaigner in the referendum, made a low-key visit on Tuesday to meet with Davies.

He urged voters not to defect to the Brexit Party, which has been capitalising on the political deadlock over Britain's EU departure.

"The Brexit party cannot deliver Brexit, only the Conservatives can," Johnson said, adding that the Lib Dems "will do everything they can to stop Brexit".

In European elections in May, the Brexit Party won 31 percent of the vote, pushing the Conservatives into fifth place with just nine percent.

The pro-European Welsh nationalists and Green party are not fielding candidates in Brecon to avoid splitting the anti-Brexit vote.—AFP ■

Russian naval drills kick off in Baltic Sea

MOSCOW — Russia is conducting large-scale Ocean Shield-2019 naval exercises in the Baltic Sea from Thursday to 9 August, the Russian Defence Ministry said Thursday.

A total of 49 ships and combat boats, 20 support vessels, 58 aircraft of the Navy and the Aerospace Force as well as 10,634 personnel are participating in the drills, it said in a statement.

The main task of the drills led by Russian Navy Commander-in-Chief Nikolai Yevmenov is to practice the deployment of the inter-fleet grouping of the Navy.

Another task is to check the readiness of the Navy to protect national interests and the managing skills of its commanders, it said.

Russia held its first Ocean Shield drills in September 2018 in the Mediterranean.—Xinhua ■

FILE PHOTO: The destroyer Bystryy from the Russian navy's Pacific fleet enters a navy port in Shanghai on Sunday, May 18, 2014 for the China-Russia Joint Sea-2014 naval drills. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Four Kurdish security members killed, three wounded in IS attack in eastern Iraq

BAGHDAD — A total of four members of the Iraqi Kurdish security force were killed and three others wounded in an overnight attack by Islamic State (IS) militants in a Kurdish area near the provincial border between the provinces of Diyala and Sulaimaniyah, a security source said on Thursday.

The incident took place late Wednesday night, when the extremist IS militants attacked an outpost manned by a Kurdish security force, known as Asayish, near the village of Kulajo, prompting a fierce clash between the two sides, an Iraqi army officer told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Kurdish reinforcement troops arrived at the scene but were hit by a roadside bomb and then the troops joined the clash against the extremist militants which ended before dawn, the officer said.

The army also sent armored vehicles to the scene after receiving a request from the Kurdish forces for help, the officer said, adding that the attack has left four Kurdish security members killed and three others wounded.

However, according to the website of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), one of the two major Kurdish parties, confirmed the attack on the Kurdish security forces in Kulajo, but said the Asayish and Peshmerga forces repelled the attack that left four Kurdish security members killed and seven others wounded.

The security situation in Iraq was dramatically improved after Iraqi security forces fully defeated the extremist IS militants across the country late in 2017. IS remnants, however, have since melted in urban areas or resorted to deserts and rugged areas as safe havens, carrying out frequent guerilla attacks against security forces and civilians.—AFP ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Trump, Putin speak over phone on trade, wildfires

WASHINGTON — US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin held a phone conversation regarding bilateral trade and the raging wildfires in Russia's Siberia, the White House said Wednesday.

"President Donald J. Trump spoke with President Vladimir Putin today and expressed concern over the vast wildfires afflicting Siberia. The leaders also discussed trade between the two countries," the White House said in a statement.

The Kremlin said late on Wednesday that the two leaders held a telephone conversation at the initiative of the United States, according to Sputnik. During the call, Trump offered to help cope with the wildfires, while Putin considered the offer as a sign of potential restoration of bilateral relations. Russia has declared a state of emergency in four regions of Siberia and the Far East because of the wildfires. According to latest data from the Russian Aerial Forest Protection Service, by Wednesday, fires were raging on an area of nearly 3 million hectares and active extinguishing activities were going on for an area of 107,123 hectares. –Xinhua ■

US Navy fighter jet crashes in national park

LOS ANGELES — A US Navy F/A-18E Super Hornet jet on Wednesday morning crashed in Death Valley National Park, leaving seven visitors with minor injuries.

The crash occurred at about 10 a.m. local time (0300 GMT) near an area known as "Star Wars Canyon," 380 km north of Los Angeles, which is not far from the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake and offers a rare opportunity for tourists to photograph jets flying beneath them, the Los Angeles Times reported

US Navy's search-and-rescue teams planned to continue their search for the pilot throughout the night, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Lydia Bock told the Los Angeles Times.–Xinhua ■

Ayeyawady Region team wins MFF U-13 Girls' Tournament 2019

The President of the Myanmar Football Federation, U Zaw Zaw (White Jacket), presents the trophy to the Ayeyawady team, the winners of the MFF U-13 Girls' Football Tourney 2019, during an awarding ceremony yesterday in Yangon. **PHOTO: MFF**

THE Ayeyawady Region team won the Myanmar Football Federation's U-13 Girls' Tournament 2019 by beating the Yangon Region team by 1-0 yesterday in the final match of the tourney.

The match proved to be a tough one for both teams on account of heavy rain.

The tourney started on 20 July and ended yesterday with an awards ceremony, organized under the supervision of the Myanmar Football Federation and the Ministry of Education.

During the awards ceremony, the Ayeyawady team was presented the championship trophy and K3 million, and medals were given to individual players.

The second placed Yangon team was awarded K2 million and medals for individual players.

The two teams sitting at the combined third place, Kachin State and Nay Pyi Taw, were presented K1 million each.

Khin Bhone from the Ayeyawady team took the award for the highest scorer and received K200,000 as prize.

Yamin Phyu from the Yangon team was adjudged the best player and awarded K200,000 as prize.

U Zaw Zaw, the Vice President of the Asian Football Confederation and the President of the Myanmar Football Federation, presented the trophy to the winners, the Ayeyawady team.—Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■

Myanmar U-12 team to play matches in China

THE Myanmar U-12 boys' national football team left for Hangzhou, China from the Yangon International Airport yesterday morning for competing in the Soon Ching Ling Cup 2019, which is scheduled to be held from 1 to 8 August in Hangzhou City. The team reached the city in the afternoon. The Soong Ching Ling Cup is an annual U-13 eight-a-side football tournament organized by the China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, the Chinese Football Federation, and the ASEAN-China Center, to promote friendship and understanding between China and ASEAN countries.

The Myanmar U-12 team has 15 talented youths, selected from the Myanmar National Football Academy, and is accompanied by coaches U Soe Nyunt, U Nyi Nyi Tun, and U Kyaw Zaw, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

For the tourney, Myanmar has been placed in Group B with four ASEAN teams: Viet Nam, Thailand, Indonesia, and Cambodia. Meanwhile, host China has been pooled into Group A with the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, and Laos.

On 3 August, Myanmar will play against Thailand at 8 am. Myanmar Standard Time, and then take on Cambodia at 3:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time.

The team will face Viet Nam at 3:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 4 August, and Indonesia at 8 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 5 August. The two best teams from each group will advance to the semifinals, which are scheduled to be played separately at 8 pm Myanmar Standard Time the same day.

The finals will take place at 3:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 6 August, while the match for the third place will start at 2:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time the same day, according to a statement issued by the Myanmar Football Federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

U-23 Men's Volleyball Championship to be held in Nay Pyi Taw

The SMM 3rd Asian World Foundation U-23 Men's Volleyball Championship is being organized under the supervision of the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Department of Sports and Physical Education from 3 to 11 August at the Wunna Theidi Indoor Stadiums B and C in Nay Pyi Taw.

Fans of the sport and interested persons can see the matches free of charge, according to officials.—Maung Maung Myo ■ *(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)*

Klopp, Salah head nominations for FIFA Best awards

PARIS: Liverpool coach Jurgen Klopp and three players – Mohamed Salah, Sadio Mane and Virgil van Dijk – headed nominations released Wednesday for the FIFA Best awards that will be presented in Milan on September 23.

Klopp led Liverpool, and that vital trio of players, to the Champions League trophy and also second place to Manchester City in the Premier League.

Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo and Barcelona's Lionel Messi also make the shortlist for the men's award along with PSG's Kylian Mbappe, Tottenham's Harry Kane, Belgian Eden Hazard and Dutch duo Frenkie de Jong and Matthijs de Ligt.

American Alex Morgan and coach Jill Ellis will be favourites for the female player and women's coach awards after spearheading the USA to the the women's World Cup title in France last month.

The Best FIFA Men's Player

Cristiano Ronaldo (POR/Juventus); Frenkie de Jong (NED/Ajax/Barcelona); Matthijs de Ligt (NED/Ajax/Juventus); Eden Hazard (BEL/Chelsea/Real Madrid); Harry Kane (ENG/Tottenham); Sadio Mane (SEN/Liverpool); Kylian Mbappe (FRA/Paris Saint-Germain); Lionel Messi (ARG/Barcelona); Mohamed Salah (EGY/Liverpool); Virgil van Dijk (NED/Liverpool)

The Best FIFA Women's Player

Lucy Bronze (ENG/Lyon); Julie Ertz (USA/Chicago Red Stars); Caroline Graham Hansen (NOR/Wolfsburg/Barcelona); Ada Hegerberg (NOR/Lyon); Amandine Henry (FRA/Lyon); Sam Kerr (AUS/Chicago Red Stars/Perth Glory); Rose Lavelle (USA/Washington Spirit); Vivianne Miedema (NED/Arsenal); Alex Morgan (USA/Orlando Pride); Megan Rapinoe (USA/Reign FC); Wendie Renard (FRA/Lyon); Ellen White (ENG/Birmingham City/Manchester City)

The Best FIFA Men's Coach

Djamel Belmadi (ALG/Algerian national team); Didier Deschamps (FRA/French national team); Marcelo Gallardo (ARG/River Plate); Ricardo Gareca (ARG/Peruvian national team); Pep Guardiola (ESP/Manchester City); Jurgen Klopp (GER/Liverpool); Mauricio Pochettino (ARG/Tottenham); Fernando Santos (POR/Portuguese national team); Erik ten Hag (NED/Ajax); Tite (BRA/Brazilian national team)

The Best FIFA Women's Coach

Milena Bertolini (ITA/Italian national team), Jill Ellis (USA/USA national team), Peter Gerhardsson (SWE/Swedish national team), Futoshi Ikeda (JPN/Japanese U-20 national team); Antonia 'Tona' Is (ESP/Spanish U-17 national team), Joe Montemurro (AUS/Arsenal), Phil Neville (ENG/English national team), Reynald Pedros (FRA/Lyon), Paul Riley (ENG/North Carolina Courage), Sarina Wiegman (NED/Dutch national team).—AFP ■

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp. **PHOTO : AFP**