

PARLIAMENT

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shows green light to charter amendment report

PAGE-2

NATIONAL

Union Minister attends inauguration of ASEAN Secretariat building

PAGE-3

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Saturday, 10 August 2019

President U Win Myint asks CCDAC to step up momentum in fight against drugs



President U Win Myint meets with the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC) at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

PRESIDENT U Win Myint held a meeting with the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC) headed by its Chairman Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, the Union Minister for Home Affairs, at the Presidential Palace yesterday.

Progress report on nationwide control of illegal drugs

Firstly, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presented a number of progress reports on drug control activities. The reports include an up-

All concerned officials must increase the pace of handling drug abuse cases by considering it a national-level duty:

President U Win Myint

date on the work performed by the central committee, its ten working groups, and the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department.

The reports also covered

issues of drug abuse and confiscation of illegal drugs and their precursors, and sometimes containing ammunition, and the drug trafficking routes on land and sea, including the recent

changes in their routes.

The Union Minister also talked on amendments to the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law and its related bylaw, and handover of youths to the juvenile rehabilitation centers run by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

This was followed by CCDAC's Joint Secretary, Police Brig-Gen Win Naing, explaining the progress of controlling drug abuse and the difficulties

it presented.

President provides necessary guidance

The President then delivered an address, in which he said controlling the spread of illegal drug usage was a national duty that they are undertaking in line with UN conventions.

He said there must be cooperation with international organizations, NGOs, relevant authority organizations and ministries.

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Death toll in landslide reaches 10 in Paung; 27 injured

PAGE-4



NATIONAL

Sandalwood plants grown to mark 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi

PAGE-3



NATIONAL

Myanmar has granted 568 foreigners PR status in four years

PAGE-5



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shows green light to charter amendment report

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw finally decided to approve a report submitted by the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution, with the majority vote yesterday.

At the 10th day meeting, U Tun Tun Hein, Chairman of the committee, pledged that the committee will take into consideration the suggestions of parliamentarians in future drafting process for the bill.

Budget allocations of Home Affairs Ministry

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Major General Aung Thu said that the Union Government has allocated K24,581.9 million from the emergency fund to the ministry for reconstruction and renovation of facilities under Myanmar Police Force and border guard forces in Rakhine, Kachin, Chin, Sagaing, Mandalay and Shan.

He also affirmed that the ministry will spend the budgets in accordance with financial procedures.

The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced to put the report of this budget into the records.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: HTAN PHON



U Tun Tun Hein, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution.



Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Major General Aung Thu.

Findings and Remarks on Land Confiscation Bill

U Aung Kyi Nyunt, member of Joint Bill Committee, reported

ed on the findings and remarks on the Land Confiscation Bill returned with the remarks of the President of the State.

The Speaker of Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw offered to present the list of MP names who want to discuss the remarks of President.

Report on tax revenue

Daw Ni Ni Dwun, member of Joint Public Accounts Committee, reported on the committee's findings and remarks on the tax revenue of ministries and organizations for the first six months of 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw invited to enlist the names of MPs who want to discuss the report.

Suggestion to National Education Policy Commission

U Htay Oo, MP of Yangon Region Constituency 2 gave suggestions on the six-month report of National Education Policy Commission (from 10 October 2018 to 9 April 2019).

The MP said that in the book of Nation Education Strategic Plan (2016-2021) developed by the Ministry of Education, the State Counsellor has instructed to reform the national education system that is required to support the young generation with

new technologies and knowledge, skills, creation, analytical thinking, appreciation on culture and disciplines.

He also suggested the National Education Policy Commission and the National Curriculum Committee to put the moral discipline courses into the curriculum.

U Nyan Hein, MP of Thanbyuzayat constituency, also suggested to include the essence and practices of democracy in the curriculum of various level as a move in developing the future generation of the country.

U Tin Hla, MP of Danabyu constituency, supported the report of National Education Policy Commission to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, while it is recognized as a roadmap for future expectation of Myanmar education sector, based on strategic reforms of the National Education Strategic Plan (2016-2021).

Then, 16 MPs discussed the report, and the Speaker announced the remaining MPs are to discuss it at the meeting on 13 August.—Mawsi, Hmay Kyu Zin

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (42/2019) concludes in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Graduation Ceremony of the Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (42/2019), conducted by the Strategic Studies and Training Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was held at Wunzinminyarzar Hall of the Ministry at 10:00 am yesterday, with a closing address delivered by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Present on the occasion were retired Myanmar Ambassadors, Directors-General and responsible officials of the departments under the Ministry, senior diplomats, professors and lecturers as well as trainees. On this occasion, retired Ambassadors, Directors-General and lecturers presented the certificates to trainees.

The 12-week course comprised the subjects related to diplomacy, negotiation skills, international relations, international law, international

conferencing, contemporary international affairs, economics, etc., and also the simulation exercises for some subjects. And it was attended by 188 trainees. Since 2000, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has conducted Basic Diplomatic Skills Courses for the public who are interested in diplomacy and international affairs. At present, there are 7,300 trainees graduated from the training program.—MNA

will be repatriated two weeks from the receipt of the list. Furthermore, the Permanent Secretary reiterated that both sides need to comply with the Physical Arrangement signed between the two countries.

During the call, the Permanent Secretary also handed over a letter addressed to Mr. Md Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh from Mr. Kenzo Oshima, Member of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) and Team Leader of the ICOE's Advance Team, to the Ambassador of Bangladesh. The Advance Team of the ICOE has proposed to visit Bangladesh in August 2019.—MNA



Permanent Secretary U Myint Thu poses for the photo together with officials and trainees at the Graduation Ceremony to mark the completion of the Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills (42/2019) in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Permanent Secretary receives Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar

U MYINT THU, Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received Mr. Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar at 12 noon on 9 August 2019 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Yangon.

The Permanent Secretary informed the Ambassador that Myanmar is ready to receive the first batch of verified returnees from the list of 3,450, whose village-wise lists have already been dispatched to the Bangladeshi side. Any new list of returnees should be sent through the diplomatic channel and they

will be repatriated two weeks from the receipt of the list. Furthermore, the Permanent Secretary reiterated that both sides need to comply with the Physical Arrangement signed between the two countries.

During the call, the Permanent Secretary also handed over a letter addressed to Mr. Md Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh from Mr. Kenzo Oshima, Member of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) and Team Leader of the ICOE's Advance Team, to the Ambassador of Bangladesh. The Advance Team of the ICOE has proposed to visit Bangladesh in August 2019.—MNA

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President U Win Myint holds meeting with Central Committee ...

FROM PAGE-1

He said the ministries incorporated in the CCDAC need to effectively carry out their assigned tasks.

He told them to ensure that the current momentum of tasks did not slow down, and in fact, to increase the pace in carrying out their duties. He instructed them to carefully carry out awareness raising campaigns on the dangers of narcotic drugs and providing rehabilitation and treatment to people abusing drugs.

As the Union Government

is tirelessly combating drug abuse and disseminating news on the matter to the public regularly, all concerned officials must increase the pace of handling drug abuse cases by considering it a national-level duty, said the President.

The President said officials must adhere to existing laws, bylaws, regulations and police ethics when handling drug issues and confiscating evidence and ensure swift management in line with court orders.

He said those who have contributed to drug control

measures will be rewarded and there was a need for plans to provide alternative farming and livestock rearing options to control drug abuse.

The President said CCDAC must form its own working groups as necessary and assign tasks and provide coordination as well. He said they must have regular reviews on their accomplishments and administer guidance as needed. He urged everyone concerned with controlling drug abuse to increase their momentum more than they ever have.

Present at the meeting

were CCDAC Vice-Chairman & Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung, CCDAC members Deputy Home Affairs Minister Maj-Gen Aung Thu, Deputy Border Affairs Minister Maj-Gen Than Htut, Deputy Information Minister U Aung Hla Tun, Deputy Minister for Office of the Union Government U Tin Myint, Deputy Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Minister U Hla Kyaw, Deputy Education Minister U Win Maw Tun, Deputy Health and Sports Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein, Deputy Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Minister U Soe Aung, Director-General U Naing Swe Oo of the Political and Security Department under the Ministry of the President's Office, Director-General U Chan Aye of the International Organizations and Economic Department attending on behalf of Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, CCDAC Secretary Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo, and Lt-Col Min Hein from the Office of the Chief of Military Security. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin attends inauguration ceremony of new ASEAN Secretariat building



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, Indonesian President Joko Widodo and ASEAN foreign ministers pose for a group photo at the Inauguration of the new ASEAN Secretariat Building in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 8 August, 2019.

PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin arrived back yesterday afternoon after attending Inauguration Ceremony of new ASEAN Secretariat building held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 8 August 2019 at the invitation of Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi.

The inauguration Ceremony was held on 8 August at Nusantara Hall of the new building and officiated by Indonesian President Joko Widodo. The Ceremony started at 8 am with opening remarks by Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi. Secretary General of ASEAN Dato Lim Jock Hoi and current ASEAN Chair and Foreign Minister of Thailand Don Pramudwinai also made

their remarks followed by a keynote speech from President Joko Widodo. Then, the President signed the inauguration Plaque of the new secretariat building and handed over Symbolic Key to the Secretary General of ASEAN.

The Union Minister also attended the opening of new ASEAN Gallery together with other ASEAN Foreign Ministers and handed over one Myanmar traditional lacquerware to be displaced at the ASEAN Gallery to the Secretary General of ASEAN.

Then, the Union Minister joined celebration of the 52nd Anniversary of the founding of ASEAN at Nusantara Hall of the new building. Following a welcoming remarks by the

Secretary General of ASEAN at the celebration, all ASEAN Foreign Ministers conducted a Placement of Time Capsule that contains all ASEAN Leaders' hopes and expectations for ASEAN on its 75th anniversary in the year 2042. The Time Capsule will be opened in 2042 and the messages will be read on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of ASEAN.

The first ASEAN Secretariat building in Jakarta was officiated by President Soeharto in 1981. The new Secretariat building comprises two 16-storey towers with a total of 30 meeting rooms and it will accommodate more ASEAN Meetings in the future. — MNA ■

Sandalwood plants grown to mark 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi

SANDALWOOD plants were grown in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday to mark the 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the late India's independence leader who employed nonviolent resistance to the British rule.

The plantation ceremony was held in the Maha Bodhi (108 Plants) Park near Mar Li Ni Lake in the compound of Uppatasanti Pagoda, and attended by Retired Rector of Hinthada University U Khin Maung Cho and U Maung Sein, a member of Sandalwood Plantation Or-

ganizing Committee on 150th Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, read out the biography of the assassinated Indian leader.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko grew a sandalwood at a designated place, followed by Deputy Minister U Kyi Min, Chairman U Shwe of Sandalwood Plantation Organizing Committee, and its secretaries U Aung Thwin and U Deva Muni at the respective places. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko plants Sandalwood tree to mark 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

PHOTO: MNA

Magway University to host youth development festival in December



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, Magway Region Chief Minister Dr Aung Moe Nyo and officials look around Magway University yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

MAGWAY University will host an All-Round Youth Development Festival in December this year and a coordination meeting for the festival was held at the Magway Region Government office yesterday.

Union Minister for Information, Dr Pe Myint, and Regional Chief Minister Dr Aung Moe Nyo delivered separate addresses at the meeting. In his speech, the Union Minister said the Ministry of Information is working closely with related ministries and the Magway Region Government to ensure this festival will be successful. He said he views the festivals as contributing in some way to the region they are held in.

Likewise, this festival will be beneficial in the future of the youths in Magway Region, said

the Union Minister, adding that partaking in the festival will create lifelong memories for them and the teamwork and active participation of the festival will support their future. Following this, Dr Aung Moe Nyo suggested on the literature, technology, arts and sports components that should be included in the festival.

Next, IPRD Director-General U Ye Naing presented the proposed arrangements for the festival and attendees input their suggestions. Dr Pe Myint then delivered closing remarks and concluded the meeting. After the meeting, the Union Minister visited the Magway IPRD office and inspected the public library. He then held a meeting with the staff there.—District IPRD
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

MoFA's Dy DG signs book of condolences for former Indian External Affairs Minister



Deputy Director-General Daw Kyi Kyi Sein signs book of condolences for former External Affairs Minister Smt Sushma Swaraj at the Indian Embassy in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

DEPUTY Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Kyi Kyi Sein signed the book of condolences for former External Affairs Minister Smt Sushma Swaraj of India at the Embassy of India, at No 545/547, Merchant Road, Yangon yesterday.—MNA
(Translated by TTN)

Death toll in landslide reaches 10 in Paung; 27 injured

A LANDSLIDE induced by torrential rains struck a village in Paung Township of Mon State yesterday, with 10 persons reportedly dead and 27 injured so far, according to the local authorities.

Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan and officials inspected the conditions at the scene and directed that soil and debris be removed within a day with the use of all machinery in the township.

The landslide also wreaked havoc between the 184/5 and 184/6 mileposts on the Yangon-Mawlamyine Road.

Following the landslide, three backhoes and two bulldozers were brought in to clear soil and debris, and their task is expected to be complete by Friday evening.

Before inspecting the site affected by the deadly landslide, the chief minister and his party visited temporary relief camps where flood-victims from low-lying areas of Mawlayine are being sheltered and spoke words of encouragement to them.

Dr Aye Zan also met with concerned officials from the local disaster management

committee and made arrangements for providing aid to the flood victims.

The disaster destroyed 14 houses and some residents are still missing at Thanbyu Ward of Thalphyuline village in Paung Township. Some 85 members of local fire stations from Thaton, Paung, Bilin and Kyaikto, together with 35 rescue persons, evacuated the people at the site. The rescue works were joined by 10 police members of Mon state in searching for the missing people in flood.—MNA
(Translated by TTN)



Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan inspects providing food assistance for flood victims in flood-affected areas in Mon State. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Anti-trafficking committee reviews works, procedures

LIEUTENANT General Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Home Affairs, attended the 2/2019 Meeting of Central Body for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons held at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Union Minister, as a Chairman of the committee, made an opening remark, and the anti-trafficking bodies, legal aid groups, and reacceptance and rehabilitation groups for trafficked persons discussed the

actions in response to the 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report of U.S. Department of State.

The state and regional ministers for security and border affairs and the representatives of anti-trafficking bodies presented their activities.

The Union Minister then delivered a concluding remark on the meeting that was attended by 71 persons, including the invited guests and media personnel.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe delivers the speech at the meeting of Central Body for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Thein Swe receives ROK Ambassador



Union Minister U Thein Swe holds talks with the Republic of Korea Ambassador Mr Lee Sang-hwa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Sang-hwa at the ministry meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they

cordially discussed matters relating to extending visa exemption for Korean nationals who come to Myanmar, holding the examination for would-be Myanmar workers prior to sending them under the Employment

Permit System, collaborating efforts of officials from MLIP, Korean Embassy and regional authorities to tackle labour issues faced by Korean garment businesses.—MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)



Flood-damaged road in Thanbyuzayat, Mon State

Torrential rain on 8 and 9 August has flooded low-lying areas and damaged some roads in Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State. **PHOTO: KYAW WIN (THANBYUZAYAT)**

Myanmar has granted 568 foreigners PR status in four years

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe said that a total of 568 foreigners, out of 611 applicants, have been granted Permanent Residency status from 29 January 2015 to 8 August 2019.

U Thein Swe, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Implementation Central Committee (ICC) for Permanent Residency, presided over the coordination meeting of the committee held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Union Minister also said that the initial

PR applications were accepted either in the country or at other Myanmar embassies abroad and urged to do the process in line with the existing laws.

An officer of ICC explained the ongoing procedures of the committee, including the identification process, the number of applicants, the term of residency certificate and interviews in person with the applicants.

The committee, then, agreed to promote three former Myanmar nationals holding Per-

manent Residency of foreigners in Myanmar into the Myanmar citizenship.

Moreover, 1 investor, 11 former Myanmar nationals and 5 foreigners who are related to nationals, totally 17 persons, were approved for PR status foreigners in Myanmar.

Myanmar has created four categories in granting PR for experts, investors, former Myanmar nationals and foreigners who were related to nationals.—MNA ■ (Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister U Thein Swe attends the Implementation Central Committee (ICC) for Permanent Residency coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Smart car parking lots to be built next year in downtown Yangon

By Nyein Nyein

SMART CAR parking lots will be built next year in downtown Yangon, said U Lin Khine, the Head of the Engineering Department (Roads, and Bridges), Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC).

Private companies were asked to submit expressions of interest (EOI) for building the parking lots. A total of 26 companies submitted EOIs, and six of them were selected, according to the YCDC.

"Tenders will be invited from the six selected companies. Currently, the rules for the tender system are being formulated. The tenders will be invited very soon," said U Lin Khine.

"We will invite interested bidders through an announcement in the newspapers. Then, we will give the bidders one-and-a-half or two months to prepare their bids. Afterwards, we will scrutinize all the tender applications and make the selection. We will complete the

project next year," said U Lin Khine.

"Initially, the smart car parking lots will be built in six downtown townships of Yangon. If the project is successful, then more parking lots would be constructed in the remaining townships in the city," said Daw May May Thwe, committee member-5 of YCDC. "Yangon Region is facing car-parking space scarcity problem. So, smart car parking lots have to be built," said U Phyo Min Thein, Chief Minister of Yangon Region.

"To solve the problem of scarcity of car parking space in Yangon Region, smart car parking lots will have to be built," U Maung Maung Soe, the Mayor of Yangon Region, had remarked at the 2nd Yangon Region Hluttaw's sixth regular meeting, held on 15 February, 2018.

"Previously, the YCDC collected car parking fees on roads. It has removed collection agents on the roads," he had said.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Return of trafficked victims from Thailand discussed

THE 23rd coordination meeting for the safe return of victims trafficked to Thailand from Myanmar was held on Thursday at the Park Royal Hotel in Yangon.

The meeting was attended by U Win Naing Tun, the Director-General of the Rehabilitation Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement; 26 Myanmar representatives; and, 20 Thailand representatives, led by Ms Usanee Kangwanjit, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of Thailand's Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

At the coordination meeting, the attendees discussed matters relating to the protection of victims trafficked from Myanmar, who are being accommodated at care centres under Thailand's Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. They also discussed



The 23rd Myanmar-Thailand Case Management Meeting on Return and Reintegration of Victims of Trafficking held in Yangon on 6 August. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG**

enabling trafficking victims to enjoy their rights and benefits fully and their safe return to Myanmar.

"We have been holding these meetings biannually since 2008. Our aim for convening these meetings is to get back our Myanmar trafficked victims safely. We have already

welcomed 800 victims back, and we are discussing the return of another 600 victims from Thailand," said Daw Khine Su Lwin, the Assistant Director of the Protection of Trafficked Victims Division under the Rehabilitation Department.

Victims trafficked from Myanmar to Thailand are

returning through three routes: Myawady-Mae Sot, Tachilek-Mae Sai, and Kawthoung-Ranong, she added.

The 24th coordination meeting for the return of Myanmar trafficked victims will be held in Thailand.—Myint Maung

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Measures to prevent riverbank erosion undertaken in Papun Tsp

OFFICIALS conducted an inspection on the morning of 7 August in Papun Township, Kayin State, to check riverbank erosion after the water level in the Yunsalin creek increased due to the recent heavy rains.

Under the supervision of the Township General Administration Department, officials from the concerned departments and local people undertook the necessary

measures to prevent riverbank erosion. Additionally, the authorities are planning to move two houses located near the riverbank erosion site. The Township General Administration Department, the Township Fire Services Department, the Papun Township Police, and residents jointly conducted the exercise to prevent riverbank erosion. — District IPRD
(Translated by La Wonn)



Officials and residents conduct preventive measures against riverbank erosion in Hpapun Township in Kayin State. **PHOTO: DISTRICT IPRD**

Union Minister U Thaung Tun visits Daewoo Bus Factory in Mingaladon Tsp

UNION MINISTER of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) U Thaung Tun, accompanied by five Commission members visited Daewoo Bus Myanmar Factory in Mingaladon Township, Yangon in this morning.

The Daewoo Bus Myanmar Company is a joint venture between Myanmar and Korean partners. It is currently producing 2 models of buses under a pilot program with the ap-

proval of the MIC. The factory is staffed by 200 local workers and has a capacity to produce 500 units annually.

The Union Minister and party were welcomed at the factory by the Managing Director of Daewoo Bus Myanmar Co., Ltd. U Kyaw Kyaw Aung.

The factory is producing buses under the Complete Knocked-Down (CKD) system. The factory is expected not only to provide modern buses for the local market but also for export.—MNA



Union Minister U Thaung Tun observes assembling a car on assembly line in Daewoo Bus Myanmar Factory in Mingaladon Township, Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

YCDC to introduce online submission system for building permits

A TRIAL is currently on to allow online applications to issue building permits in Yangon, according to the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC).

The YCDC and the International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank group, launched the Pilot Test Phase for the new Yangon Building Permit System (YBPS) during a ceremony on Friday morning at the City Hall.

At the event, the Chief Minister of Yangon Region, U Phyo Min Thein, said that this is the first time an online submission system is being tested for construction permits.

“Earlier, there was a delay in applying for construction permits in Yangon Region. Once the automated system is launched in Yangon Region, the difficulties will be resolved,” he said.

He also said that he believed that the system will boost the development of Yangon City.

A risk-based system will be used in granting of construction permits, instead of a floor-based system. There will be three types of risk assigned to buildings, low, medium, and high. Low risk building projects

will be limited to three-storey, medium risk buildings will have more than three floors, and high-risk building projects will involve construction of hotels, stadiums, and other types of buildings.

“Construction permits will be issued only to licensed architects and engineers. Although people who live in Yangon Region will be able to apply for a construction permit through the online submission system, the paperwork for the construction permits is currently available, and the permissions for low and medium risk projects will start in December,” said Daw Hlaing Maw Oo, the Secretary of the YCDC.

“At present, over 500 permits are being issued monthly and over 5,000 permits are being granted annually. With the number of construction projects increasing year over year, it will now take only five days to apply for a permit. The charges for the online permits can be cleared online through banks,” said U Tin Maung Kyi, the secretary of the YCDC Building Department. —Myint Maung Soe

(Translated by La Wunn)

Mandalay Chamber meets with Thailand Board of Investment for better economic ties

THE Thailand Board of Investment, led by Mr Worakan Kosolpisikul, and including 15 representatives from 13 Thailand companies, met with representatives from the Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI) yesterday to promote business relations.

At the meeting, the secretary of the MRCCI explained the potential for investment in the region to the Thailand representatives. Entrepreneurs from the two countries exchanged ideas on promotion of tourism, healthcare services, construction businesses, importation of con-

struction equipment, scholarship opportunities, food and household goods, agricultural businesses, ICT and telecommunications, and arts and crafts sectors.

During the nine months (October-June) of the current fiscal year, nine Thailand-listed enterprises brought an estimated capital of US\$197.59 million into Myanmar, according to figures released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

During the period, the value of trade between Myanmar and neighbouring Thailand reached \$4.13 billion, with exports worth

\$2.96 billion and imports valued at \$1.67 billion, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Thailand also topped in the regional trade line-up with the largest trade value. Myanmar primarily exports fishery products such as crab, fish and shrimp, as well as onions, sesame, dried tea leaves, coconut, and turmeric, while it imports consumer goods, cosmetic machinery, food products, agricultural equipment, and track cars from Thailand. —Thiha Ko Ko/ Htet Myat

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Shwebo Pawsan price up K7,000 per bag in seven months

THE PRICE of Shwebo Pawsan, a superior variety of local rice, has reached K55,000 per bag, an increase of K7,000 per bag in the last seven months, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

This year, the price of Shwebo Pawsan was K48,000 per bag in January, K50,000 in February and March, K52,000 in April, and K55,000 in May. The price continued to increase in the months of June and July.

While a bag of Shwebo Pawsan rice cost K43,500 in 2014, the price rose to K55,000 between May and July this year, an increase of more than 20 per cent in six years.

According to the MRF, rice price has seen a record increase

between 2014 and July, 2019. Ayeyawady Pawsan fetched K35,000 per bag and Shwebo Pawsan K43,500 per bag in the local market in 2014. Meanwhile, Ayeyawady Pawsan was priced at K43,000 and Shwebo Pawsan K55,000 in 2019.

The price of Eimahta 25 Marks rice was K15,500 per bag in 2014, and increased to K18,000 in 2019.

In 2015, a 180-pound Shwebo Pawsan rice bag cost K47,000, Ayeyawady Pawsan K38,000, Eimahta 25 Marks K16,500, and Nga Sein 25 Marks K17,000.

In 2016, a 180-pound Shwebo Pawsan rice bag was selling for K43,000, Ayeyawady Pawsan K36,000, Eimahta 25 Marks K20,000, and Nga Sein 25 Marks

K20,500.

In 2017, a 180-pound Shwebo Pawsan rice bag cost K46,000, Ayeyawady Pawsan K38,000, Eimahta 25 Marks K20,000, and Nga Sein 25 Marks K18,300.

In 2018, a 180-pound Shwebo Pawsan rice bag was priced at K65,000, Ayeyawady Pawsan K53,000, Eimahta 25 Marks K19,700, and Nga Sein 25 Marks K22,000, according to the MRF.

As of August, 2019, the price of Pathein Pawsan was ranging between K40,000 and K44,000 per bag, Pyapon Pawsan between K38,000 and K40,000, Eimahta between K19,000 and K20,000, and Nga Sein between K19,000 and K19,700. —Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

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Time to eliminate rabies

RABIES is preventable through vaccination and post-exposure immunization. Yet, nearly 70,000 people still die from the disease every year across the world, mostly in rural areas

With the opening of special care units for dog bites at the Yangon General Hospital, North Okkalapa People's Hospital, and Thingangyun People's Hospital, the number of deaths from rabies in Myanmar has reduced from 152 in 2014 to 71 in 2018.

Despite the downward trend in dog bite cases from about 15,000 a month in 2017 to 1,000 a month in 2019, the number of dog bites is still high. The Ministry of Health and Sports has spent about K15 billion in tackling the zoonotic disease from the 2016-2017 fiscal year to the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The time has come to map dog-bite prone areas or townships, and to reinforce the fight against the rabies.

In fact, to tackle this disease, a multi-sectoral response is needed. Given that 99 per cent of human infections are acquired from dog bites, mass vaccination of dogs — combined with the management of stray dogs and responsible dog ownership — is the most cost-effective way to eliminate the disease.

Vaccinating 70 per cent of dogs can reduce human cases to zero, and the cost of dog vaccines is much lower than that of post-exposure prophylaxis for human beings.

To achieve a target of no rabies deaths by 2030, we must recognize that rabies elimination is a health priority. Successful implementation of anti-rabies efforts will depend on political will, coordination between human and animal health sectors, support from donors and stakeholders in the public and private sectors, and community engagement.

Starting from 2013, about 150,000 dogs have been vaccinated on average per year. The vaccination campaign from 2019 to 2021 against dogs in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago regions, and Rakhine State by the Four Paws International, in cooperation with the ministry to mark World Rabies Day, which falls on 28th September, bodes well for us.

According to a 2018 survey, there are over 4 million dogs in Myanmar, and this number is too high for our country. Nonetheless, if we ensure that human vaccines and immunoglobulin are affordable and accessible, we can reduce the fatality rate, which is almost 100 per cent if post-exposure prophylaxis is not given before symptoms develop. The education of local communities is also a key priority to ensure that people who get bitten seek prompt treatment.

To achieve a target of no rabies deaths by 2030, we must recognize that rabies elimination is a health priority. Successful implementation of anti-rabies efforts will depend on political will, coordination between human and animal health sectors, support from donors and stakeholders in the public and private sectors, and community engagement. The time to act is now.

■ ■ ■

Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for the Brighter Future

By Dr Aung Tun
(Ministry of Health and Sports)

MYANMAR has adopted the concept of health promotion in school settings since the beginning of Global School Health Initiatives in 1996. Health-promoting school programme was introduced into existing school health services aiming to promote health standards for all students, the skills, and knowledge needed for adoption of healthy lifestyle. In principle, a health promoting school encompasses healthy school policies; school's physical and social environment; health education, skills, literacy, and health services; and community engagement. Dual benefits of the implementation of health promoting school are to achieve "health for all" and "education for all" as health condition of students contributes greatly to education performance, and numbers of health-related activities attract school enrolment and on the other hand, education can improve health condition of the whole population, extended from students, to parents, teachers, and communities. Many of the international and national commitments made on education and health sectors have emphasized the school health as one of the vital agenda.

Recent National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School in Myanmar

National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School titled "Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for the Brighter Future" was held at the Myanmar International Convention Center-2 on June 12, 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw. State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the seminar and gave opening speech. The State Counsellor called for efforts for various issues including prevention and control of drugs, cigarettes, betel nuts and alcohol in basic education schools and universities, decreasing traffic accidents, reducing excessive gaming, encouraging habits for healthy living, and including comprehensive reproductive health education in school lessons. She also called for cooperation among related ministries, parents, teachers, students,



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for the documentary photo together with Union Ministers, diplomats and attendees at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw on June 12, 2019 (Photo: MOHS)

international organizations, NGOs and ethnic organizations to get physically and mentally fit youth for the brighter future. Speaking at the seminar, Union minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe said the activities for strengthening health promoting School programme are as important as the National Health Plan(2017-2021), the road map for the health sector of the country. He called on other related ministries, NGOs and civil society organizations for cooperating in the implementation of health promoting school programme activities under the leadership of the Ministry of Education and Sports alone can not bring success to the programme. Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi also gave keynote address and called on faculties of the Ministry of Education, parents and students to cooperate the best with related ministries and MPs in implementing the health promoting school programme which ensure the student youth free from drugs, tobacco, alcohol and can promote the healthy lifestyles and can reduce game addict. The

two-day seminar was attended by related Union Ministers, deputy ministers, Hluttaw representatives, members of the Nay Pyi Taw councils, state/regional ministers for social affairs, facilitators for the panel discussions, ministerial permanent secretaries and departmental heads, experts attending to give lectures, officials from international organizations, representatives of student unions, and students from basic education schools in Nay Pyin Taw. This 2-day National seminar took place with various sessions covering prevention and nut control of drugs, cigarettes, betel nuts and alcohol and road accidents, comprehensive sexual education, healthy life styles, computer game issue and health promoting school approaches.

Current situation of School Health in Myanmar

Ministry of Health and Sports in collaboration with Ministry of Education has implemented School Health services since 1920. The school health activities improve children's health condition physically and men-

tally. As a result, not only school enrolment rate increases, but also attendance rate improved. However, challenges remain in reaching the hard to reach population, where enrolment is low and retaining students for higher education and skill development are difficult. Contributing factors are low GDP per capita, inadequate resources for trained personnel, for health services and facilities in all schools, and lack of education and awareness on some crucial health issues, social stigma, myths and other social and economic barriers. Health promoting school approach were utilized in a fragmented manners depend on resources availability.

Recent 2016 Myanmar Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS) demonstrated that the prevalence of unhealthy behaviors such as unhealthy dietary habits including eating junk foods (46%) and drinking carbonated soft drinks (45%), physical inactivity (30.2%), alcohol drinking (4.3%), and using tobacco (6.6%) among 13-17 year students become increased. Concerning mental health indicators among

students; consider suicide, plan to suicide and attempted suicide are also increasing about seven times in recent decade. Hence we can conclude that as compared to previous survey conducted in 2007, the trend of unhealthy behaviours as well as mental health issue among students has been rising up. Moreover, in the report of Myanmar Health Management Information System, in 2015, only 38.8% of schools covered health promoting school activities.

Lessons learnt from past experiences in implementation of school health in Myanmar reveals the following needs:

1) Recognized importance of schools in nurturing and instilling healthy behaviour of population, health promotion in school is critically important for early development of health behaviour and health literacy. Integrated health in academic curriculum will enhance the practice of school health initiatives in Myanmar.

2) Health promoting schools needs to have comprehensive programme and supportive structure and systems for schools to be active institutions that bring

change for better health of students, teachers, and families in a long term.

3) Basic infrastructure such as drinking water and utilities, functional toilet, weight and high scales, appropriate lighting (natural or others) in classroom, safe playground and walk ways, sanitized canteen or clean food areas, and safe building structure are prerequisite for school health programmes and activities.

4) Information system linkage between health and education sector will be a foundation to develop proper supports for school health activities as well as harmonize health and education outcomes.

5) Comprehensive school health services should be standardized with basic/minimum health packages that address not only health programmes but also infrastructures and factors that affect health of students, teachers and school staffs.

6) Comprehensive school health applies health promoting school approach that taken whole-of-school social and physical environment that contributing to health and well-being.

7) Current practices of health promoting school activities are fragmented and need to be harmonized.

8) Implementation gaps across regions reflect the social and economic conditions of the region/states. Strategic actions toward closing the gaps will enhance education, health, and other determinants of health and well-being of the students in the most vulnerable areas,

Myanmar National Comprehensive School Health Strategy Plan (2017-2022)

The comprehensive school health strategy (2017-2022) was developed based on the context of National Health Plan (2017-2021) for younger generation which come from both education and health sector. Myanmar National Comprehensive School Health Strategic Plan (2017-2022) is crafted to improve quality of education and health of students through holistic health promoting school approach, along with factors influencing health of students especially from families and communities.

SEE PAGE-10

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Government of the Union Notification 49/2019

9 Waxing of Wagaung 1381 ME
(9 August 2019)

1. In line with the Section 25 of the Negotiable Instrument Act, the Union Government officially issued Notification No. 58/2018 on 1 June, 2019 announcing the public holidays in 2019 calendar.
2. According to the notification, it is found that two Thadingyut holidays of the remaining public holidays in 2019 are Saturday and Sunday and another public holiday of one day before Tazaungdine Full Moon Day is also Sunday.
3. Hence, to ensure that the public holidays which coincided with Saturday and Sunday are not deprived the public servants of their rights, two Thadingyut holidays are announced 11 October, 2019 (Friday) and 15 October, 2019 (Tuesday), and one Tazaungdine public holiday is 12 November 2019 (Tuesday). Thadingyut holidays and Tazaungdine holidays mentioned in the notification No 58/2018 on public holidays are substituted with the following amendment in accordance with the Section 25 of the Negotiable Instrument Act.

Sr. Holidays	Date	Total
13. Thadingyut Festival	11-10-2019 to 15-10-2019	5 days
14. Thazaungdine Festival	10-11-2019 to 12-11-2019	3 days

By order
Zaw Than Thin
Secretary
Government of the Union

Correction

PLEASE read the title of the article " UNHCR that needs impartiality" appeared on page 11 of the Global New Light of Myanmar issued on 9-8-2019 as " OHCHR that needs impartiality" and all the words in connection with the matter in the text as "OHCHR" .

Min Thi Ha



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 9th August, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 10th August, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Ayeyarwady regions, Kachin, Northern Shan and Chin states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavyfalls in Taninthayi region, Kayin and Mon states and isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine state. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35-40)m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (8 -10) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (4 - 8) feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for the Brighter Future

FROM PAGE-9

Vision and Mission of the strategy are as follows:

Vision: To promote physical, mental and social health of entire students

Mission: Developing Health Promoting Schools for learning and working environment for all education families

Purpose of this strategy is to provide systematic framework to promote physical, mental and social health of entire students and promote healthy behaviour to prevent communicable and non-communicable diseases as well as determinants of health and risk factors to prevent diseases through comprehensive health promoting school approach

Major Comprehensive School Health strategies are

Strategic 1: Strengthen and develop health promoting school structure and system,

Strategic 2: Improve health and well-being through health literacy and services,

Strategic 3: Harmonize health and education through health promoting schools, and

Strategic 4: Strengthen community partnership in Health Promoting Schools

Transformation of current domains of health promoting school to systematic strategies was needed to foster inter-agencies, cross-sectoral actions to support health related programmes, with sufficient resources to strengthen school-

based health programmes and improve health and education performance of school-aged children in Myanmar. The framework also addresses the gaps to make school a healthy setting for learning and working, as well as aids integration of current fragmented activities.

By the year 2022, health and well-being of students in Myanmar should increase in 2-3 folds if implementation of this strategic plan is carried out with sufficient resources and coordination between multistakeholders and partners, from schools to home and communities, and supports among various agencies.

2019 School Health Week

In collaboration with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Sports will observe this year's National School Health Week from August 12 to 16, 2019.

The primary goal of the National School Health Week is to spread the word regarding the importance of school health and how this not only affects the health and development of the students, but how it contributes to productivity, economic growth and ultimately national development.

. During this period five health promoting school activities will be done in all basic education schools of the country. The prioritized health promoting school activities includes School Environmental Sanitation, School Medical Examination



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the opening speech at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School held in Nay Pyi Taw on June 12, 2019 (Photo-MOHS)

and Treatment, Prevention of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases, School Health Education, School Nutrition promotion and Food Safety.

Let's work hand in hand

Partnerships with local communities are indispensable factors for the effective implementation and success of health promotion schools. This new comprehensive school health strategic plan intends to build partnership toward achieving sustainable health of students primarily, and for teachers, families and communities as multiplying affects toward healthy society. Successful health promoting schools often take active roles in promoting health not only within school boundary but extended to students' families, and commu-

nities nearby in order to ensure safe and healthy environment are available and accessible by students thus enhance healthy habits and choices.

With new strategies, schools can become platform for promoting health and enabling school age children, families and communities to be able to take control over their own health to maintain minimum health condition and address some determinations or factors affecting their health together with support or contribution from schools. Active engagement of students will be additional assess for schools to create leadership and students' characters for being the change agents and ambassadors for healthy society in the longer term.

Let's work hand in hand in

realizing the motto: Physically and Mentally Fit Youth for the Brighter Future.

Ref:- Myanmar National Comprehensive School Health Strategic Plan (2017-2022), SH Division, DOPH, 2017

-MITV news, 12 June 2019
-Ministry of Health and Sports-Facebook page (12-13 June 2019)

-State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's opening speech at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School, Nay Pyi Taw, 12 June 2019

-The Global New Light of Myanmar, 13 June 2019

-Union Minister for Health and Sports and Union Minister for Education's speeches at the National Seminar on Strengthening Health Promoting School, Nay Pyi Taw, 12-13 June 2019

Cash, aid provided to flood victims in Nyaunglebin, Shwegyin, Bago townships



Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein and officials accepts cash donations for people affected by floods in Nyaunglebin, Shwegyin, and Bago townships. PHOTO: TIN SOE (BAGO)

U WIN THEIN, the Chief Minister of Bago Region and officials from departments concerned on Thursday morning disbursed cash and relief supplies to flood victims in Nyaunglebin, Shwegyin, and Bago townships. A team first visited relief camps in monasteries in Madauk Town, Nyaunglebin Township and gave K8.9 million in cash for rice and three relief supplies, including medicines and necessary aids, to 4,254 victims from 776 households. Other private donors also contributed three items of aid, including 100 rice bags, 100 shirts, and 40 raincoats. Later, in Shwegyin Township, the Chief Minister and a team donated K10 million in cash for rice; five donors gave K5.6 million in cash and 10 rice bags; the Health Department dis-

tributed 6,000 packs of electrolyte, 92 raincoats, and 150 clothes to flood victims; and, the Naylawon company donated 100 rice bags to victims. Additionally, the Chief Minister handed over certificates of honor to private donors.

As the river water in Shwegyin increased, the wards and villages in Shwegyin Township were submerged. The 9,228 flood victims in Shwegyin Township are currently being sheltered at 34 relief camps. In the afternoon, a team inspected relief camps in Phayargyi Town of Bago Township, and provided K275,100 in cash for rice to 131 victims, and K30,000 for every child under 6 months, and comforted the flood victims. — Tin Soe (Bago)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Police seizes drugs in surprise checks in several towns

POLICE SEIZED nearly 16,000 stimulant tablets in separate search in Kawthoung and Bokeypin recently.

A combined team comprised of local police and an anti-drug squad in Kawthoung searched the house of Myo Min Khaing, on Shweminwun Street, Padauk Shwewah Ward in Kawthoung on 7th August and seized 1,793 stimulant tablets, K34,000 and one mobile phone.

Similarly, a local combined team in Botepyin searched the house of Tin Maung Latt in Yayngan Village on 8th August and

discovered 14,200 stimulant tablets.

Police in Paungte, Pyay District, Bago Region, acting on a tip-off, searched the house of Kyaw Thu Win (a) Kyaw Gyi and discovered 37 stimulant tablets. In connection with the case, the police searched the house of Ohn Myint in Zay Ward-2 and discovered 90 stimulant tablets, 4 g of marijuana, 0.2 g of ice and K84,500.

The team also searched his another house in the same ward and discovered 2,260 stimulant tablets hidden in a trash bin at the house.

Similarly, the forces of the Tatmadaw, acting on a tip-off, searched a house near Chinmalin Village in Laukkai Township and discovered 18,000 stimulant tablets, 8.5 kilos of Ammonium chloride, one kilo of Methanol and accessories which are used for making the stimulant tablets.

On 8th August, a local anti-drug squad and police found 12.72 kilos of opium, K180,000, one mobile phone, three ATM cards, from a Toyota Crown driven by Yauk Chan Hsan at Yaypu Check Point in Hsenwi, Lashio District.

Similarly, police in Mabein searched a motorcycle driven Ma El Me Kyi (a) Cho Cho Thauang near Mabein-Pinkyen Village and seized 4,000 stimulant in the search.

Action has been taken against all the suspects under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substance Law, according to the Myanmar Police Force.—MNA

(Translated by TTN)



Yauk Chan Hsan seen together with seized drugs in Hsenwi, Lashio District. PHOTO: MPF



IKBZ held a ceremony of offering the "Agent Safeguard Program" which provides health and life cover to insurance agents and their families. IKBZ is the first insurance company in Myanmar to offer such a program which is in accordance to the IKBZ core value of Metta. Daw Yin Thu Lwin the Head of Agency in IKBZ Insurance said that there have been two deaths among agents in the last few months, and IKBZ could only do some limited support to the bereaved families, but with a proper insurance coverage they will get real support in the case of unforeseen circumstances. This thought led to the creation of the Agent Safeguard Program. Insurance agents are self-employed and currently represent all insurers in Myanmar. While they work hard protecting their customer's assets and lives, they are often unprotected as they have no access to employer offered benefits of any sort and IKBZ believes that this scheme offered to them will be a good way to provide them peace of mind, that they will have the financial security to tide over difficult times as well as that their families and their dreams are protected. The Program will be available to eligible agents who do business with IKBZ and are multi-tiered based on the agent's business with IKBZ. This initiative also has the important objective of spreading the awareness about life and health protection among the wider Myanmar population in keeping with the IKBZ Vision of "Improving the quality of Life in Myanmar through Insurance"

NASA engineers test cameras on Mars 2020 rover

LOS ANGELES — NASA's Mars 2020 rover, which is equipped with visionary science instruments, underwent an "eye" exam after the installation of several cameras on it, according to the latest release of the space agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory

(JPL).

The rover contains an armada of imaging capabilities, from wide-angle landscape cameras to narrow-angle high-resolution zoom lens cameras.

"We completed the machine-vision calibration of the forward-facing

cameras on the rover," said Justin Maki, chief engineer for imaging and the imaging scientist for Mars 2020 at the JPL.

"This measurement is critical for accurate stereo vision, which is an important capability of the vehicle."

—Xinhua ■

Scientists discover fossil of world's largest parrot in New Zealand

SYDNEY — The fossil of a giant parrot that stood up to 1 metre tall and weighed about 7 kilograms was discovered in New Zealand, scientists said.

Although long-extinct, the *Heracles inexpectatus* — so named because of its great size and strength as well as its unexpected discovery — was found among fossils dating back 19 million years in Central Otago, in the southeast of New Zealand's South Island.

The *Heracles inexpectatus* was roughly twice the size of the critically endangered kakapo, a flightless bird also from New Zealand that is the world's largest living parrot.

Trevor Worthy, associate professor at Flinders University in Adelaide, said in a statement that while New Zealand is well known for its giant birds, including the now-extinct flightless moa, "until now, no one has ever found an extinct giant parrot — anywhere."

Researcher Mike Archer, a professor at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, said the ancient bird's size meant it would have sat higher in the food chain compared to other parrots.—Kyodo News



This image shows a reconstruction of the giant parrot *Heracles inexpectatus*, in comparison to *Kiornis* — small New Zealand wrens standing 8 centimeters high. PHOTO: Kyodo News

1. Poems on Myanmar Contemporary Scenes

(in English) By *Lokethar*

(Published: Feb.2018) Price: Kyats 1000/-

2. Poems on Myanmar

(In English) By *Lokethar*

(Published: Sept. 2018) Price: Kyats 2000/-

3. Memorable Poems from the Reign of

Myanmar Kings (English language

translation of the poems) By *Lokethar*

(Published: July 2019) Price: Kyats 2500/-

All the above books are available at:-

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Merchant Street, Yangon | 3. Yarpay Bookshop
Pansodan Street, Yangon. |
| 2. Sarpayloka Bookshops
Yangon. | 4. Sarpaynandaw Bookshop
36 th street, Yangon. |

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V LILY QUEEN VOY. NO. (040 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V LILY QUEEN VOY. NO. (040 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (131 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (131 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA
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India urges Pakistan to review ties downgrade over Kashmir

NEW DELHI — India on Thursday urged Pakistan to review its decision to downgrade diplomatic ties with New Delhi in response to India's decision to scrap Kashmir's special status.

"The government of India regrets the steps announced by Pakistan yesterday and would urge that country to review them so that normal channels for diplomatic communications are preserved," India's foreign ministry said in a press release.

On the decision to scrap Article 370 of the Constitution, which granted special status to Kashmir, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it is "the beginning of a new era."

"Article 370 did not give anything more than terrorism and corruption. It was used by Pakistan as a weapon," Modi said in an address to the nation on Thursday evening.

Pakistan on Wednesday expelled the Indian envoy in Islamabad and announced a five-point plan which included downgrading ties with its neighboring country.

India's foreign ministry statement said that the intention behind Pakistan's measures "is obviously to present an alarming picture to the world of our bilateral ties."

The statement also justified the Indian government's decision Monday to revoke the measure of autonomy given to Indian-administered Kashmir, saying the move is based on a commitment to extend to the country's only Muslim-majority state opportunities for development which were earlier denied.—Kyodo News ■

Cambodia, Sri Lanka sign 2 deals to boost bilateral ties

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia and Sri Lanka signed two memorandums of understanding (MoUs) on Thursday to boost bilateral relations in politics, trade and investment, a Cambodian senior official said.

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen and visiting Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena presided over the signing ceremony of the MoUs after their meeting at the Peace Palace, said Eang Sophalleth, a personal assistant to Hun Sen.

The deals are the MoU

on political consultations between the two foreign ministries and the MoU on bilateral cooperation between the chambers of commerce of the two countries. "During the meeting, the two leaders also agreed to work together to promote bilateral cooperation in education, culture, tourism, trade, and civil aviation," Sophalleth told reporters after the meeting. Sirisena arrived in Phnom Penh on Wednesday for a four-day state visit at the invitation of Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni.—Xinhua ■



Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen (r) meets with visiting Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 8 August, 2019. PHOTO: XINHUA

Huawei unveils own operating system with block to Android looming

SHANGHAI — Chinese telecom giant Huawei Technologies Co. said Friday that it has developed its own operating system, amid concerns it could be blocked from accessing globally used Android

systems operated by US Google LLC.

The announcement came as the US government continues to voice anxiety that Huawei products may facilitate spying, sparking speculation that

the Chinese firm's access to Google's Android systems could be removed.

In May, Washington declared a national emergency to ban American companies from using telecom technology and services

provided by entities considered a national security threat, a move apparently countering Huawei.

In late June, President Donald Trump once promised to ease the restrictions, but US media have

recently reported that the White House is holding off on a decision about licenses for U.S. firms to resume business with Huawei amid an escalating trade war between Washington and Beijing.—Kyodo News ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC SEOUL VOY. NO. (930S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC SEOUL VOY. NO. (930S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/T.M.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISTORYA VOY. NO. (97)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISTORYA VOY. NO. (97) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 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
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Phone No: 2301191, 2301178**

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA N° of the financing agreement is N° H814MM. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/ Contract for the following packages. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Reference No.	Lot No.	Description	Quantity
G 138	1	Printing Vinyl Posters of Operation and Maintenance	8,500 sheets
G 139	1	Printing Operation and Maintenance Handbook	27,000 books
G 141	1	Printing Gender Training Manual	400 Books
	2	Printing Gender Check List	2,500 Books
	3	Printing Stories	6,000 Books

Expressions of Interest on Quotation must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number above. The invitation to quote will be distribute on the needs of DRD. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ). Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address by corresponding **date and time stated in respective ITQ**, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

The goods will be contracted in lot-by-lot basis. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the "Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: Project Director Mrs. Nyo Nyo Win, NCDD Project Secretariat, Department of Rural Development, Office N° 36, Nay Pyi Taw. Telephone (95-67)418604. For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067418637/Email: procurement@ncddpmyanmar.org.

Please indicate your e-mail address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send as well as introduce your company name and contact number to communicate with you. For more information on the NCDD Project please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

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McConnell says won't recall US Senate to pass new gun laws after shootings

WASHINGTON — US Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell said Thursday he would not recall lawmakers from their summer break to pass gun control legislation in the wake of two mass shootings that left 31 dead. More than 200 US mayors earlier wrote to McConnell to demand that the chamber reconvene to approve bills passed by the lower House requiring background checks for all gun purchases and regulation of secondary sales after the shootings in El Paso and Dayton.

But McConnell told local radio in Kentucky that while gun legislation would be “front and center” in the Senate’s next session, he would not order the recall and instead wanted to wait for “bipartisan discussion” between Republicans and



US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says gun control legislation will be “front and center” in the next session but he will not recall senators from their summer break. PHOTO: AFP

Democrats. “I want to make a law, not just see this political sparring going on endlessly,” he told News-Radio 840 WHAS, adding that a possible ban on assault weapons would “probably be discussed as

well” when lawmakers returned in September. McConnell has stifled congressional efforts to expand gun controls amid Republicans’ fears that they could suffer at ballot box in next year’s elections.—AFP ■

French Fair 2019 held in Yangon

Marketplace by City Mart Supermarket celebrated the launch of their French Fair at marketplace by City Mart 6.5 Miles. “Marketplace aims to provide finest experiences on wide variety of international foods to all of our valued customers. At French Fair, there are the variety of French Food such as Cheese, Jam, Cookies, Biscuits and Wine. Moreover, French Fair showcases array of French Beauty Products such as Bioderma, L’oreal, Garnier and French Kitchen Products such as Luminarc, Tefal” explained by Ma May Zin Soe Htet Operation Director of City Mart Holding Co. Ltd. The event was attended by Mr. Guillaume Rebiere from

CCI France Myanmar, together with VIPs from CCI France Myanmar and City Mart Holding Co Ltd., The launch of the French Fair at Marketplace acts as the introducing of French Products at the supermarket. We have been holding this “French Fair” for the very first time. This is a festival not to be missed as there are promotions, sampling stations and cooking demonstration. The French Fair is taking place at all Marketplace by City Mart branches starting from 1st August 2019 to 15th August 2019 and promotion areas of Marketplace by City Mart Golden Valley and 6.5 mile with special display.—GNLM ■

FMS Limited

Notice for Final General Meeting of Members Voluntary Winding Up

According to the section 357 of Myanmar Companies Law, it is required to secure consents of members of the Company “FMS Limited” and therefore all the members are invited to attend the final general meeting which will be convened at the place and time mentioned below.

Date: 9-9-2019
Time: (3:30) pm
Place: 2nd Floor, Ahlone Tower, Strand Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

The final report of the liquidator will be submitted and explained to the members in the meeting.

U Win Swe
Liquidator (FMS Limited), Advocate (No.11054)
No. 59, U Ba Han Street, Thamine, Mayankon Township, Yangon.
Tel: (959) 451360389

Fosroc Myanmar Limited

Notice for Final General Meeting of Members Voluntary Winding Up

According to the section 357 of Myanmar Companies Law, it is required to secure consents of members of the Company “Fosroc Myanmar Limited” and therefore all the members are invited to attend the final general meeting which will be convened at the place and time mentioned below.

Date: 9-9-2019
Time: (2:30) pm
Place: 2nd Floor, Ahlone Tower, Strand Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

The final report of the liquidator will be submitted and explained to the members in the meeting.

U Win Swe
Liquidator (Fosroc Myanmar Limited), Advocate (No.11054)
No. 59, U Ba Han Street, Thamine, Mayankon Township, Yangon.
Tel: (959) 451360389

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Ancient Mingun Pahtodawgyi. PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)

The four legendary structures of Mingun

Maung Tha (Archaeology)

DURING our short visit to Sagaing or Zeyapura, which was founded 700 years ago, we visited Laykyunmanaung Pagoda on the bank of Ayeyawady River and viewed the river boat, Kalaw Pandaw, anchored at a jetty. The river cruise ship had sleeping rooms and dining rooms along its long body.

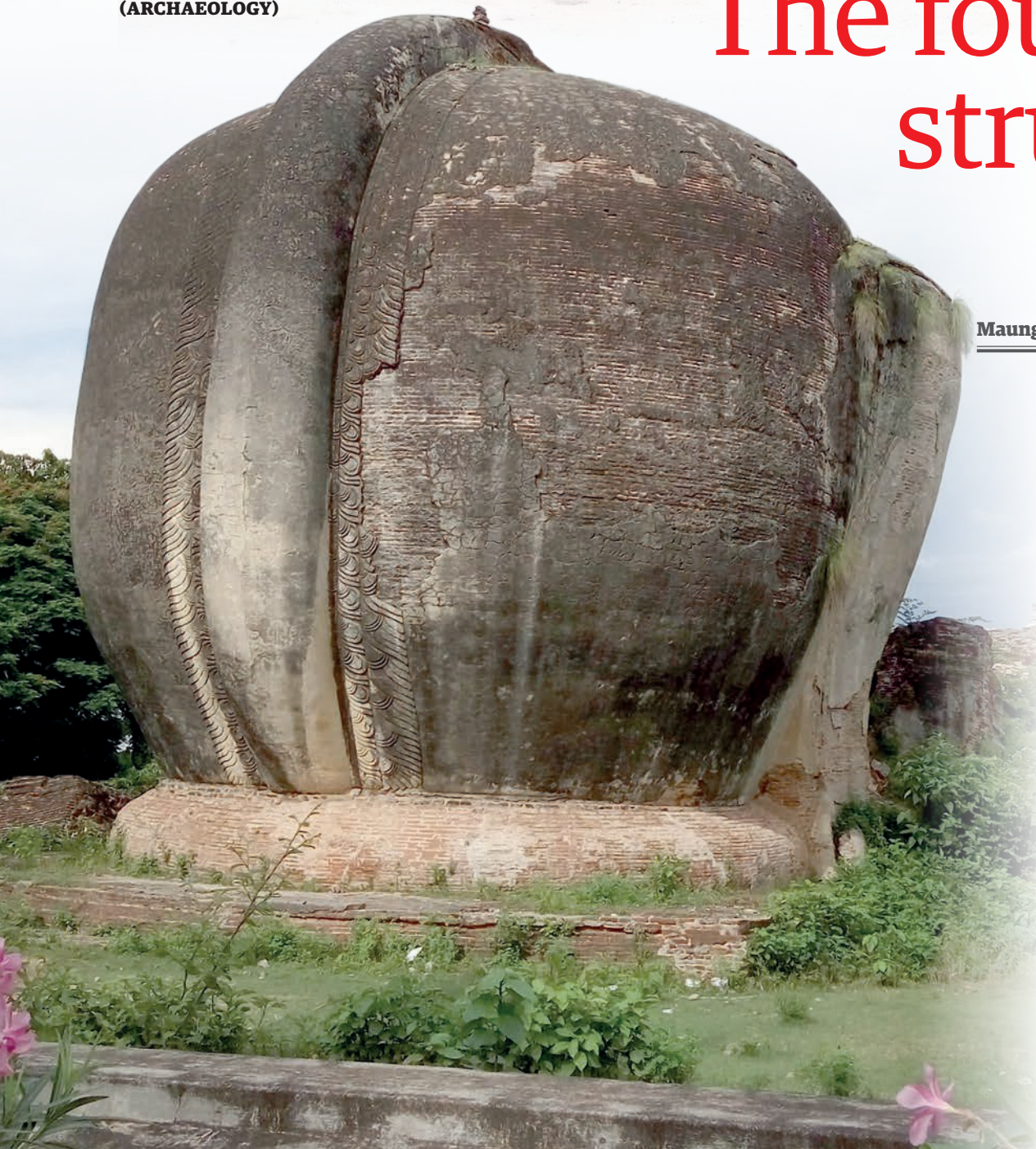
Afterwards, we travelled to Mingun, an archaeological zone in Sagaing Division. Mingun is located 12 miles north of Sagaing. We travelled on the road that ran parallel to the wide Ayeyawady River. We enjoyed the breathtaking view of the sunset.

On the way we saw a lot of cars returning from Mingun, and many of them were carrying foreigners. The road was smooth, as Mingun was a tourist destination. Visitors could also travel to Mingun by boat from Mandalay along the Ayeyawady.

Mingun is located at a place lying at the centre of Ayeyawady River and Minwun mountain range. During the ancient times it was called Minywa. King Badon or King Bodaw Phaya issued an order to change the name to Mingun. Kyilaygyi (the four legendary structures) in Mingun is one of the famous tourist hotspots of Sagaing Region, which possesses a large number of ancient heritages. Kyilaygyi includes the Pahtodawgyi, a huge unfinished pagoda, a big bronze bell, the two large lion statues and the Kandawgyi, a large lake.

On arrival at Mingun, we first visited Mya Theindan Pagoda. While observing the artifacts, we saw tourists taking pictures at the pagoda.

Prince of Sagaing built the pagoda. It took about six years, from 1163ME to 1169ME, to complete the pagoda. The shape of the pagoda resembles the mythical Myinmoh Mountain. The prince donated an emerald stone, valued at Ks 100,000 at that time, to build the pagoda. So it is called Mya (emerald) Theindan (worth Ks 100,000). Some call it Hsinbyu (white elephant) Pagoda as it is located on the hill by the name



The Back part of the Gigantic Lion sculpture which destroyed by earthquake. PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)



Mya Theindan Pagoda. **PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY).**

white elephant. Some records say that it was named after the queen by the name Hsinbyu Mae. The diameter of the foot of the pagoda is about 321 feet.

Afterwards, we proceeded to the twin lion statues facing the Ayeyawady River. King Bodaw Phaya built the statues in 1793 AD. Each statue is 95 feet tall and has fingers, 5.5 feet in length and 4.5 feet in circumference. About 200,000 bricks were used in building the statues. Sadly the frontal part of the statues collapsed when an earthquake hit the area.

Then we went to the Pahtodawgyi, which was built by King Bodaw Phaya in 1790 AD. The King stopped building the pagoda as a prophecy appeared saying that the King would die if the pagoda was complete. Some historical records say that the King died before he could finish the pagoda.

The King has a wish to build the largest religious edifice in Myanmar, and in accord with the wish, he built the pagoda at a place now call Mingun. Although the original plan was to build a 500-foot tall pagoda, it collapsed when the height reached 160 feet, according to historian Dr. Than Tun. According to palm leaf treatise, the diameter of the pagoda is about 400 feet and height is 528 feet. But the diameter stated in the stone inscription kept at Maha Muni Pagoda in Mandalay

is 450 feet. There were stairs to climb over to the top of the Mingun Pahtodawgyi. But we went to the big bonze bell, which is called Mingun Bell. In the past the bell stood under the open sky. But now it is systematically kept in a grand building.

The King also built the Pondaw Pagoda, a scale-model of the Pahtodawgyi. The 15 feet tall pagoda was named Naungdawgyi (elder brother) Pagoda. If the Pahtodawgyi was complete, its design would be the same as that of the Naungdawgyi although the latter is much smaller.

Mingun Bell is the largest of the bells of the world that can produce a ringing sound. It is the second largest bell in the world. Cast at a place called Nandaw Kyun, the weight of the bronze bell is 55555 viss.

According to Myanmar belief, the number “five” represents Thursday. The British estimated the weight of the bell at 80 tons. But according to a Myanmar record, the bell weighs 55555 viss which is equal to 90.52 tons. The bell produces a beautiful ringing sound.

According to history recorded during the Konboun period, the bell was cast on the 5th waxing day of the Myanmar month of Kason 1170ME. Its roundabout measurement is 46 feet in diameter, 50 feet in width, 20 feet in length.

After visiting the bell, we went to Moemeikkon hillock. Moemeikkon is famous as the land of religious literature because of the brilliant religious accomplishments of the two eminent persons – Sayadaw U Vicitta and Nun Daw

Sudhammacari. Renowned as the Mingun Sayadaw, Sayadaw U Vicitta, holder of the Tipitaka Dhara Dhamma Bandakarika Title, played the leading role in the Sixth Buddhist Synod. A total of 95 religious buildings including pagodas and monasteries are lying on the Moemeikkon hillock. It has also the Moemeik Pagoda. The 109.6 feet high pagoda was built by a son of King Bodaw Phaya, who was administer of Momeik town under the title – Maha Dhamma Yaza.

The Tinapitakanikaya Paritta School in Moemeikkon is famous for bringing out prominent

Phaya built the lake at a place five miles south of Pahtodawgyi Pagoda in 1179ME. The lake is called Kyetdaunkkan for its location in the west of Kyetdaunk village. At present, it is a dry lake. It has only very few visitors. We did not go there.

Mingun Home for the Age lies in a 3.75-acre plot bordering Myatheindan pagoda and Pahtodawgyi pagoda between Ayeyawady River and Minwun Hill. The Home is caring and catering septuagenarians free of charge. Daw Oo Zun founded the Home in 1276ME. First she built



The world second largest ancient Mingun bell. **PHOTO MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY).**

Paritta learners including Sayadaw U Vicitta. Sayadaw U Vicitta is the first monk in Myanmar who could memorize the Three Pitaka treatises. A statue of the Sayadaw is placed in the Madame Tussauds Museum in London as the person with the best memory in the world.

The original name of Kandawgyi, one of the legendary places of Mingun, is Kyetdaunkkan Lake. King Bodaw

three small meditation cabins on the 12 waning day of the Myanmar month Pyatho in 1276ME to look after an elderly man and an elderly women. Later, she built the Home.

Sagaing, founded by Athinkhaya Sawyun, son of Tashishin Thihathu, the builder of Pinya, in 1315 AD is now 700 years old. Throughout the 700 years, Sagaing saw the rule of successive kings, who build a large number of religious and cultural edifices. So Sagaing is now dotted with ancient buildings, which are the country's heritage. Of them 28 are in Mingun area.

The Pahtodawgyi, the Mingun Bell and the Lion Statues are the most attractive ancient heritages of Mingun area which is always crowded with visitors. Mingun will be famous internally and internationally as long as we preserve its legendary structures. (Translated by Tin Maung Than)



River Cruise docks at the jetty. **PHOTO: MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)**

Match against Ayeyawady will be tough: Yangon keeper Kyaw Zin Htet

THE reliable goalkeeper of Yangon United and the national football team, Kyaw Zin Htet, said a home match with Ayeyawady United could prove to be a tough one for Yangon United.

Yangon United will play a decisive match against Ayeyawady United at 3.30 p.m. today at the home stadium of Ayeyawady United in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region.

Goalkeeper Kyaw Zin Htet said: "We may face struggles in playing at the home stadium of Ayeyawady United. But, we have to fight for a win and play with respect. It may prove to be an

uphill battle, like our head coach has said."

Kyaw Zin Htet also commented on his team's performance in the previous matches.

"Our team could not show good results in the previous two matches. If we want a win, we must keep an all-out concentration on the match. We must let any mistake go," he added.

Keeper Kyaw Zin Htet also invited fans to support Yangon United, and said: "We will do what our fans want. So, please go ahead and support Yangon United. We will do our best in this season to gain victory."

In their previous meeting in the first round of the Myanmar National League, Yangon United had lost 1-0 to Ayeyawady at the home stadium of Yangon United.

Yangon United is leading the table with 38 points from 11 wins, 5 draws, and 3 losses out of 19 matches played, and Ayeyawady United is third with 37 points from 10 wins, 7 draws, and 2 losses from 19 matches. The upcoming match promises to be a thrilling one as it will decide who will be the expected champion of the Myanmar National League.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■



Yangon United goalkeeper Kyaw Zin Htet seen at a Myanmar National League match. **PHOTO: YUFC**

Week-20 MNL matches to be broadcast live on free-to-air channels

THE Week-20 matches of the Myanmar National League will be broadcast live on free-to-air channels, according to a statement issued by the Myanmar National League.

Week-20 will feature numerous matches, including Yangon United and Ayeyawady United FC. Yangon United will take on Ayeyawady United FC at 3:30 pm on 10 August at Patheingyi Stadium in Patheingyi. The match will be broadcast live on MRTV and MRTV-4.

Meanwhile, Yadanarbon FC will take on Dagon FC at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon at 4:00 pm on the same day, and the match will be broadcast live on Fortune TV.

Another match scheduled for 3:30 pm will pit Shan United against Zwegabin United. The match will take place at Taunggyi Stadium, and seen on Mizzima TV. There are also matches scheduled for Sunday. Sagaing United will play against Rakhine United at 3:30 pm on Sunday at Monywa Stadium, and the match will be broadcast live on MRTV and MRTV-4.

Also Sunday, Magwe FC will face Southern Myanmar FC at Thuwunna Stadium, and be streamed live on My Sports Facebook Page. On 12 July, Hantawady United will also take on Chinland FC at Thuwunna Stadium, and can be seen on Mizzima TV at 4 pm.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Lukaku hails 'world's best' Conte after Inter move

ROME — Romelu Lukaku said on Friday that having the chance to play for Antonio Conte drove him to join Inter Milan, hailing the Italian as the world's best coach after arriving from Manchester United. Asked by club media how the arrival of former Italy boss Conte at Inter this summer had influenced his decision to move to Serie A, he replied "a lot... he's the best manager in the world"

"He's somebody that can make players better all the time. You can see his record," said Lukaku. Conte has been a long-time admirer of Lukaku and tried to sign him for Chelsea before the Belgian's move from Everton to United in 2017. The 26-year-old completed his long-awaited move to Inter on Thursday, joining a club with ambitions of breaking fierce rival Juventus' stranglehold on domestic honours. Belgium's all-time top scorer with 48 goals,

he will be at the centre of Inter's attack, taking the number 9 shirt away from former club captain Mauro Icardi after the Argentina international was frozen out last season following a bitter and public contract row. He hadn't played a single minute in United's pre-season campaign after being sidelined by Ole Gunnar Solskjaer despite scoring 42 times in all competitions while at Old Trafford. "I think Inter is a club with a lot of upsides. I think for me it was something I needed," Lukaku said. "I needed a challenge where I could help a team build for the future. For me, everything is present here to help me and I wish I can help my teammates with my hard work dedication to the game." Milan-based Gazzetta Dello Sport reports that he will earn 8.5 million euros a season at Inter, and claims that Inter will pay United an initial 65 million

euros (\$73 million) over five years with a further 10 million in potential add-ons, contrasting with reports in Britain that the Premier League club brought in 80 million euros. They have strengthened a squad that finished fourth in Serie A last season by signing veteran Uruguayan international defender Diego Godin and promising midfielder Nicolo Barella.

Inter are also reportedly close to bringing in Edin Dzeko, with the Bosnian international pushing for the move away from the Italian capital and Roma trying to retain him after failing to find an adequate replacement. Other targets reportedly include Barcelona's Ivan Rakitic and Lazio star Sergej Milinkovic-Savic, although the club also need to offload Icardi, who is reportedly only interested in a move to Juventus despite interest from Napoli and Roma.—AFP ■



Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino is unhappy with England's transfer window closing before elsewhere in Europe. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pochettino concerned by transfer window 'mess'

LONDON — Mauricio Pochettino fears the decision to shut the Premier League transfer window before many of the other major leagues could "create a mess" at Tottenham Hotspur.

Pochettino signed Fulham's Ryan Sessegnon and Giovani Lo Celso from Real Betis on Thursday's deadline day after breaking their transfer record on Lyon's Tanguy Ndombele earlier in the window. But clubs in Italy, Spain and Germany, who all start their domestic seasons later than the Premier League, still have

several weeks to sign players from England. With Tottenham stars Christian Eriksen, Toby Alderweireld, Danny Rose and Jan Vertonghen all linked with moves this summer, Pochettino is worried that his players will be distracted and potentially end up leaving without replacements being available.

"All the personal situations, it is not right to talk. There is a lot of rumours. We cannot waste time talking about every rumour that appeared on the news," Pochettino told reporters

on Friday. "That is another point to argue that we are at a disadvantage with European clubs because they have 20 days more, because I think it is a big mistake for the Premier League to allow that.

"In this situation we open the door for clubs in Europe to try and create confusion in the club. The Premier League cannot give this advantage to European clubs because we are going to compete with them ... they can create a mess in a club like us."—AFP ■