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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor and Foreign Affairs Minister receives Azerbaijani Amb

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for a photograph together with a delegation led by Mr Qaley Allahverdiyev, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received Azerbaijani Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Qaley Allahverdiyev at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the call, they exchanged views on the matters relating to strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between Myanmar and Azerbaijan and the participation of Myanmar at the 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 25 to 26 October 2019. The visiting Ambassador handed over the invitation letters to the State Counsellor to attend the Non-Aligned Movement Summit.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and the officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

Ygn Govt inks pact for Yangon Smart and Eco City Project

THE Department of Urban and Housing Development and the Amata Corporation PCL signed a framework agreement for Yangon's Smart and Eco City Project at a ceremony yesterday.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein gave the opening address at the signing ceremony, which was held at the regional cabinet's office. Afterwards, officials from both parties signed the agreement.

The project will be implemented as an industrial zone on 2,000 acres of land in Dagon East Township, and will cover the transportation infrastructure, assistance delivery, and other commercial services expected.

The project will take five years to complete, with the first phase beginning on 200 acres of land in November. The government department will contribute 20 per cent, while Amata will bear the remaining 80 per cent of the cost of the project.

The project is estimated to generate employment for over 30,000 local residents, create recreational areas, and not to cause any damage to the environment. Also present at the event were members of the Yangon Region Cabinet and responsible personnel of the Amata Corporation PCL.— Aye Min Thu *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)* ■

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw debates Constitution Amendment Second Bill Report

SEVENTEEN MPs debated the Joint Scrutinizing Committee's report on the Second Bill Amending the Constitution during the 15th-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session yesterday.

The assembly also discussd the tax income list of Union Ministries and organizations during first six month of fiscal year 2018-2019, sent by the Union Government, and the Joint Public Accounts Committee's Report No. 12/2019 concerning that list.

U Kyaw Naing.
PHOTO : HTAN PHONE

U Khin Maung Myint.
PHOTO : HTAN PHONE

U Sai Tun Sein.
PHOTO : HTAN PHONE

Lt-Col Zaw Min Oo.
PHOTO : HTAN PHONE

U Khin Maung Thi.
PHOTO : HTAN PHONE

U Htein Win.
PHOTO : HTAN PHONE

MPs debate charter second amendment bill

Firstly, MP U Kyaw Naing of Yangon Region constituency 12 highlighted the importance of Section 86 (a) of the Constitution which states a matter that shall be resolved in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, save as otherwise provided by the Constitution, shall be determined by a majority of votes of the representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw who are present and voting.

U Kyaw Naing said, as the matter was already agreed to on 14 May 2019, the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution commented on incorporating scrutinizing processes in its future amendment process. As the comment falls within the committee's authority and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has already approved of it, he urged assembly to approve the report in respect of the original Constitution and the Hluttaw.

MPs voice legitimacy concerns

Next, MP U Khin Maung Myint of Yaksawk constituency said he strongly rejects the report as the joint committee's actions are unconstitutional for not adhering to the provisions in Chapter XII of the Constitution nor to sections 96, 97, 98, 99 and 100 of the related Bylaw. He said the bill should be amended in consistency with Chapter XII.

Following this, MP U Sai Tun Sein of Mongpyin constituency said the 45-member joint committee is only at the stage of collecting proposed amendments and was delegated the task by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He said it will take time for the report to become an actual bill and voiced his opinion of the improperness of viewing this legal process as not conforming to existing laws.

Formation legit, process needs to follow suit

Next, Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Zaw Min Oo said that while the formation of the 45-member committee confirms to provisions in the charter, amendments to the Constitution should follow sections 433, 434, 435 and 436 of Chapter XII.

He said the joint committee's reports does not conform with sections 433 and 435 of the Constitution nor with Sections 133 to 139 of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Bylaw. He said he rejects the committee's reports as it failed to analyse the bill submitted by Dr Maung Tin and urged the Hluttaw to adhere to existing laws and bylaws.

SEE PAGE-10

UEC meets with political parties for successful holding of 2020 General Election

A coordination meeting between Union Election Commission (UEC) and political parties for a successful holding of the 2020 General Election was held at the UEC Office in Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was attended by UEC Chairman U Hla Thein, commission members, officials from commission office and officials from 80 political parties.

At the meeting UEC Chairman said the meeting was held for the commission to successfully hold the 2020 General Election. There'll be elections in countries where democracy was practiced and the elections need to be trustworthy and acceptable to all. The 2020 General Election will be held in an impartial and exemplary election under the five norms of free, fair, transparent, credible election that reflect the will of the people. Local and foreign election observers will be invited to ensure transparency. Both the UEC and political parties are responsible to hold a successful election.

UEC Chairman U Hla Thein delivers the speech at the coordination meeting with the political parties for a successful holding of 2020 General Election in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Problems can be reduced if the political parties follow the laws and rules during the campaigning period. At the moment the commission, Ministry of Office of the Union Government and Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population were cooperating and drawing up a program to collect the population of the whole country and to prepare a basic voters' list. The program includes the four parts of collecting and reviewing basic population data; preparing basic voters' list; preparing, amending and maintaining a monthly list on changing population and basic voters' list; and announcing the basic voters' list. Collection and preparation of basic population data will be conducted mainly by General Administration Department and verification will be conducted by Immigration and Population Department. Relevant election sub-commission will prepare the basic voters' list. Household wise voters' list will be prepared and announced. When the announcement was made people are to check the list and conduct amendments, objections and demands in the prescribed forms. A complete and accurate voters' list will be obtained only with the cooperation and participation of the people. As only the people in the voters' list are allowed to vote political parties were to encourage and support their supporters towards having a complete and accurate voters' list so that the voting rights were not forfeited.

In submitting their candidates list, political parties are to consider implementing gender equality and raising the role of women. The commission was striving and placing much emphasis towards raising the role of women in politics and in the election process. People's use of social media was rising and as attacks using hate speeches and spreading of false news could have adverse effect on the election, political parties were urged to control and prevent it said the UEC Chairman. Next UEC Director-General explained about arrangements made for the 2020 General Election. Suggestions and questions raised by officials of political parties were answered and explained by UEC Chairman and commission member. The meeting came to close after UEC Chairman delivered a closing remark.—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister observes 45th Police Chief Shield Volleyball Championship finals

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presents the Championship Shield to Traffic Police Men Team at the 45th Police Chief Shield Volleyball Championship final tournament in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe observed the men and women final matches of 45th Police Chief Shield Volleyball Championship held at Nay Pyi Taw Wunna Theikdi Sports Stadium B yesterday morning. Also present were wife of the Union Minister, wife of the Deputy Minister, Myanmar Police Chief Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo, high ranking officials and wives from the ministry and Myanmar Police Force, families of police personnel.

In the women's final Traffic Police Team beat Kachin State Police Force Team 3-0 and in the men's final Traffic Police Team beat Myanmar Police Headquarters Team 3-1.

After the final matches best lifter, best blocker, best hitter, best libero, best server, best player awards, women third prize to Magway Region Police Force Team and men third prize to Municipal Police Force Team by Myanmar Police Force Chief and officials. Men second prize to Myanmar Police Headquarters Team and women second prize to Kachin State Police Team were presented by U Thein Oo of Ministry of Home Affairs and wife of Deputy Minister for Home Affairs respectively. Women first prize and cash prize to Traffic Police Team was presented by the wife of Union Minister to each team members individually.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presented men first prize and cash prize individually to Traffic Police Team members and then presented the Championship Shields to Traffic Police Men Team and Traffic Police Women Team. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister for International Cooperation, U Kyaw Tin receives United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator ai

Union Minister for International Cooperation, U Kyaw Tin received United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, ai Mr Knut Ostby, who is leaving Myanmar upon completion of his tenure in Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw on 23 August 2019 at 10:00am.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters related to the strengthening of cooperation between Myanmar and the United Nations, Myanmar's efforts for commencing repatriation of displaced persons from Rakhine State, finalization of the Government–led draft "National Strategy for Closure of IDP Camps in Myanmar", the implementation of MoU signed between the Government of Myanmar, UNDP and UNHCR and the designation of new Resident Coordinator of United Nations to Myanmar. Also present at the meeting were the officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA ■

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin shakes hands with United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, ai Mr Knut Ostby in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin receives Ambassador of People's Republic of China

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin holds talks with Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Chen Hai in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation, received Mr Chen Hai, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, on 22 August 2019 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

During the courtesy Call, they discussed matters relating to promoting bilateral relations and cooperation, accelerating the implementation of Myanmar-China Border Economic Cooperation Zone under the Belt and Road Initiative, and recent developments in Rakhine State and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Regarding the Rakhine situation, Union Minister explained that the planned repatriation of the verified displaced persons scheduled for 22 August did not occur as no one was sent back from Bangladesh despite Myanmar's readiness.

With regard to the situation in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Union Minister reiterated Myanmar's principled position of supporting "One China Policy" and "One Country Two Systems", and expressed his hope that the ongoing efforts for restoration of peace and stability, and rule of law will meet with success, and the situation of the social-economic lives of the Hong Kong people will be back to normalcy soon.

Ambassador expressed that China strongly condemned the recent attack by three ethnic armed groups in Northern Myanmar: TNLA, MNDAA, AA, and reaffirmed that China will continue to provide constructive support to Myanmar Government's endeavours to achieve peace and national reconciliation, and for facilitating the success of the repatriation process in Rakhine State. — MNA ■

Ministers discuss repatriation failure of displaced persons with ASEAN representatives

Union Minster for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye pose for the documentary photo together with ASEAN respresentatives in Sittway on 23 August 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

MYANMAR experienced the second round of repatriation failure of displaced persons from Bangladesh as scheduled on 22 August 2019.

Union Minster for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Deputy Minister for State Counsellor Office U Khin Maung Tin and Deputy Minister U Soe Aung and officials explained the unrealized repatriation programme at the headquarters of Rakhine State government in Sittway as they met with the personnel from the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), and the ASEAN-Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar was informed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh on 19 August 2019 that the Government of Bangladesh has undertaken all necessary measures to smoothly conduct the repatriation of displaced persons from Bangladesh, which is scheduled to start on 22 August 2019.

In referring to this information, the Myanmar government invited ASEAN representatives to witness the repatriation programme. Without hesitation, the bloc dispatched six representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the ASEAN Secretariat and the AHA Centre.

These personnels were waiting to see the returnees on the scheduled date. But they found no returnees as expected.

Similar failures occurred on 15 November 2018 although Bangladeshi government officially informed Myanmar for readiness of reacceptance. After signing bilateral agreements for the repatriation programme, Myanmar has been ready for this since 23 January 2018. There were some successful stories of repatriation since 1993.

The Union Ministers also expressed thanks for the visit of ASEAN representatives to the Reception Centre.

In the Preliminary Needs Assessment for Repatriation in Rakhine State, ASEAN suggested three potential areas of collaboration, namely: enhancing capacity of reception and transit centres; strengthening information dissemination; and support to the provision of basic services.

A technical working group has been established with the representatives from ASEAN, the Office of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD), and the relevant departments.

Mr Ky Anh Nguyen, Director of ASEAN Secretariat expressed thanks for the invitation of Myanmar to witness the repatriation programme, and reaffirmed readiness of the bloc to continue their support, and to implement recommendations in the Preliminary Needs Assessment for Repatriation in Rakhine State, especially socio-economic developments and fundamental services in Rakhine State.

He also pledged to coordinate with ASEAN Plus 3 countries China, Japan and Korea.

He also confirmed that they have witnessed the preparedness of the Myanmar government for the repatriation programme, although Bangladesh side failed to realize it as informed.

He concluded the representatives see the tour was helpful as they could discuss the future helps. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Trade Dept introduces Myanmar Tradenet 2.0 in public workshop

A workshop on E-trade Opportunities and Challenges in Myanmar in progress at the UMFCCI in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Department of Trade introduced Myanmar Tradenet 2.0 during a workshop on E-trade Opportunities and Challenges in Myanmar at the UMFCCI in Yangon yesterday.

Myanmar Tradenet 2.0 will assist the National Single Window system and is scheduled to launch in early 2020. It will allow merchants to apply for import and export licenses, withdraw them and make payments from anywhere with an Internet connection.

The Assistant Director of the Information Technology Division, under the Trade Department, Daw Nwe Ni Win, said Myanmar Tradenet has been around for some time and this iteration is an upgrade.

She said the Ministry of Commerce began providing an online system for licensing processes and trade facilitation services in 2004 and has been upgrading their systems annually. She said it became fully online in 2016 and says if all relevant departments can work online, for providing verifications in some instances, then everything would be much smoother.

Before the workshop commenced, Trade Department Director-General U Min Min and UMFCCI Vice President Dr Myo Thant delivered separate opening addresses and took a documentary photo with attendees. Daw Nwe Ni then explained the implementation of Myanmar Tradenet 2.0 in assisting the National Single Window System.

Next, the General-Secretary of Myanmar Computer Federation, U Thaung Su Nyein, lead discussions on trade policies, regulations and challenges faced by merchants in trading. This was followed by a Q&A session with attendees. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Trade Mark Ads
Call Thin Thin May,
09251022355,
09974424848

Myanmar Gazette

Head of service organization confirmed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Daw Khaing Khaing Aung, Director-General, Auditing Department under the Office of the Auditor General of the Union on the expiry of one-year probationary period.

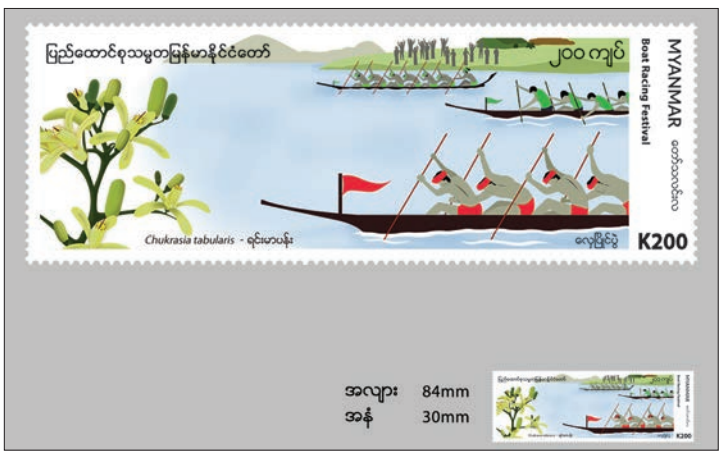
Monyo Pyithu Hluttaw MP faces corruption charges

Pyithu Hluttaw representative for Monyo Township, Bago Region, U Kyaw Myo Min, is facing charges under section 56 of The Anti-Corruption Law for soliciting payments from local fishery lessees in his constituency to extend their lease term.

Acting on a report, the Anti-Corruption Commission investigated into the matter and discovered the MP had received K3.5 million and K3.2 million on two separate occasions in March 2017 from nine lessees who wished to extend their lease terms by three years. The ACC has opened the case in Monyo Police Station against U Kyaw Myo Min, who had abused his power as a Hluttaw representative while tasked with overseeing the auctioning of floodplains fishing grounds. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Myanmar Post issues commemorative stamp for month of Tawthalin



MYANMAR Post, under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, will issue a special commemorative stamp for the month of Tawthalin on 30 August, 2019 (1st waxing of Tawthalin, 1381 ME).

The K200 stamp will portray the Regatta Festival and the yinmar flower (scientific name Chukrasia tabularis) which are both associated with the sixth month of the traditional calendar. The stamp will be available in post offices across the states and regions.

As a special programme, Nay Pyi Taw Central Post Office and the post offices in Yangon and Mandalay will stamp the postmark on the first-day covers and stamps purchased on 30 August. — MNA ■ *(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)*

Information Minister meets with employees of MRTV

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint inspects the DSNG Van of the Myanma Radio and Television in Tatkone, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION MINISTER for Information Dr Pe Myint advised the staff members of Myanma Radio and Television to prove their professional standard in trying to represent the ministry.

The Union Minister visited MRTV in Tatkone, Nay Pyi Taw, to inspect its works and met with the staff members at the Auditorium yesterday morning.

He remarked that the MRTV represents the ministry, with its highest exposure to the audience compared with other media platforms.

Dr Pe Myint also suggested the employees to show their professional abilities, to develop creative programmes and presentation, to maintain the dignity of organization and to keep the norms of Myanmar language.

He also instructed for applying modern technologies and developing new ideas.

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun then made suggestions on the reports of respective sections at the MRTV.

Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung gave responses to the discussions of staff members before the Union Minster made a conclusion remark.

During the meeting with the officers at the Conference Room, the Union Minister and the Deputy Minister gave necessary instructions on the ongoing and future television and radio programmes.

The Union Minister and the Deputy Minister also inspected the works and infrastructure of MRTV. —MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Singapore Embassy celebrates 54th National Day in YGN

SINGAPORE Ambassador Ms Vanessa Chan hosted the commemoration of Singapore's 54th National Day in Yangon's Pan Pacific Hotel yesterday.

The national anthems of Singapore and Myanmar were first played after which the Ambassador delivered a speech. She then took documentary photos with the guests and hosted the dinner reception later. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Ambassadors and embassy staff based in Yangon and other invited guests attended the event. — Than Htike ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Ambassadors and embassy staff pose for the documentary photo at the Singapore's 54th National Day celebration in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: THAN SOE**

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

H1N1 flu claims 102 deaths so far

TOTAL DEATH toll from seasonal influenza A (H1N1) pdm 09 has reached to 102 on 23 August, increasing from 90 between 1 January to 7 August, according to the figures released by the Central Epidemiology Unit of the Public Health Department.

In Yangon region alone, 264 persons were confirmed to have been infected with the virus, with 66 deaths, out of 617 suspected patients.

Meanwhile, 580 persons were diagnosed with the virus, out of 1,386 suspected cases, across the country up to 23 August.

During this period, total of 54 percent of the affected people are 15 to 65 years old ; 16 per cent between 1 to 5 year old; 10 per cent over 65; 13 per cent between 5 and 15; 7 percent under 1 year old.

The Ministry of Health and Sports have issued the directives for the measures on monitoring, prevention and effective responses to this virus.— Myo Min Thein (Mayangone)

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Yangon water supply to be privatized: Mayor

By Nyein Nyein

PRIVATE players will soon be entrusted with the supply and distribution of water in Yangon, a task which is currently being handled by the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC), according to Mayor U Maung Maung Soe.

"The YCDC has been distributing water in the Yangon City Urban Area for many decades, but now, it is facing difficulties on account of wastage of water and shortage of staff. So, the authorities have decided to invite private companies to carry out water distribution in the Yangon City Urban Area," he added.

"The YCDC is distributing water to households through pipelines. But, there are some who are illegally tapping water from the city's pipelines and selling it in their wards. They are selling the water in barrels, declaring that their water is municipal water. They want to make it clear that municipal water is pure and clear. Actually, the water is coming from our city's pipelines. In this way, they are selling water at a higher price. And, we are suffering great losses. Fortunately, an idea struck my mind that the best solution would be to allow private entrepreneurs to be engaged in the water supply business. But, we will fix the ceiling price so that people do not have to buy water at an exorbitant price. Privatization is the best solution to help YCDC stem losses," said U Maung Maung Soe.

Private companies have been asked to submit expressions of interest (EOIs) by this month for distributing water in Yangon region. Thereafter, they will participate in a tender.

"The water meter charges for Yangon region collected by the YCDC do not cover the cost of production. There are two types of costs: fixed costs and operation costs.

The fixed costs are concerned with the installation of the pipelines. The current rate for water is much lower than the actual cost because the government is subsidizing water supply for the sake of the general public. You can compare this problem with the production and supply of electricity. The higher the water or electric supply, the greater the loss the government suffers," said the Yangon Mayor.

Although the YCDC is facing losses in water distribution, it has never increased the water meter charges. Currently, the committee is launching an awareness campaign on the installation of systematic water meters, and curbing wastage of water and illegal tapping of water from pipelines.

At present, the YCDC is collecting K88 per unit of water for residential use and K110 per unit for commercial use. One unit equals 220 gallons. Water rates in Yangon are still low compared to Mandalay.

Although the committee is supplying more than 200 million gallons a day from Hlawga, Gyobyu, Phugyi and Ngamoeyeik reservoirs, almost half of the water supply is getting wasted or lost during distribution, according to the Mayor. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Over 25,000 tourists entered Myanmar via Tachilek in week ended 22 Aug

MYANMAR welcomed 25,676 tourists through the Tachilek border gate between 16 August and 22 August, with most visitors entering the country from Thailand, according to official data.

Tourists making a day trip from Tachilek visited the Tarlaw market, Bayintnaung statue, Maha Myat Muni Pagoda, Wankaung market, Koemyoshin spirit house, replica of Shwedagon Pagoda, Padaung village, Myanmar monasteries, and Chinese temples. The Lantaung day trips included visits to the Mailing monastery, ancient pagodas, temples, and ethnic villages.

Visitors also made night trips to well-known pagodas, temples, monasteries, markets, villages, and other destinations in Mongphyat and Kengtung townships. Additionally, some visitors flew on the Heho-Yangon-Mandalay-Lashio route.

Foreign travellers seen in front of the entrance welcome sign of Kengtong in Shan State. **PHOTO: WAI YAN LIN (IPRD)**

Between 1 January and 22 August, 745,064 foreigners entered Myanmar through the Tachilek border gate, and 41,824 visitors enjoyed visa-free entry, according to the Immigration Department.

Myanmar's natural beauty, tourist attractions, culture and lifestyles of ethnic people have drawn tourist interest, who have been entering the country through the border gates and international airports.— H&T Ministry ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

MEA: Will not pressure government to help resolve entrepreneurial problems

By Aye Yamone

WHILE the Myanmar Entrepreneurs Association (MEA) has been formed to seek solutions to difficulties faced by entrepreneurs, it will not pressure the government to help in this task, said U Ko Ko Htwe, the chairman of the association.

He made the remarks at a ceremony held on 22 August at the Taw Win Garden hotel in Yangon to announce the formation of the association and to report on the current economic situation to the government.

"What difficulty our entrepreneurs are facing currently, and what problems are prevailing have been discussed. Additionally, we have discussed ways to resolve them. If we can do it by ourselves, we won't bother the government. But, if we cannot solve the problems, we will ask the government to intervene as and where possible. We will submit a report. But, we don't have any intention of putting pressure on the government to help us address the problems. The main objective of founding our association is seeking solutions among ourselves," he added.

"The MEA will register itself with the company registration division at the end of August. The association will help resolve the difficulties among entrepreneurs through cooperation and coordination. So, we are expecting all entrepreneurs will come and join our association. We would, therefore, like to invite all entrepreneurs to become our members," added U Ko Ko Htwe.

The objective of the MEA is to ensure cooperation, communication, and interaction among entrepreneurs from all sectors.

"The businesses in Myanmar are being conducted across the country, and so, we have to organize and mobilize all the businesses in the nation. Although we plan to accept all business entrepreneurs from across the country as our members, our association will check whether they are upright, transparent, and honest in doing business," he said.

"There are many business associations. The construction and hotel businesses associations stand on their own. Some associations are facing difficulties. And, we want to let the government know their true situation. The UMFCCI has many federations. Some businesses have their own federations. We need one umbrella association to organize all these associations, but the exception is that we won't let those who are politically motivated to join us," said Dr Khin Shwe, the patron of the MEA.

The association will include the following leading business moguls — Dr Khin Shwe, U Ko Ko Htwe, U Htay Myint, U Yan Win, and U Kyaw Win.

The association will operate with funds contributed by central committee members. The association will not charge any membership or monthly fees.

Moreover, there are plans to set up branch offices of the MEA in other states and regions.

The Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation, Myanmar Licensed Contractors Association, Myanmar Fisheries Federation, Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Federation, Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association, and Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association have requested to cooperate with the Myanmar Entrepreneurs Association. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Businesses defaulting on loans will face prosecution: MEA

By Aye Yamone

BUSINESSES that fail to repay bank loans by the end of September will face prosecution, said U Khin Shwe (Zaykabar), the patron of the Myanmar Entrepreneurs Association (MEA).

"Businessmen have taken loans from banks, and the banks will prosecute them if they do not pay back the loans. The banks have given defaulting entrepreneurs an ultimatum. They will wait only until the end of September. As we all know, nearly all the businessmen in Myanmar take loans from banks. Most of the loans are spent on the property sector. The banks are dealing with all businessmen. In all countries, businessmen take loans from banks. But, businessmen in Myanmar are the worst when compared to elsewhere in the world because realtors are building condos, etc., with most of the funds coming from bank loans. They don't have enough money to build condos with their own money," he said at a ceremony held to announce the formation of the Myanmar Entrepreneurs Association on 22 August at the Taw Win Garden hotel, Yangon.

If banks begin clamping down on defaulters at the end of September, nearly over 10,000 businessmen, including leading businessmen in Myanmar, will be prosecuted, U Khin Shwe added.

If businessmen fail to settle bank loans, they will lose their collateral, in addition to facing prosecution, he said.

"Although a September deadline has been set for businesses to repay credit, it needs to be extended as the loan amounts involved are huge. Seizure of collateral could also have a dramatic impact on Myanmar economy," said U Myo Myint, the general secretary of the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation.

"Related to bank loans, if the central bank has given this direction, both private and government banks will have to practice only one policy. Businessmen are taking loans mostly from privately owned banks because the government banks have stricter loan rules," said U Myo Myint.

"Currently, entrepreneurs have not been able to pay interest on their loans because of a decline in business. Banks are mostly giving loans to those businessmen who have a strong background and valuable collateral," U Ko Ko Htwe, the chairman of the MEA.

"Prosecution won't do any good to both banks and businesses. The issue should be addressed through mediation and negotiation. While there is apprehension that businessmen will be prosecuted if they fail to pay back the loans by the end of September, the banks are well aware that such an action can be counterproductive," said U Ko Ko Htwe. If the banks give businesses a chance to find a way out, they will be able to pay off both the interest and the principal amount, he added. ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Woodturning artist pushing the inside of wooden vessel at his firm in Kyarpaing village in Monywa Township, Sagaing Region. **PHOTO: WIN OO (ZAYYAR TINE)**

Lack of new generation artists spells doom for woodturning

MUSICAL instrument makers are becoming rarer in Myanmar, and the art of woodturning is slowly declining at Kyarpaing village in Monywa Township of Sagaing Region.

Woodturning is the art of shaping wood into musical instruments, which are especially used in the Myanmar musical ensemble, Saing Waing, according to U San Maung, a woodturning artist.

"Previously, we made unfinished instruments. But now, we have to make detailed musical instruments.

Moreover, we are facing difficulty in terms of input costs and finding timber. Additionally, young people are not interested in woodturning, and the art may fade in our village. Currently, I am the only one who is making instruments in our village," he added.

Woodturning is among the ten Myanmar traditional arts. There were four woodturning artists in Kyarpaing village, but now, artists have become scarce due to difficulties in sourcing raw materials and lack of youngsters willing to carry the art forward. —Win Oo (Zayyar Tine) ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

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Smooth repatriation demands adherence to bilateral agreement

MYANMAR officials were in a state of readiness at the reception and transit centres in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, on 22 August to carry out the most important task of repatriation under the bilateral agreement with Bangladesh. But, till sundown, no displaced person had returned.

For the repatriation, officials of the Rakhine State Government and the ERAT Team were waiting on the Myanmar side, while one representative from the Myanmar Embassy in Dhaka and officials from the Bangladeshi Foreign Ministry were stationed in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

> The smooth repatriation of displaced persons would require adherence to the bilateral agreement that the two countries have signed.

According to the news media, the main reason why displaced persons have not returned to Myanmar is that they face the threat of killing by ARSA terrorists, if they come back. Some displaced persons at the camps have fled because of the threats. Another reason is that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Bangladeshi authorities have been scrutinizing displaced persons to check if they want to return to Myanmar of their own volition.

Myanmar has made preparations to receive displaced persons from Rakhine, who are currently residing in Bangladesh, as part of a bilateral agreement with the neighbouring country. For voluntary return, the displaced persons have to fill up forms first, and this is the procedure agreed upon by Myanmar and Bangladesh. But, carrying out this procedure close to the repatriation date has hampered the return of refugees.

The list of 3,450 displaced persons sent from Bangladesh, to be accepted by the Myanmar side on 22 August, came after the Myanmar authorities scrutinized the list of returnees to ensure they were not involved in terrorist attacks. Plans were made to accept 3,450 displaced persons in seven groups, and Myanmar had requested that 444 Hindus who are willing to return be included in the first group of returnees.

In a news report carried by Narinjara Media, a leader of the Hindu displaced persons has stated that Hindu displaced persons from the Kutupalong Camp want to return to Myanmar, but the Bangladeshi government has not given them any information regarding their return.

Myanmar has apprised Bangladesh of its willingness to expedite the repatriation of the 444 Hindus since 23 November, 2017. There have been repeated requests by Myanmar for their early repatriation. All these requests have been ignored.

The smooth repatriation of displaced persons would require adherence to the bilateral agreement that the two countries have signed.

Enforcement of Laws

By Lokethar

. GRAPHIC: BT

MINISTRIES of the Union Government, the State and Regional Governments and the various departments and organizations under them perform their functions in accordance with the Union Constitution and the Laws enacted by the Hluttaws. The departments and organizations under the various Ministries are responsible for enforcement of the laws they administer.

Law enforcement is a sub-system of society that promotes adherence to the law by discovering and punishing persons who violate rules and norms governing that society. To the layman, effective enforcement of the laws and rules by the concerned organs are an indication of good governance.

After the advent of the democratic Government in 2011, many old and outdated laws have been amended or repealed. Many new laws relevant to the present time have been enacted. Enforcement of laws may initially involve making known to the public the salient points of the laws through public talks, the print media , the broadcast media, the Internet and so on. Once the public has been informed it is up to each and every person to abide by the law.

But of course as everyone knows, not every body abides by every law every time. If someone can "get away" with breaking the law, others will follow lawsuit. It seems the attitude among most law breakers is "if the others can do it, so can I". If this kind of attitude and behaviour prevails among most people for any length of time, it will lead in the extreme case, to breakdown of social norms of society.

Enforcement of the law is tied to the discovery of infringements followed by punitive action as needed. Naturally no one who breaks the law likes to face prosecution in a court of law. However it is the only way to enforce compliance with the law. If breaking the law can initially be "nipped in the bud", through early discovery and necessary action there will be less problems to tackle later.

Some laws require inspections of establishments or workplaces or locations to discover infringements of law relating to matters such as; illegal constructions, disregard for public safety and health, not granting due rights and privileges, non-compliance with prescribed procedures, non-compliance with prescribed standards and so on. Inspections and taking action also provide means of preventing unlawful acts and behaviours before they get out of hand. Inspections, if properly and faithfully conducted, can prevent further violations by the offender and serve as a signal to others to abide by the Laws and Rules.

Law enforcement, whether by individual "enforcers" or by multi-disciplinary groups comprising of persons with the required expertise and who are empowered by law to perform inspections, may also result in issuing of "warnings" to the law breaker to take remedial action regarding the "non-compliances" pointed out, within a stipulated period of time.

A Catalyst for Promoting Traditional Medicine in Myanmar

By Dr Than Lwin Tun, Nay Nay Naing Yee, May Thazin, Honey Soe (Ministry of Health and Sports)

MYANMAR'S traditional medicine has been developed in keeping with our country's geographical nature, climate, traditional philosophies and beliefs, and daily traditions and it is our traditional heritage. Besides, Traditional Medicine (TM) has helped to make Myanmar people fit and healthy and intelligent all through our history.

(Excerpt of Message from President U Win Myint to 19th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners' Conference on 28th December, 2019)

The Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) in Myanmar is making every endeavor to promote traditional medicine from every aspect with the aim to provide medical care to the public. The MOHS is putting all the efforts into practicing traditional medicine handed down from successive eras as not only Experienced-Based Traditional Medicine but also Evidence-Based Traditional Medicine.

(Foreword of Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe from the book- Milestones of Traditional Medicine in Myanmar)

The Department of Traditional Medicine (DTM) is now accelerating its pace to enable every citizen to attain full life expectancy and enjoy longevity of life free from diseases. It is important to integrate traditional medicine into the primary health care as 70% of the populations reside in the rural areas where traditional medicine is widely used. It is also in urgent need to raise the community's awareness on traditional medicine participating in the primary health care. So the MOHS launched the book entitled the Milestones of Traditional Medicine in Myanmar on 19, August, 2019. This is the very first event throughout the history of traditional medical field in Myanmar and the book has come out as a record within 41 years which will be a frame of reference for the new generation. The book is a compilation of milestones of traditional medicine for the following consecutive periods; era before Bagan, Bagan (AD 107 – 1298), Pinya and Sagaing (AD 1299 – 1364), Ava (AD 1365 – 1555), Taungu (AD 1556 – 1612), Nyaung Yan (AD 1613 – 1752), Kone Baung (AD 1753 – 1885), Colonial period (1886 – 1948), three periods after independence (1949 – 1961) (1962 – 1973) (1974 – 1988) , Current situations of Traditional Medicine (1989 – 2019).

The DTM is gathering momentum to raise the community's awareness by appointing traditional medicine ambassadors for TM promotion in Myanmar. The two ambassadors are new generation of traditional medicine. Among the traditional medicine ambassadors, Thu Riya, male ambassador, is the fifth generation of Sein Bayat traditional medicine manufacturing company and May Khin Hsu, female ambassador, is the third generation of Yoke Pyo Pharmaceuticals Co Ltd. The traditional medicine ambassadors expressed their gratitude and promised to take part in the activities collaborating with the Department of Traditional Medicine in the development of traditional medicine especially health literacy promotion in remote and hard-to-reach areas. The ambassadors suggested that new generation need innovative thinking without deviating fundamental principles in promoting traditional medicine.

The Union Minister, Deputy Minister, Permanent Secretaries attended this historic event and honored the Traditional Medicine Ambassadors. Union Minister encouraged the Traditional Medicine Ambassadors to promote health literacy and collaborate with the department and traditional medicine practitioners to raise awareness in remote and hard-to-reach areas. He also highlighted to explore records and milestones of traditional medicine by carrying out research based on the contents of the book (Milestones of Traditional Medicine in Myanmar).

In addition, the DTM is picking up speed to promote new thinking on innovation and access to traditional medicine on 19th August, 2019. So it is also believed that the Milestones of Traditional Medicine in Myanmar and Traditional Medicine Ambassadors will serve as a catalyst for promotion of traditional medicine in Myanmar.

Traditional Medicine Ambassadors

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Permanent Secretary

The Union Government has appointed U Soe Han, Director-General of the Political Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, concurrently as Permanent Secretary of the some ministry.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 23rd August, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 24th August, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing Region and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfall in Magway Region and isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Southern Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Sea will be moderate to rough elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (9 –11) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (6 – 9) feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Bago Region, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24th August, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24th August, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24th August, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Yangon Regions.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw debates Constitution Amendment Second Bill Report

FROM PAGE-2

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then announced that the remaining Hluttaw representatives for discussing the report are scheduled to do so in the next meeting.

MPs debate tax income report of Union institutions

Next, MPs debated the Joint Public Accounts Committe's report concerning the tax income list of Union Ministries and organizations in the first six months of 2018-2019 FY.

Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, called on the ministries concerned to take necessary action against the complaints that mobile phone bills were allegedly cut by phone operators for the services they did not subscribe.

She urged the authorities not to turn a blind eye to the complaints on media by the people that the amount of cash cut by mobile operators reaches over K560 million per day.

U Win Thein Zaw of Salingyi constituency discussed that the income tax target should be pragmatic, a report that explained the income tax which did not meet the target should bear the accountability and responsibility.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then announced that the remaining programmes concerning the Joint Public Accounts Committee's reports will be continued in the next Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting.—Mawsi, Hmwe Kyu Zin ■ *(Translated by GNLM)*

Russia launches floating nuclear reactor in Arctic despite warnings

MOSCOW — Russia will launch the world's first floating nuclear reactor and send it on an epic journey across the Arctic on Friday, despite environmentalists warning of serious risks to the region.

Loaded with nuclear fuel, the Akademik Lomonosov will leave the Arctic port of Murmansk to begin its 5,000km voyage to northeastern Siberia.

Nuclear agency Rosatom says the reactor is a simpler alternative to building a conventional plant on ground that is frozen all year round, and it intends to sell such reactors abroad.

But environmental groups have long warned of the dangers of the project, dubbing it a potential "Chernobyl on ice" and a "nuclear Titanic".

A deadly explosion this month at a military testing site in Russia's far north, causing a radioactive surge, has prompted further concerns.

The Akademik Lomonosov is due to go into operation by the end of year, mainly serving the region's oil platforms as Russia develops the exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Arctic. **PHOTO: AFP**

The reactor's trip is expected to last between four and six weeks, depending on the weather conditions and the amount of ice on the way.

Work began on the 144m Akademik Lomonosov in Saint Petersburg in 2006.

When it arrives in Pevek, a town of 5,000 in the Siberian region of Chukotka, it will replace a local nuclear plant and a closed coal plant. It is due to go into operation by the end of year, mainly serving the region's oil platforms as Russia develops the exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Arctic.— AFP ■

103 Philippine "nikkei-jin" file petitions for stateless status

MANILA — More than a hundred petitions for stateless status of second-generation Filipino-Japanese were filed before the Philippine government on Friday, a move aimed to boost their citizenship claims in Japanese courts.

File photo shows Norihiro Inomata (far l) of the Philippine Nikkei-jin Legal Support Center. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Philippine Nikkei Jin Kai Rengokai (Philippine federation of Japanese decendants) President Ines Yamanouchi Mallari said 103 such petitions were lodged by second-generation Filipino-Japanese "nikkei-jin" before the Justice Department.

"There are about 1,100 of them still living and unrecognized by the Philippine and Japanese governments," she told Kyodo News on the sidelines of a general meeting of the nonprofit organization that has been helping second-generation Filipino-Japanese acquire Japanese citizenship.

State Counsel Melvin Suarez of the Justice Department's Refugees and Stateless Persons Protection Unit said there are six cases already in which the government has recognized the statelessness of such individuals.

An allied organization, the Philippine Nikkei-jin Legal Support Center, has been working toward the same goal.

"We asked our members to file petitions for statelessness...with the end view of applying for 'shuseki,' the confirmation of Japanese citizenship in a Japanese court," Hiroyuki Kawaii, chairman of its Japan chapter said through an English translator during the same meeting.

Kawaii urged Philippine officials to help them in their cause through the inclusion of a formal narrative in their rulings that would explicitly indicate the Japanese ancestry of individuals given stateless status. —Kyodo News ■

NEWS In BRIEF

WHO urges investment drive as malaria fight stalls

GENEVA – The global fight against malaria has stalled and requires massive investment as well as political leadership, the UN health agency warned in a report published Friday.

"The world is at a crossroads. Historical progress that has been achieved over the last decade is clearly slowing down," Pedro Alonso, director of the World Health Organization's malaria programme, told a news conference in Geneva.

Alonso expressed deep concern as he highlighted that "we still have in excess of 400,000 deaths every year and 200 million cases." "Despite huge progress in reducing malaria cases and deaths between 2000 and 2015, the last two years have witnessed the stalling of global progress," the WHO report warned. It said 2020 targets to cut incidence and mortality by 90 per cent by 2030 will likely be missed. The WHO report predicts that even given its "most optimistic scenarios and projections ... we will still have 11 million cases in Africa in 2050." – AFP ■

Amazon wildfires 'acute emergency', belongs on G7 agenda: Germany

BERLIN – The fires raging in the Amazon rainforest amount to an "acute emergency" and Chancellor Angela Merkel believes it should be discussed by world leaders when they meet for this weekend's G7 summit, her spokesman said Friday.

"The extent of the fires in the Amazon area is shocking and threatening and not only for Brazil and the other affected countries, but also for the whole world," Steffen Seibert told journalists in Berlin.

"When the G7 comes together this weekend, then the chancellor is convinced that this acute emergency of the Amazon rainforest belongs on the agenda," added Seibert, saying that Merkel backs French President Emmanuel Macron's call on the G7 to address the issue at the summit in Biarritz.– AFP ■

Putin vows 'symmetric response' to US missile test

FILE PHOTO: Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and US President Ronald Reagan sign a landmark treaty eliminating US and Soviet intermediate-range and shorter-range nuke missiles in Washington in December 1987. **PHOTO: AFP**

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday he has ordered the military to prepare a "symmetric response" after Washington tested a formerly banned missile.

Putin said he had ordered an analysis of "the level of threat for our country created by the actions of the US and to take comprehensive measures to prepare a symmetric response".

The US Department of Defence said Monday it had tested a type of ground-launched missile that was banned under the 1987 INF agreement, which limited the use of nuclear and conventional medium-range weapons.

Moscow and Washington ripped up the pact early this month after several months of accusing one another of breaching its conditions.

Speaking at a government meeting, Putin said Sunday's launch of the nuclear-capable Tomahawk missile with a MK-41 launcher confirmed prior suspicions that the United States had planned to place banned weapons in Europe.

He said Moscow was against placement of the launchers in Poland and Romania, but the US denied they could be used to launch Tomahawks.

"Now the fact of the violation is clear, and it's useless to deny it," Putin said. "The question is, how do we know what will be placed in Romania and Poland?"

Russia "will not be pulled into an expensive arms race destructive for our economy" but will need to "ensure the safety of our people and our country". he said. Washington had denied the test marks the start of an arms race as it denied having plans to develop nuclear-tipped weapons. —AFP ■

US man with gun cache charged for threatening to shoot up hotel

LOS ANGELES — A US man with a large home arsenal was charged Thursday for allegedly threatening to open fire at a Los Angeles hotel, as the United States reels from recent mass shootings.

The suspect, 37-year-old Long Beach Marriott employee Rodolfo Montoya, allegedly told a co-worker that he was angry and planned to open fire at work on anyone who crossed his path.

Police found an assortment of weapons, including an AR-15 rifle, which Montoya was not authorized to have in the state of California. The weapon has been commonly used to commit a number of US gun massacres.

Authorities additionally found other firearms, hundreds of rounds of ammunition and tactical gear. "Suspect Montoya had clear plans, intent and the means to carry out an act of violence that may have resulted in a mass casualty incident," Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna told reporters at a news conference after the arrest. According to an initial investigation, Montoya, who was a cook, was upset over recent workplace activity having to do with human resources. —AFP ■

Multiple firearms, hundreds of rounds of ammunition and tactical gear seized from suspect Rodolfo Montoya is pictured in a photo released by the Long Beach Police Department. **PHOTO: AFP**

French President Emmanuel Macron (r) gestures as he delivers a speech to the press next to Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson (l) prior to their meeting at The Elysee Palace in Paris on 22 August 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

Macron backs more Brexit talks but insists no concessions

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron on Thursday backed holding further talks to avoid Britain crashing out of the EU without a deal but rejected major concessions, as he hosted Prime Minister Boris Johnson just over two months ahead of the planned British exit.

Echoing comments by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Macron supported allowing another month to find a solution to the vexed issue of the Irish border which has bedevilled negotiations since 2017.

But he also said the so-called Irish backstop that has caused such controversy in London was "indispensable" and said all talks had to be based on the withdrawal deal negotiated by Johnson's predecessor Theresa May repeatedly rejected by the British parliament.

"We need to try to have a useful month," Macron said alongside Johnson, adding that France was nonetheless planning for all scenarios and "notably that of no deal" when Britain exits the EU on 31 October.

Johnson, who pictures showed putting his foot on a table in the Elysee palace, however insisted that solutions were "readily available" to prevent checkpoints returning in divided Ireland.

Macron admitted he had a reputation as the "hardest in the gang" on Brexit and rejected Johnson's calls to scrap the backstop arrangement for Ireland.

The backstop is a provision guaranteeing that border checks will not return between EU member Ireland and Northern Ireland which is part of Britain.

The backstop provided "indispensable guarantees to preserve stability in Ireland and the integrity of the single market," Macron said.

Johnson wants the backstop removed and has called it "anti-democratic" because it will require London to keep its regulations aligned with the EU during a transitional period when the country is no longer a member of the bloc.

'A little concerned'

A senior EU official in Brussels told reporters on Thursday ahead of the talks in Paris that the European side was "a little concerned based on what we heard" on Wednesday from Johnson in Berlin.

Since Johnson's ascent to power last month, the chances have risen of a "no deal" Brexit on Oct 31, which economists see as likely to wreak economic damage on Britain and the EU.

"The EU and member states need to take the possibility of a 'no deal' outcome much more seriously than before," the EU official said on condition of anonymity.

A French official said on Wednesday that this was becoming the "most likely" scenario. —AFP ■

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Malaysia "vastly" undercounts poverty rate: UN envoy

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia has "vastly undercounted" its poverty rate, a United Nations envoy said Friday, warning that the government's 0.4 per cent poverty rate claim undermines effective policymaking and put those in need at risk.

"The rate which the government insisted is accurate, which is 0.4 per cent, bears almost no relationship either to the reality on the ground or to the sort of poverty rate that emerges from the analysis by almost any other objective independent sources," Philip Alston, the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, told a press conference at the end of his 11-day visit to Malaysia.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad gives a lecture in Fukuoka, southwestern Japan, on 8 August, 2019. **PHOTO:KYODO NEWS**

Malaysia, which aims to achieve a high-income economy status by 2024, has often trumpeted its achievements in poverty reduction.

The official poverty rate has dropped significantly from 49 per cent in 1970 to 0.4 per cent in 2016, the last year for which figures are available.

But according to the United Nations, the national poverty line of 980 ringgit ($235) per household per month, that translates to 8 ringgit per person per day in a family of four, is too low as the cost of living continues to soar and families are finding it difficult to make ends meet.

"This is a tragically low line for a country on the cusp of attaining high-income status, especially since a range of rigorous independent analyses have suggested a more realistic poverty rate of 16-20 per cent and about nine per cent of households survive on less than 2,000 ringgit per month," Alston said.—Kyodo News ■

S Korea says will share military intel with Japan through US

SEOUL — South Korea said Friday it will share military intelligence with Japan through the United States after terminating a pact that enabled the two key Washington allies to exchange such information directly.

Seoul's decision on Thursday to end the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) was the latest in a series of tit-for-tat measures that have brought relations between South Korea and Japan to their lowest point in years.

The intensifying trade and diplomatic dispute was sparked by a run of South Korean court rulings against Japanese firms, requiring them to pay for forced labour during World War II -- a long-standing point of contention.

Under the GSOMIA, originally signed in 2016, the two had directly shared military secrets, particularly over North Korea's nuclear and missile capacity.

But now South Korea will "actively utilise the trilateral information-sharing channel with the United States as the intermediary" in place of the accord, said Kim Hyun-chong, a national security official at the presidential Blue House.

"Furthermore, the ROK government will actively enhance our defence capabilities through the increase in (the) defence budget and the acquisition of strategic assets including military satellites" to better monitor North Korea, he added, using the initials of South Korea's official name.

It came after US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Thursday that Washington was "disappointed" about South Korea's move to end the pact. —AFP ■

French President Emmanuel Macron gestures as Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi looks on (l) after their joint statement following a meeting at the Chateau of Chantilly on 22 August, 2019, near Paris. **PHOTO: AFP**

France watching Kashmir rights, Macron tells Modi

CHANTILLY (France) — French President Emmanuel Macron had a "frank" exchange with India's Narendra Modi about tensions in divided Kashmir on Thursday, telling him Paris would remain attentive to the rights of people living both sides of the ceasefire line.

As tensions soared in the flashpoint region, the French president said he would also have a similar exchange with Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan in the coming days.

His remarks came after talks with the Indian premier at the chateau in Chantilly, just north of Paris.

On 5 August, Modi's Hindu nationalist government scrapped the autonomy of Indian-controlled Kashmir, a divided Muslim-majority region that has enjoyed special status in the Indian constitution since the country's independence from Britain in 1947.

The move enraged many Kashmiris and has sparked tensions with Pakistan, which also claims the region, raising growing international concern over a flare-up in violence between the two nuclear-armed powers.

Macron said he told Modi it was the responsibility of both India and Pakistan "to avoid any deterioration on the ground which could lead to an escalation", noting the importance of resolving their differences bilaterally.

And he said France would "remain attentive to ensure the interests and rights of the civilian populations are properly taken into account in the territories on both sides of the (Kashmir) ceasefire line".

French officials had earlier said they would push Modi to explain how he saw things playing out in the region in the coming days and weeks.

Since 5 August, the Indian authorities have imposed a communications blackout and heavy restrictions on movement in the parts of Kashmir it controls, arresting at least 4,000 people and raising growing alarm about rights violations.—AFP ■

Gentleman jailbreak: convicts return to Indonesia prison

SORONG (Indonesia) — More than 270 inmates — including convicted murderers — who bolted from a prison torched during violent riots in Indonesia's Papua region have returned to finish their sentences, a corrections official said Friday.

The convicts are even helping build a temporary office for their jailers, he added, after parts of the building in Sorong city went up in flames this week.

About half the prison's 500 inmates fled Monday as protesters outside set the jail and other buildings ablaze.

"But they weren't trying to escape — they just wanted to save themselves from the fire," prison spokesman Elly Yuzar said Friday.—AFP ■

Most of the nearly 300 prisoners who fled when their jail went up in flames have voluntarily returned to serve out the rest of their sentence in Indonesian Papua. **PHOTO: AFP**

Maldives tourist arrivals hit 1 mln mark

China is currently the top market for Maldives tourism as there was a 7.6-per cent growth in Chinese tourist arrivals till August. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

MALE — Tourist arrivals to the Maldives crossed the 1 million mark in August as the number of visitors to the island country recorded a strong growth in recent months, the Tourism Ministry said on Friday.

Tourism Minister Ali Waheed was quoted in a statement as saying that 994,733 tourists had visited the Maldives till the end of July and by 2 August this number had topped the 1 million mark.

Tourist arrivals in July registered a 17.2-per cent growth, compared with the same period last year.

The target of tourist arrivals set for this year by the government is 1.5 million and it is working to ensure the number of arrivals by the government's first anniversary which falls on 17 November, Waheed said.

The Tourism Ministry said China is currently the top market for Maldives tourism as there was a 7.6-per cent growth in Chinese tourist arrivals till August. —Xinhua

China's Shandong Iron & Steel net profit down 66 pct in H1

JINAN — Shandong Iron and Steel Co, Ltd., a subsidiary of major Chinese steel producer Shandong Iron and Steel Group, saw its net profit slump 65.58 per cent year on year in the first half of 2019.

The company's net profit attributable to shareholders reached 577.5 million yuan (about 81.5 million US dollars) in the first six months, compared with 1.68 billion yuan in the same period last year, according to its interim results report filed to the Shanghai Stock Exchange Thursday.

Over the period, the company based in east China's Shandong Province saw its revenue reach 32.35 billion yuan, up 30.06 percent year on year.

It produced 5.43 million tonnes of crude iron, 6.26 million tonnes of steel and 5.72 million tonnes of steel products in the first half, up 16.03 percent, 24.86 percent and 19.53 percent year on year, respectively.—Xinhua ■

Shandong Iron and Steel Co Ltd produced 9.11 million tons of crude iron, 10.31 million tons of steel and 10.01 million tons of steel products in 2018. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

90% of Toyota's vehicles for 2020 Tokyo Games to be electrified

TOKYO — Toyota Motor Corp. said Friday some 90 per cent of around 3,700 vehicles and mobility devices it will provide to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics will be electrified, as it seeks to showcase its advanced low-emission technology at the world event.

Of the total, 1,350 units will be either electric or fuel-cell vehicles that produce no carbon dioxide when running, while the rest will be hybrids and plug-in hybrids powered by electric-gasoline engines, Toyota, a sponsor of the Summer Games, said.

With the lineup to be used to transport athletes, officials and spectators to and within venues, Toyota said it can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by over 50 per cent compared with when the entire fleet was made up of conventional gasoline and diesel models.

The official fleet will include more than a dozen box-shaped autonomous electric vehicles, 500 Mirai, the world's first mass-produced fuel-cell car, 200 cart-like EVs specially designed for the games that can be used by people with impairments, and 300 standing-type mobility devices for use by security and medical staff, Toyota said.

Fuel-cell vehicles are powered by electricity generation through a chemical reaction of hydrogen and oxygen, a green system that Toyota has long been focusing on as a promising future technology. —Kyodo News ■

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SUZURAN VOY. NO. (047N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-8-2019 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (134 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (134 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-8-2019 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V UNIPROFIT

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNIPROFIT VOY. NO. (1909) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of T.I.M.T-2 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 BAY LINE SHIPPING PTE, LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V TRAMONTANA

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TRAMONTANA VOY. NO. (07/19) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24-8-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T-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
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

Tamoke Shinpin enveloped Buddha images. **PHOTO:MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)**

Triple Enveloped Buddha Images in 11 Ledwin Districts

By Maung Tha (Archaeology)

WE arrived at the regions near ancient Pinle city at the invitation of Mongmaw Sayadaw who arranges establishment of Nandapura Cultural Museum to showcase documents related to Pyu culture in Mongmaw Village of ancient Pyu city state Pinle under the permission of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

During the period from the 1st to 9th centuries, Pyu people established Pyu city states including ancient Pinle city currently known as Mongmaw in the region which would become the Land of Myanmar. Ancient Pinle city was located five miles southeast of Kume in Myittha Township of Mandalay Region. It was a region where Thihathu, one of three Shan brothers, became king between 1287 AD and 1298 AD in the reign of King Kyaw Swa in late Bagan era.

In Bagan era, Kyaukse plain, which was a greenery of the State, was famous as 11 Ledwin districts where Samon, Samar, Zawgyi, Panlaung and Dokhtawady rivers streamed. Eleven Ledwin districts were based on 11 fortress towns namely Panan, Tamoke, Myinkhontaing, Ywamone and Thintaung in Kyaukse Township, Pinle, Pyimana and Myittha in Myittha Township, and Makkhaya, Tapyettha and Khanlu in Singaing Township.

During the period from 1782 AD to 1819 AD when King Badon ruled the country, Ledwin District was formed with Myaunghla, Myinkhontaing, Panan, Myinsoe and Makkhaya of Zawgyi District and Sawhla, Pinle, Myittha and Pyimana of Panlaung District. That was why there were two kinds of areas—11 Ledwin District and nine Ledwin District.

The area of Lewdwin in Kyaukse Township was fenced with the foot of Shan mountain ranges in the east, Samon River in the west, Pyetkhayway Hill in the south and Dokhtawady River also called Myitnge River in the north.

According to the saying which goes: "Nine Hsatthwar Pagodas, nine caves, nine Mokhtaws, and nine dams, constructed by King Anawrahta", Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar pagodas, among nine Hsatthwar pagodas, can be seen in Nyaungywe Village of Kyaukse Township and Kyetshar Village of Singaing Township till today.

Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar the enveloped pagoda

Local people expressed their belief that Shinpin Hsatthwar Pagoda, located in Nyaungywe Village, five miles from Kyaukse, was built by King Anawrahta. People from Nyaungywe, Nyaungwun, Nyaungbinsauk, Kyaungpangon, Kyetshar, Ngaoh, West Ywanan, Yaytwinpyae, Thinpok, Ngalonkon, Puktaing and Pahtotaung villages believe that their villages exist under the shade of Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda.

Local people said that the pagoda built by King Anawrahta was nine elbows (equivalent to 13.5 feet) high with the precinct installed with four archways. The pagoda was enveloped by double brick layers and double gravel layers. Local people said that the double layers of the pagoda were constructed by a king in the late Bagan era and King Minye Kyawswa of Inwa. One of the gravel layers of the pagoda was built by Assistant Chief of the Gana Sayadaw U Jina who

PHOTO:MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLO

resided at Nyaungwun Thabyay Monastery, together with villagers in 1263 Myanmar Era. Hermit U Khanti renovated the 75 elbows (equivalent to 112.5 feet) high Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda on 3rd waning of Nayon, 1293 Myanmar Era (4 June 1931), Wednesday, and hoisted a new holly umbrella atop the pagoda. Hence, the pagoda was known as double brick double gravel pagoda.

Hermit U Khamti cast a bronze Buddha image weighing 1,350 viss and donated it to Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda. At that time, there was a six square inches hole on the wall behind the Buddha image. If looked at inside the cave by lighting through the hole, it was said that the original pagoda built by King Anawrahta could be seen.

In renovating Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda in 1998, the works of the pagoda were much different from the original ones. That was why the pagoda was renovated again in 2009. As people and experts in successive eras have been assuming that the meritorious deeds performed by King Anawrahta were enclosed in the tunnel by the Buddha image built by Hermit U Khanti, the six square inches hole of the tunnel was opened under the permission of the venerable members of the Sangha. At that time, a large Buddha image with 10 feet in height covered with masonry works in Inwa era was found in the tunnel together with 25 stone carved Buddha images, one bronze image, 168 images made of lac covered with gold, silver and bronze and five wooden images. The documentary book on chronicle of Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda proved that stone carved Buddha images were made in Pinya, Nyaungyan, Amarapura and Yadanabon eras.

Although pilgrims missed the chance of viewing the terraces at different levels of the brick pagoda called the double brick pagoda, they can pay homage to the Buddha image rebuilt over by Myanmar kings in successive eras. Currently, everybody without gender discrimination can pay homage to the aforesaid Buddha image in the cave of the throne under the bronze Buddha image built by Hermit U Khanti.

Members of the Sangha, novices and men will have chance

to pay obeisance to the stone carved throne under the stone carved pagoda built by U Jina in the Adeikhtan archway, west of the pagoda, as well as the holy umbrella of the stone carved pagoda in the small hole under the bell at the southeast corner of the existing pagoda.

Tamoke Shinpin enveloped Buddha images

Thanks to efforts of renowned Myanmar handicraft expert Sayagyi Tampawady U Win Maung from Mandalay, Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda has been famous with flocks of pilgrims on a daily basis.

Three triple-enveloped Buddha images in three eras similar to those of the double enveloped pagoda from Shinpin Hsatthwar Pagoda can be seen in Tamoke Village of Kyaukse Township. Tamoke, six miles

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west of Kyaukse and south of the Kyaukse-TadaU Road, is located in Nyaungbinsauk Village from Kyaungpangon Village-tract in Kyaukse Township. Ancient Tamoke city was included in the area of 11 Ledwin Districts, in the eastern bank of Panlaung River. The ancient city is on 25 acres of land, fenced with horse roof shaped walls.

King Anawrahta built nine Shwegu Pagodas along the bank of Panlaung River, five of which were located in Kyaukse Township and two each in Myittha and Singaing townships. The pagodas scattered in Panan (Magyitaw), Tamok, Myinkhontaing (Chetma), Panan and Ywamone (Shwe-in) in Kyaukse Township and Myittha (Kyunhla) and Pyimana in Myittha Township as well as Khanku (Wunpatae) and Khanlu (Sawye) in Singaing Township.

Shwegugyi Pagoda where the enveloped Buddha images were kept was well-known as Tamoke Shwegugyi based on the title of ancient Tamoke city. King Anawrahta constructed Shwegugyi Pagoda on a slope roofed one-storey cave in Tamoke in 11th century of early Bagan era. Likewise, a great ordination hall was built behind the pagoda.

In 12th century of Bagan era, King Narapati Sithu who reigned from 1165 AD to 1211 AD rebuilt a pyramidal spire shaped double cave pagoda over the original one-storey cave pagoda. The exterior of the caved pagoda was decorated with floral arabesques, embosses of animals, birds, humans, celestial beings and Brahmans in addition to Keinnaya. In 684 Myanmar Era of Pinya era, King Uzzana built a Shwezigon replica pagoda of Bagan which enveloped the ancient pagoda, ordination hall and Buddha image.

According to the stone inscriptions found in the ordination hall, King Hsinbyushin Kyaw Swa of Pinya City (reigned 1344 AD-1350 AD) together his queen paid homage to Tamoke Shinpin Shwegugyi Pagoda in 718 Myanmar Era and donated 19 pei (equivalent to 33.25 acres) as the precinct of the pagoda and four slaves assigned duty for serving the pagoda.

Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda renovated in Pinya era for the last time collapsed into a shape of brick pile due to lack of maintenance for many years. The pagoda together with the whole mound of the pagoda on 13.62 acres of land was lost under vines, weeks and bushes. In 1915, U San Htwar from Kyaungpangon Village carried out land preparations atop the area of former pagoda and built a 20 feet high pagoda.

Assigned by the Township Sangha Nayaka Committee and requested by villagers, Ashin Candobhasa whose native was Ngetoe Village residing at renowned Mahagandayon Monastery in Amarapura arrived at Kyaungpangon Village in 1993 to reside. On 22 August the same year, Abbot Ashin Candobhasa led the local villagers to clear the foot of the brick mound. At first, the pot-hole of the cave's archway emerged, and then they found masonry works of floral works and pieces of mural paintings in the cave. They also found the 10 feet high Buddha image covered with masonry works on 2 November the same year.

Under the permission of the Department of Archaeology, more than 200 volunteers excavated the brick mound of Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda on a daily basis starting from the full moon day of Kason, 1370 Myanmar era, (19 May 2008). They unearthed masonry works of concrete from the foot of the pagoda to the upper pyramidal spice works. During the excavation, the volunteers found mortars to pound the concrete and wells. These objects are being preserved and showcased in original positions.

Urns and Dolomite Buddha Image

Lids of Pyu urns were unearthed in the east, north and northwest of Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda. In this regard, the book with the title "Eleven Districts in Myittha—A Mile Stone" mentioned that there was a large Pyu village in the place where the lids of Pyu urns were found. Among the mounds of bones, the mound of bones close to the north wing of Naungdawgyi Satumukha Pagoda was the most famous.

The mounds of bones found around Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda were in shapes of squares inside and outside. Urns were buried around the three feet high brick structure but no urn inside the brick structure. The urns in various shapes were buried with covered with earthen plates as lids. The Department of Archaeology and National Museum showcases these urns with numbers in their excavated positions.

In discovering many Buddha images around Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda, an ivory-white dolomite Buddha image made in 12th century was excavated in a good position from the one-hole cave at the southeast corner of the pagoda in October 2010. The Buddha image was 16 centimetres high, 9.3 centimetres long and 0.5 centimetre thick decorated with 70 statues. The Buddha image was carved on a dolomite stone in colours of ivory-white, white, pink and gray with creating detailed works of eight Buddha's significantly historical episodes.

Dolomite Buddha images which were carved as stone sculptural works of masterpieces are being showcased at the National Museum (Yangon) and Bagan Archaeological Museum. The dolomite Buddha image found near Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda is displayed at Tamoke Shwegu Museum together with sacred relics, votive tablets, glaze rings, spiral shaped hair and earth-baked hair excavated from the Tamoke Cave and the place of ancient ordination hall.

Ancient Stone burial Urn. **PHOTO:MAUNG THA (ARCHAEOLOGY)**

The Buddha images from Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda were the works of triple enveloped in three eras. The Buddha image in the caved pagoda west of Meemalaung Monastery in Bagan and the Buddha image in the caved pagoda west of Gupyauknge Pagoda in Myinkapa were also the enveloped Buddha images but these were formed with double layers.

Among the triple enveloped Buddha images at Shwegugyi Pagoda, the Buddha image at the bottom from the triple enveloped Buddha facing the east is the most ancient. Experts assumed that the above-mentioned most ancient Buddha image may be the work of Gutta in 11th century in the reign of King Anawrahta, the middle Buddha image, the work of Pala era in the reigns of King Sawlu and King Kyansittha, and the top Buddha image, the work in 13th century. Both the Buddha images facing the east and the west have been on the enveloped thrones. The pieces of hair from all enveloped Buddha images were made of earth-baked spiral in shapes.

The ordination hall where three enveloped Buddha images are being kept at Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda was rebuilt for three times. The first work of ordination hall was built with the post made of biotite, the second one with the octagonal posts made of shale, and the third one with marble posts in order to designate the area of ordination hall. Significantly, the Buddha images and their floors were also triple enveloped and triple layers.

The pagoda built over the original pagoda was 60 elbows (equivalent to 90 feet) in the basic circumference and 50 elbows (75 feet) in height. Tamoke Shwegugyi double enveloped cave pagoda was 59 feet long, about 36 feet wide and more than 45 feet high.

The precinct which was measured 150 feet from the Tamoke Shinpin Shwegugyi Pagoda to the east, 190 feet to the north and 75 feet to the south and 140 feet from the southwest corner of the pagoda to the south was designated as the Ancient Monumental Zone on 11 December 2015.

The significantly enveloped pagodas in Kyaukse Township which was famous as the 11 Ledwin Districts are thronged with pilgrims daily. Thanks to preservation on architectural works in successive eras, historic Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda and Tamoke Shwegugyi Pagoda are well-known for highly valued ancient and enveloped Buddha images in religious and cultural affairs.

Translated by Than Tun Aung

Reference:

Tamoke Shinpin Shwegugyi Pagoda

Shinpin Shwe Hsatthwar Pagoda (Moe, Kyaukse)

Eleven Districts in Myittha—A Mile Stone (Linn Htaik Tin Hlaing, Kyaukse)

14th World Dragon Boat Racing Championship: Myanmar wins silver, bronze

Team Myanmar compete in the Under-24 mixed men and women 500-meter Small Boat race at the 14th World Dragon Boat Racing Championship on 23 August in Pattaya, Thailand. **PHOTO: KYAW KHAING (ISPE)**

MYANMAR won one silver and one bronze medal yesterday, the third day of the 14th World Dragon Boat Racing Championship which is being held in Pattaya, Thailand.

In the Under-24 mixed men and women 500-meter Small Boat event, Myanmar secured the bronze medal, while Canada won the gold medal and Thailand garnered the silver medal.

In the mixed men and women premier 500-m boat race event, Myanmar won silver, while host Thailand won gold, and Canada won the bronze medal.

Tomorrow will see plenty of medals, with the 500m sprint events. The championship will end on 25 August.—Ar Kar Soe ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

MJF members to acquire Kodokan's DAN promotion in Myanmar

MYANMAR Judo Federation-MJF and the Kodokan of Japan have agreed to establish the Kodokan Myanmar Subcommittee which would pave the way for Myanmar Judo athletes to acquire Kodokan dan promotion through examination in Myanmar.

The agreement was signed by President of MJF U Tun Tun and President of the Kodokan Mr Haruki Uemura in Tokyo at the meeting between MJF and the Kodokan at the Kodokan Judo Institute.

According to the agreement, Kodokan Myanmar Subcommittee-KMSC can examine MJF members, who wish to acquire Kodokan dan, or its promotion, based on the internal regulations on qualification for Kodokan dan promotion, and recommend candidates, who meet the requirements, to Kodokan.

The KMSC would be formed with MJF President, as the chairman, and more than three Kodokan 4th dan or above holders who resident in Myanmar.

There are only five with 5th Dan at the Myanmar Judo Federation which was established 1958 as the members could apply for the promotion only when representatives from the Kodokan Institute from Myanmar arrived Myanmar.

The agreement would promote the integrity of the MJF and capacity of the next generation of Judo in Myanmar, according to a MJF member with 5th DAN.—Saw Thein Win ■ *(Translated by Lin Thit)*

President of Myanmar Judo Federation U Tun Tun, President of the Kodokan Mr Haruki Uemura and officials pose for photo after signing the agreement on establishment of Kodokan Myanmar Subcommittee. **PHOTO:MJF**

Myanmar to compete in U-15 Int'l Invitational Cup in Viet Nam

The Myanmar U-15 boys football team pose for a group photo ahead of an international football match.
PHOTO: MFF

THE Myanmar U-15 boys national football team will compete in the Under-15 International Football Invitational Cup, which is scheduled to take place in Vung Tau, Viet Nam, from 26 to 30 August, according to the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

The tourney is being organized under the Assist Program of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and the Union of European Football Association (UEFA).

There will be four teams competing in the event — host Viet Nam, Myanmar, South Korea, and Russia, according to the MFF.

As South Korea and Russia teams are world-class teams, the Myanmar and Viet Nam teams will gain much experience from playing against them, officials said.

The Myanmar U-15 boys' team will be led by head coach U Min Thu, and the team will play their opening match against South Korea on 26 August. The team will take on Viet Nam on 28 August and Russia on 30 August.

The best two teams will advance to the final match, officials added.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Myanmar to take on Japan in Round 2 qualifiers for World Cup

THE Myanmar and Japan national football teams will compete in the preliminary Joint Qualification Round 2 for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 and AFC Asian Cup China 2023 on 10 September at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, according to a statement issued by the Myanmar Football Federation.

The match will be a crucial one for both teams as it will decide who advances to the next stage.

The match is scheduled to take place at 6.50 p.m. Myanmar Standard Time, and will be broadcast live on free-to-air Channel-7, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The match will be also streamed live on the Facebook page of the broadcasting partner of the Myanmar Football Federation, MySports, officials said.

The tickets for the match will be priced at K2,000 for ordinary stand on the south and north side of the stadium, K3,000 for ordinary stand on the eastern part of the stadium, and K5,000 for the grand stand.

Detailed information on the sale of tickets will be released soon by the Myanmar Football Federation, officials said.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■