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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi hosts luncheon to commemorate founding of ASEAN

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, hosted ASEAN Luncheon in commemoration of the 52nd anniversary of the founding of ASEAN on 27th August 2019 at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present at the Luncheon were Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture which is focal Ministry for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, Union Minister U Thaung Tun, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations which is focal Ministry for the ASEAN Economic Community, Union Minister U Kyaw Tin, Ministry of International Cooperation which is focal Ministry for the ASEAN Political-Security Community and spouse, ASEAN Ambassadors and their spouses, Permanent Secretaries from the focal Ministries of the three Pillars of ASEAN Community, Deputy Chiefs of Missions from the ASEAN Embassies, and Directors General and Deputy-Directors General from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Before the Luncheon, traditional costumes of each ASEAN Member State were shown in a video presentation as part of the activities of ASEAN Cultural Year – 2019.



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi greets ASEAN Ambassadors at the ASEAN luncheon in commemoration of the 52nd anniversary of the founding of ASEAN in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 August 2019. **PHOTO: MNA**

At the Luncheon, they cordially exchanged views on matters related to strengthening ASEAN unity, preserving ASEAN identity and promoting ASEAN profile and public awareness including ASEAN Community building, its diverse culture and heritage.

Prior to the Luncheon, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin held an informal joint meeting with ASEAN Ambassadors at Park Royal in Nay Pyi Taw. During the meeting, the Union Minister updated the Ambassadors on recent developments in Myanmar and they exchanged views on issues of common interests and matters related to the promotion of relations and cooperation under the contexts of both bilateral and ASEAN frameworks. — MNA ■

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 13th regular session holds 14th-day meeting

A 14th-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 13th regular session was held at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday where questions were raised answered, a bill approved and a motion discussed.

Question and answer session

First Dr Sai Hla Thein of Chanmyathazi constituency asked what was being done by Ministry of Ethnic Affairs to enact rule on protecting rights of ethnic people. Deputy Minister for Ethnic Affairs U Hla Maw Oo said a draft rule was drawn up with the suggestion of Union Attorney General Office and was submitted to Union Government meeting according to procedure where it was approved. Accordingly arrangements were made to distribute the draft rule to Hluttaw representatives explained the Deputy Minister.

Union Election Commission member U Than Htay then responded to a question raised by U Aung Soe Min of Ywangan constituency on whether the usage of the word Pyithu Hluttaw representative candidate during non-election period was legal and according to law.

In response to a question raised by U Aung Soe Min of Ywangan constituency on the legality of using the word Pyithu Hluttaw representative candidate during non-election period, Union Election Commission (UEC) member U Than Htay said this was not in accordance to the law and recommended taking legal action against anyone who do so.

In responding to a follow up question on the number of such word usage occurring in the past, U Than Htay explained that there was no report or complaint to UEC on such matters but to prevent such incidents from occurring a notification will be issued and sent to political parties, relevant organizations and individuals.

Questions raised by Dr U Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency on establishing a firm international market for mung bean and Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency on arrangements made for a time when regular buyer countries no longer buy the country's agriculture products were answered by Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo.



Deputy Minister for Ethnic Affairs U Hla Maw Oo.



MP Dr Sai Hla Thein of Chanmyathazi constituency.

Similarly questions raised by U Thant Zin Tun of Dekhinathiri constituency on permission granted to local businesses on using foreign banks, arrangement made to permit expansion of investment by foreign financial institutions and preventing high inflation rate; U Maung Myint of Mingin constituency on relaxing the present SME loan system; and U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency on publishing reports on implementing financial policy and stabilizing financial system were answered by Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Soe Thein.

Hluttaw approves Education Research, Project and Training Bill

Following the question and answer session Bill Committee member U Pa Htan submitted to the Hluttaw points to be approved in the Education Research, Project and Training Bill returned by Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments by Amyotha Hluttaw. After obtaining the consensus of Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the Hluttaw's approval of the bill.

As there were disagreements between the two Hluttaws on the bill, Bill Committee secretary U Kyaw Soe Lin tabled a motion for the matter to be submitted to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for discussion and decision.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then announced that the disagreed matters in the bill will be submitted to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for discussion and decision.

Hluttaw discuss motion on utilizing idle state-own and JV factories and industrial zones

As a final agenda of the day a motion urging the Union Government to take action urgently to prevent wasting public funds on matter of idle state-own factories that are to be privatized,

SEE PAGE-7

Amyotha Hluttaw

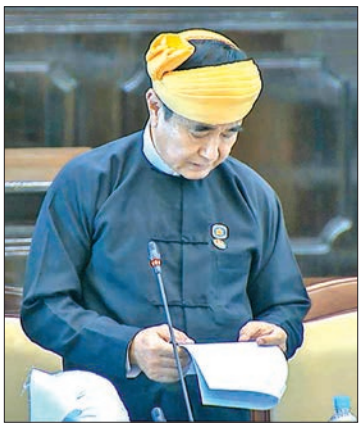
13th regular session of Second Amyotha Hluttaw holds 14th-day meeting

A 14th-day meeting of Second Amyotha Hluttaw's 13th regular session was held at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning where asterisk marked questions were raised and answered, a report read and a motion discussed.

Asterisk marked questions

The first question was raised by U Sai San Aung of Shan State Constituency 12 who asked if there was a plan to construct a crematorium in Shan State, Wa Self-Administered Division Hopan Township cemetery. Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun replied that the crematorium was to be constructed by the relevant municipal entities and there was no plan to construct it with border region development fund.

U Hla Myint @ U Hla Myint Than of Mon State constituency 11 asked if there was a plan to increase staffing in Mon State courts including Kyaikto Township court. Supreme Court Judge U Myo Tint replied that as per the policy of Union Government, Supreme Court and other courts were permitted 75 per cent of the full strength staff. At the moment Kyaikto Township court has more than 75 per cent of the full strength staff employed due to heavy workload and thus there was no plan to increase staff strength in Kyaikto Township court as well as other courts in Mon State said the Supreme Court Judge.



MP U Sai San Aung.



MP Daw Hla Htay.



MP Daw Nang Moe Moe Htwe.

Similarly questions raised by U Aung Myo Latt of Mandalay Region constituency 5 on implementing the main aims of changing the financial year by minimiting waste in budget and construction works to be on time and in budget, Saw Shar Phaung Ewa of Kayin State constituency 12 on completing construction of Kawkareik-A Son-Lampha-Kyaikdon Road in fiscal year 2019-2020 and U Hsi Hu Dwe of Kachin State constituency 2 on plan to upgrade Myitkyina-Hokap-Hsinbo Road section of Myitkyina-Hsinbo-Myohla-Katha inter-district road were answered by Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin while question raised by Daw Thiri Yadana of Mon State constituency 12 on upgrading Myoma Market @ Mingala Market in Mon State Thaton District, Bilin Township was answered by Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Nyi Tun.

Report of National Records and Archives Bill read

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Hla Htay (a) Daw Ohn Kyi read and explained a report on National Records and Archives Bill approved and sent with amendments by Pyithu Hluttaw.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than then announced that Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the report to enroll their names.

Discussion on a motion

Afterwards, a motion urging the Union Government to restore and maintain ponds and reservoirs and construct new ponds and reservoirs for rural populace tabled by U Khin Win of Magway Region constituency 2 was discussed by Daw Nan Moe Moe Htwe of Kayin State constituency 4, Daw Myat Thida Tun of Mon State constituency 5, Daw Shar Mu of Kayah State constituency 5, U Zaw Min Latt (a) U Ko Latt of Shan State constituency 1, U Myint Naing of Rakhine State constituency 5 and U Kyaw Swe of Magway Region constituency 11.

The 13th regular session of Second Amyoth Hluttaw will continue its 15th-day meeting on 29 August. — Aung Ye Thwin

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Unofficial Translation

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification No (164/2019)

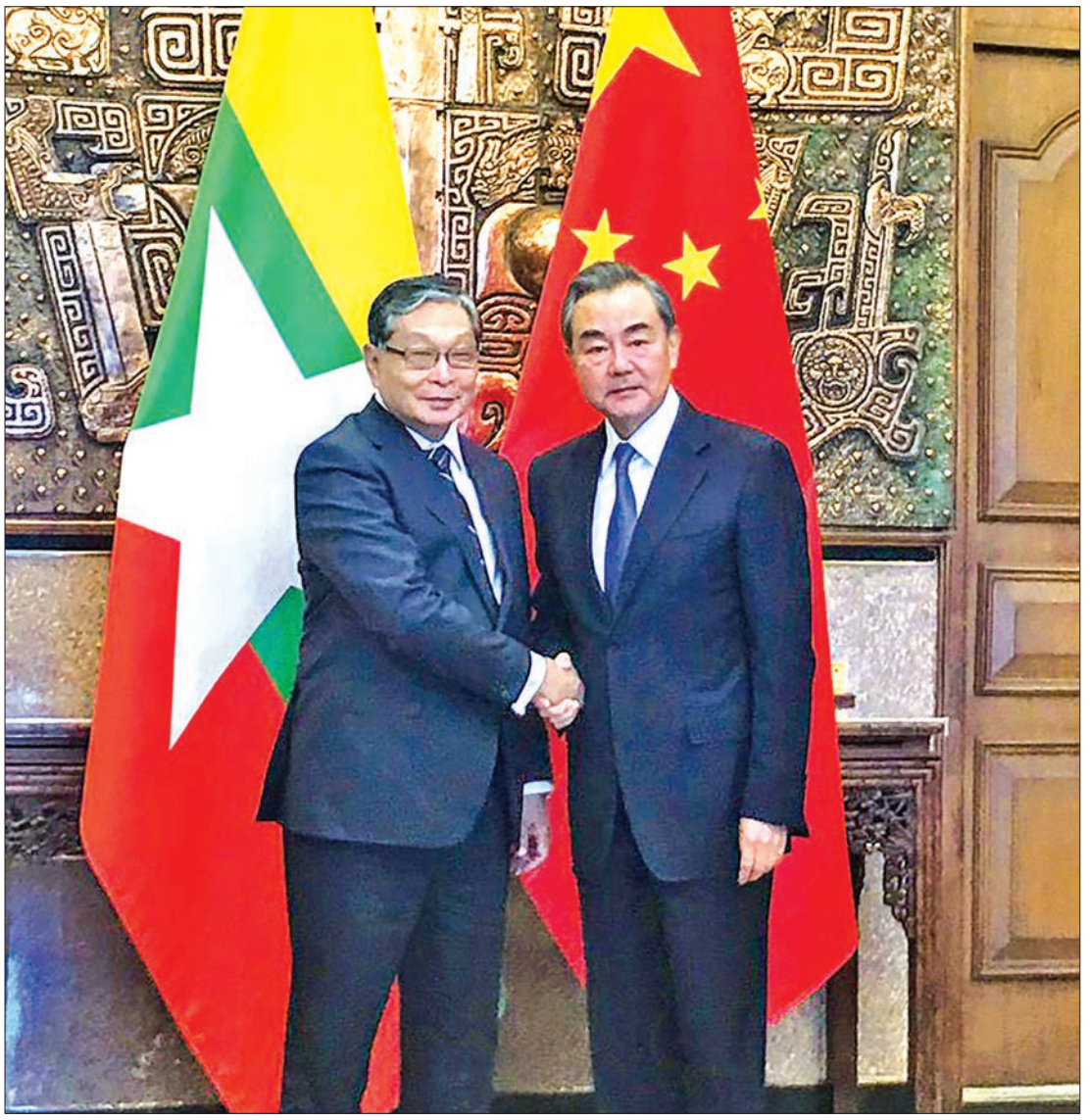
12th Waning of Wagaung 1381 ME
(27th August 2019)

Announcement for using the title Hutttaw Candidate

1. Eligible voters have elected Hlutaw representatives through multiparty democracy general elections and by-elections under the supervision of Union Election Commission since 2010 in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. Either representing for any political party or individually, a person has to file a nomination at a particular sub-commission for the general elections or by-elections held for the respective Hluttaws.
3. In regard to using the title Hluttaw Candidate, under the Section 22 of respective Hluttaw Election Law, a person desirous of contesting ethnic constituency shall submit nomination at sub-commission of Region/State, while the remaining constituencies at Union territories, sub-commission of Self-Administered Division, Self-Administered Zone, or district commission in according to the stipulations. They can generally use the title Hluttaw Candidate commencing the day of submitting the nomination.
4. According to the Section 24 of Hluttaw Election Law, the respective sub-commission shall scrutinize in the manner prescribed the nomination of a person for the Hluttaw Candidacy as to whether it is in conformity with the stipulations or not. If he/she conforms to the stipulations, he/she can use the title Hluttaw Candidate since the time he/she has been approved for candidacy till has been elected under the Section 26 (a) of the respective Hluttaw Election Law.
5. The person who has been declared as not eligible to be elected as a Hluttaw Candidate after scrutiny as prescribed in this law as he/she does not conform to the stipulations under Section 26 (b), or the person denied by the Union Election Commission/ respective sub-commissions despite his/her appeal out of dissatisfaction with the order passed under Section 26, shall not be eligible to use the title Hluttaw Candidate anymore.
6. Since Region/State election sub-commissions has announced the name of elected persons as Hluttaw representative as per the respective Hluttaw Election Law and bylaws, other persons who contested the elections may not be allowed for intervening in the electoral issues, except the following affairs;
   (a) Submitting objection to the elected Hluttaw Candidate in accordance with Section 68 of the respective Hluttaw Election Law; filing a petition or applying for amendment under Section 74
   (b) Undertaking in respect of advance deposit money filed together with the nomination paper under Section 38 of respective Hluttaw Election Bylaw
   (c) Submitting election expenses under Section 55 of the respective Hluttaw Election Law and under Section 77 of the respective Hluttaw Election Bylaw
   (d) Filing legal complaints on election offences in accordance Section 13 of respective Hluttaw Election Law

Therefore, any person, either represented for a political party or individually in the previous general elections or by-elections, or any one, either to represent for a political party or individually in the upcoming general elections or by-elections, may use the title Hluttaw Candidate in accordance with the respective Hluttaw Election Laws and Bylaws. It is prohibited to use the title Hluttaw Candidate in other matters, expect stipulations in the above paragraph 6, outside of the election period. Otherwise, it is meant to breach an existing law in relations to the specific activities done by this person.

Hla Thein
Chairman
Union Election Commission
(Unofficial Translation)



Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe meets with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Mr. Wang Yi in Beijing yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe visits China

To further promote the existing close and cordial Paukphaw relations, Union Minister of the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor visited China. The Union Minister arrived in Beijing in the morning of 27th August 2019. He called on the State Councillor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Mr Wang Yi at 11:30 am.

During the course of discussions, they discussed about cooperation between two countries in the regional and international fora. The Union Minister expressed Myanmar's thanks and appreciations to the support China has provided in such arenas as the Human Rights Council, the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. The State Councillor and Foreign Minister reiterated China's principled position and continued support in these areas.

They discussed the issue of the displaced persons from Rakhine. Mr Wang Yi expressed the principled position of China that the issue should be resolved bilaterally. This has consistently been Myanmar's position and the only practical and effective way to implement the bilateral agreement signed between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

They also discussed about Myanmar's peace process and China reiterated its continued support for the peace process that has been implemented as a top priority by the democratically elected Government of Myanmar.

They also discussed matters of mutual interests including the speedy implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative's process.—MNA

Legal Translation Commission releases Myanmar translated documents

The Legal Translation Commission has issued the Myanmar translation of four legal documents approved under sub-Article (a) of Article 9 of this commission.

The commission also said that the announcement was made under Article 12 with an order number 10/2019 dated on 21st August for the five law books on (a) The Carriers Act (b) The Oaths Act (c) The Specific Relief Act (d) The Upper Myanmar Land and Revenue Regulations, and (e) The Myanmar Divorce Act.

The announcement also includes the Myanmar translated versions may have the same legal effects with the original ones in English. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein receives IMF Representative

PYITHU Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein received a delegation led by Mr Yasuhisa Ojima, IMF representative to Myanmar, at the Hluttaw's Building, Pyithu Hluttaw's Deputy Speaker's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters related to providing assistances to the Myanmar's Hluttaws as by the IMF, public financial management and budget plan, allotment, and making suggestions on tax affairs.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chairmen of Joint Public Accounts Committee U Aung Min, U Saw Than Htut, Secretaries U Khin Maung Than, Dr. Sai Sai Kyauk Sam and officials from the Pyithu Hluttaw's Office. — MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)



Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein meets with a delegation led by IMF representative to Myanmar Mr Yasuhisa Ojima in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 29/2019

MEETING 29/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Joint Committee Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy Chairman of the Joint Committee Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Joint Committee secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe, joint secretary U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho and members who were Hluttaw representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Meeting 29/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution held in Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye receives officials from MAG

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye received Mr Bekim Shala, Country Director of the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and party in the Maykhala Hall of the ministry's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to launching mine risk education awareness campaign mainly conducted by the Department of Rehabilitation, landmines education discussions in the Kachin and the Kayin states jointly-conducted by the Norwegian government, the Thailand's government and local and international organizations, measures being taken for field trips study that includes mines clearance, work process for the hazards of mines that would be implemented on a nationwide scale in cooperation with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Defence, conducting study programmes for mines risk and clearance trainings in the ASEAN region countries, closing down the IDPs camps at nationwide scales and measures being taken to be safe for the displaced persons. — MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye holds talks with a delegation led by Country Director of the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) Mr Bekim Shala in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Ludu Sein Win scholarship application deadline set at 15 Sept

By Nyein Nyein

APPLICATIONS for the Ludu Sein Win scholarship will have to be submitted by 15 September for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to the Ludu Sein Win Scholarship Selection Board.

Applicants must be Myanmar citizens, have an outstanding academic record, be willing to pursue tertiary education, and in need of financial assistance, according to the rules of the scholarship program. The selection board will make its decision based on the applicants' choice of discipline and the university which would bring benefit to the country, their aims, and the objectives underlying their choices, and the scholarship fund, according to a member of the scholarship selection board.

The program is designed to help financially needy and academically competitive students complete their studies and groom promising young talent for the country. The scholarship program was launched in December, 2012 soon after the decease of Sayargyi Ludu Sein Win. Scholarships have been awarded to 78 students as of June, 2019. Among them, 37 have finished their bachelor's degrees, and the remaining are still pursuing tertiary studies.

Applications for the 2019-2020 academic year need to be submitted to the scholarship selection board, No. 501, the corner of Merchant Road and 39th Street in Kyauktada Township, Yangon. The board can be contacted by phone on 01-375177, and by e-mail on luduseinwinscholarship@gmail.com.

Additionally, well-wishers who want to contribute to the scholarship program can also contact the Ludu Sein Win scholarship Selection Board.■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, Japanese Ambassador inspect repatriation readiness in Maungtaw

DEPUTY MINISTER for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, and Japanese journalists, visited Maungtaw yesterday morning and met with displaced persons who returned to Myanmar in 2018 and 2019, on their own volition, under the UEHRD plan.

During the meeting, U Soe Aung reiterated that Myanmar was carrying out repatriation as per the Myanmar-Bangladesh agreement. Following an intimation from Bangladesh, Myanmar officials had been in a state of readiness to welcome returnees on 22 August, he said. But, no one had returned on that day, he added.

At the meeting, Japanese Ambassador Mr Ichiro Maruyama inquired about the difficulties and requirements of the displaced people, and the situation of those in the neighbouring country. The Japanese government plans to provide humanitarian aid to the people, he added.

In response to a question, the returnees expressed their gratitude for the reception and said the camps in the neighbouring country lack security.

They also said that their relatives in the neighbouring country were willing to come back, but they had been threatened against returning by terrorist group ARSA. Their repatriation was, in fact, an escape from ARSA, they added.

The returnees reported difficulties in earning a livelihood as they were facing a lack of job opportunities.



Deputy Minister U Soe Aung and Japanese Ambassador Mr Ichiro Maruyama inspect Hla Pho Khaung Transit Centre yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

They requested the authorities to relocate them to areas closer to their former places of residence, and to provide assistance in education for children, healthcare, and food.

In the afternoon, the Deputy Minister, the Ambassador, and the journalists visited the Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre. They took stock of the preparedness for the reception, repatriation gates, scanning for admission, security, healthcare, and humanitarian assistance. They also spoke words of encouragement to officials.

Then, they headed to the Hla Pho Khaung Transit Center. There, they inspected modular houses, assembly board houses, drinking water, toilets, and clinics for the displaced people.

In the evening, the delegation flew back to Sittway.

The Rakhine State Minister of Security Border Affairs and Col Min Than, concerned officials, and officials from the Japanese Embassy in Myanmar also took part in the trip.

The officials also answered questions raised by the media.—MNA

(Translated by Alphonsus)



Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, Japanese Ambassador Mr Ichiro Maruyama and officials observe immigration processes at the Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre. **PHOTO: MNA**

Financial experts lecture on development of Asian securities market

THE Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar and the Asian Development Bank jointly organized a seminar at the Sule Shangri-La Hotel in Yangon yesterday, with expert talks on developing quality securities markets in emerging Asia.

The three-day seminar will discuss good international practices in selling shares to the public that is crucial for development of capital market and exchange of shares among the listed companies in stock market.

The international experts will also share knowledge on stimulating the interest of investors in securities market, regional scrutinizing practices to protect the investors, strengthening capital markets, disclosing and monitoring mechanisms for transparency and new methods for market-oriented financial supply for SMEs.

The first day of seminar was attended by the members of Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar, officials from Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Ministry of Industry, Central Department of Small and Medium Enterprises Development, the Central Bank of Myanmar, representatives from the member countries of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Asian Development Bank, the invited speakers from international organizations.

On behalf of the SECM chairman, the member of commission, Daw Tin May Oo, made an opening remark and Mr Kosintr Puongsophol, the financial sector specialist of Asian Development Bank gave an extended introductory speech to the audience.

The finance ministers of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) in May 1998 agreed to hold this kind of seminar regularly. A total of 152 forums on this matter has already generated 6,445 regulators and supervisors for financial market. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



SECM member Daw Tin May Oo delivers the opening speech at the Regional Seminar on Developing Quality Securities Markets in Emerging Asia in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release No 32/2019
11 Waning of Wagaung 1381 ME
(26 August 2019)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offences up to 24 August 2019 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

Sr	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1.	Information received of Naung Kaing(a)Kyaw Soe who lives in Ayechanmyaing 1 Village, Bokpyin Township, Taninthayi Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 20 August 2019, police searched the house of Naung Kaing(a)Kyaw Soe, 30, son of U Kyaw Hlaing, who lives in Ayechanmyaing 1 Village, Bokepyin Township, and arrested him together with speciosa powder. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Bokpyin) MaYa(Pa) 19/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2.	Information received of Thein Zaw and his wife Ma Zin Mar who live in Myittashin Street, No7 East Ward, Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 19 August 2019, police searched the house of Thein Zaw, 47, son of U Bo Ni, and his wife Ma Zin Mar(a)Zin Mar Nwe, 34, daughter of U Thein Aung who live in Myittashin Street, No7 East Ward, Thakayta Township, and arrested them and Win Thein Tun, 30, son of U Kyaw Nyein who lives in No13 Aungthabyay St from that house together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa(Thakayta) MaYa(Pa) 39/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3.	Information received of Kyaw Lwin and Zaw Naung who live in Khwayhaungton Village, Mabein Township, northern Shan State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 24 August 2019, police searched the house of Kyaw Lwin, 46, son of U Soe Thein and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets and heroin. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Mabein) MaYa(Pa) 71/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly police searched Zaw Naung, 27, son of U Aye Gyin at the bank of Shweli River, at the west of that village and arrested him together with 'WY' stimulant tablets. A case has been opened against him with MaMaSa(Mabein) MaYa(Pa) 72/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, so far a total of 730 cases have been opened files as of 24 August 2019. A total of 1138 people, including 957 men and 181 women had been arrested with seizures of 6707.2784 g of heroin, 1318.72 g of ICE, 39776.95 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 19809.27 g of speciosa powder, 7833.19 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 338177 stimulant tablets, 8363.22 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 513.26 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 29.15 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 18 firearms, various kinds of 257 cartridges and 1 grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the ministry will report on further exposed cases.
4. In addition to the investigations and arrests conducted on drug related complaints mentioned above, the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force have also carried out separate investigations on drug complaints, search and arrests at border gates, and searches of vehicles acting upon given information.
   During the previous week, multiple arrests were made in the border regions and joint-surveillance gates.
   Upon acting on a tip-off, police arrested a man together with 34 stimulant tablets in KanOo Ward, Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw. In Kachin State, police arrested a woman together with 240 g of heroin in Shweset Ward, Myitkyina. Police arrested a man together with 3.5 g of heroin and 300 g of opium in No 2 Ward Mohnyin Tsp, and acting on an interrogation, a woman with 1300 g of opium from the same ward and two women with 0.4 l of liquid of heroin from Mawhan Village were arrested. With information given to police, three men together with 5800 stimulant tablets and 110 g of heroin and two motorcycle were apprehended on the Mogaung-Myitkyina road near Nammati Village, Mogaung Tsp. Similarly, a woman with 900 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle on Balakha road in Phakant Tsp, a man with 5510 stimulant tablets in No 2 Ward, Lwejel Tsp, and four men and a woman together with 175750 stimulant tablets and three motorcycles near Simaw Village in Shwegu Tsp were arrested. In Kayah State, police arrested a man together with 244.94 g of opium block at the Dawtawi inspection gate in Dimawhso Tsp, and another man together with 210 stimulant tablets in Myomakayan Ward, Nanmaekhon Town. In Kayin State, police arrested a man 142 stimulant tablets in No 1 Ward, Myawady Tsp and acting on tip-off, police seized 808 stimulant tablets from a room of an inn where that man stayed. In Mon State, police arrested three men together with 400 g of marijuana in Zeyarthiri Ward, Mawlamyine Tsp, and another man with 32.66 g of spiciosa on the road of Thatkaw Village in Thanbyuzayet Tsp. In Rakhine State, with information given to police, they seized an ownerless 97500 stimulant tablets from an abandon house in Gonna Village, Maungtaw Tsp. A man together with 36750 stimulant tablets was arrested in Latha Village. Police seized a package with 78000 stimulant tablets dropped by three men who run away near Chaungwa Village. With information given to police, a man together with 1250 g of marijuana was arrested at No 156 room, Bawdypha relief camp in Sittway. In Shan State, police arrested a man and a woman together with 4000 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle on the road of Shwenyaung-Yaksawk near Yaypu Village in Taunggyi Tsp. With the information received, police searched an express bus at 144/3 milepost of Loilem-Taunggyi road Hopong Tsp, and a woman on that car was arrested together with 20000 stimulant tablets. Police arrested a man with 345 stimulant tablets and 400 g of opium block in Mingalar Ward, Aungban Tsp; two men together with 11200 g of opium and a motorcycle on the road of Ywangan-Kyaukse, near Kyaukkupyin Village, Ywangan Tsp; a man with 910 stimulant tablets in Hsaungkyae Village Hsipaw Tsp; a man together with 60000 g of ICE and a vehicle on the road of Nantmaung Village in Kholan Town; two men together with 59600 stimulant tablets and two motorcycles on the road of Momeik-Mabein, Shwezerli Vilage in Momeik Tsp; two men together with 12015 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle near Ponn creek Bridge in Mongpon; a man together with 15960 stimulant tablets and 1300 g of ICE in Paephane Village, Laukkai Tsp; a woman together with 15015 stimulant tablets, 684 g of heroin and 2000 g of ICE in No 2 Ward in Laukkai Tsp; a man together with 200 stimulant tablets on the road of Sintkai Village, 9850 stimulant tablets and 285 g of ICE from his house; a man together with 4016 stimulant tablets in Wanyan Village, Mongpyin Tsp; a man together with 660 stimulant tablets and 150 g of opium in Yanaungmyay Ward Tachilek Tsp; three men together with 860 stimulant tablets and 0.4 g of heroin in No 2 Ward, Mongyawng Tsp; and a man together with 2800 g of heroin, 1000 f of ICE and a motorcycle at the inspection gate in Monelite Village. With the information given to police, police arrested two men together with 1505 stimulant tablets on the road of Monywa-YeU near Tharyoegon Village Budalin Tsp; a man together with 10 g of heroin, 300 g of opium and a motorcycle on the Bamauk-Mansikyi, Pinhinkha Village in Bamauk Tsp; a man together with 341 g of heroin in Yannyeinaung Village, Tamu Tsp; a man together with 396 g of heroin and a motorcycle on the road of Tamu-Kalay, Weaiktoke Village; two women together with 110 g of heroin and a motorcycle near Nansapar bridge in Khampat Tsp; two men together with 4160 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle on the road of Phaungpyin-Pinlebu, in Phaungpyin Tsp; and a man together with 264 g of heroin and a motorcycle at the 12/6 milepost of the road of Phaungpyin-Pinlebu, in Sagaing Region. In Taninthayi Region, police arrested two men together with 364 stimulant tablets and 2.95 g of ICE in Yarpyae Ward and another man together with 300 g of marijuana in Kanphyar Ward, Myeik Tsp. Police seized an ownerless 528 stimulant tablets, 2 g of ICE and 16.33 g of speciosa on Naykyar road, No 4 Ward in Palaw Tsp. With the information given to police, two men together with 965000 g of speciosa and a motorboat were arrested at the Taungtain 1 Village's quay in Taninthayi Tsp.

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Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 13th regular session…

FROM PAGE-2

idle factories, idle state-own factories already working with private sector and idle industrial zones tabled by U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency was discussed by U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo of Hline constituency, Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Toe Lwin, U Kyaw Aung Lwin of Sedoktara constituency, Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative Lt-Col Myo Htat Win, U Maung Myint of Mingin constituency, U Win Htut of Pyapon constituency, U Phone Myint Aung of DaikU constituency, U Sein Myint of Myingyan constituency, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency, U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency, U Thein Tun of Thabaung constituency and Daw Cho Cho Win of Mawlaik constituency.

In discussing the motion Deputy Minister for Industry said there were a total of 112 factories under Ministry of Industry out of which 55 were operated under private-public cooperation program. Of these 55 factories 2 were joint ventures, 3 were cooperation under mutual benefit and 50 were on long term leases. 57 factories were operated as state-own factories.

At the moment under the title of state-own enterprise (SOE), the SOE were conducting the functions of policy maker, regulator, public service and economic entities. As per international practice, SOEs were to be classified and the transition or transformation needs to be systematically implemented.

Much thought need to be placed toward transiting or transforming SOEs. The first would be to carefully consider and estimate the responsibility of the State to pay pension. Conducting capacity raising trainings of SOE personnel, arrangements to smoothen the transition and reassignment of personnel were important.

Ministry of Industry will establish clear and concise policies and regulations to support and raise private sector productivity and provide required technical supports. Privatization of SOEs that should be transferred to private sector will be given a special priority. Furthermore entities cooperating with private sector for mutual benefit will be reviewed and efforts will be made toward making the cooperation beneficial to the State. State's organizations and ministries, including Ministry of Planning and Finance will be cooperated on effective management of local and foreign loans of the SOEs.

A group will arrange the long term lease of state own factories, transfer to private sector, working as joint venture, cooperating for mutual benefit and other means. The group will consist of expert personnel from Ministry of Planning and Finance, NECC (National Economic Coordination Committee) members, experts and technicians from local and foreign entities and efforts will be made toward conducting transitions and transformation soon explained the Deputy Minister in support of the motion.

U Bo Gyi who tabled the motion want the motion to be approved and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker obtained the comment of the Hluttaw. As there was no objection, an announcement was made of Hluttaw approving the motion.

The 15th-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 13th regular session is scheduled for 29 August. — Aye Aye Thant, Kyaw Zin Htike

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Workshop on Emergency Support for Chin State Livelihoods Restoration Project held in Nay Pyi Taw



Director-General U Khant Zaw, Principal Portfolio Management Specialist Mr. Christopher A Spohr and attendees pose for the photo at the workshop in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

To share experiences and lessons from the Community Disaster Management Planning, the workshop on Emergency Support for Chin State Livelihoods Restoration project was held at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Director-General of the Department of Rural Development U Khant Zaw and Principal Portfolio Management Specialist Mr Christopher A Spohr delivered opening remarks at the event. Then Director-General U Khant Zaw handed over documentation on the community disaster management schemes to U Than Htut Swe, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Disaster Management.

Next, Director of the Department of Rural Development U Kyaw Swar Aung explained about the Chin State Livelihoods Restoration project, and Promgram Manager of the Network Activities Group (NAG) U Wai Lin Cho explained the current state of the natural disaster management operations. Following this, Community Disaster Management Planning Specialist U Min Min Htike discussed the experiences on drawing up the community disaster management planning from the village people. The participants at the event took part in the group discussion and explained about the suggestions made. The emergency support for the Chin State Livelihoods Restoration project has been implementing with the Japan fund for poverty reduction, has within given period of time August 2016 until October 2019, and which is implemented in seven townships of the Chin State. The Chin State Livelihoods Restoration project includes reconstruction of damaged roads and bridges caused by natural disasters, rural electrification, water supply, preparedness for disasters and highlighting public knowledge on disaster response, said Director-General U Khant Zaw. — MNA

(Translated by WKKA)

FROM PAGE-6

In Mandalay Region, police arrested a man with 0.1 l of opium tincture and 6 g of low quality opium in Kanthayar Ward in Chanmyathazi Tsp. Police searched a man with a motorcycle on the Hanmyintmo-Ywangan road near Taungtaw Village in Kyaukse Tsp and arrested him together with 2800 g of opium block, 3900 g of opium and a motorcycle. Police seized an ownerless 980 stimulant tablets near the Kywetatson Mobile X-Ray gate in Thazi Tsp. In Yangon Region, police seized 596 stimulant tablets abandoned on a road of Dhanyingon Ward Insein Tsp. police arrested a man with 1600 stimulant tablets and a motorcycle on a road of No 35 Ward in Dagon Myothit Tsp (north), and acting on an interrogation, police seized 304 stimulant tablets and 0.02 g of marijuana from the house of that man. Police arrested a man with 52 stimulant tablets in No 2 Ward, Maezalegom Town in Ayeyawady Region.

There has been a drug relatedcase involved foreigners in Sagaing Region. With the information given to police, two Indian men and two Indian women together with 62.5 g of heroin and two motorcycle on the road of Tamu-Kalay near Panthar village in Tamu Tsp.

There have been three seizure of ammunitions. Police arrested a man together with 24 stimulant tablets, a .45 hand-made gun and its two bullets Kawtkathaung Village, Pha-an Tsp, Kayin State. Two men together with 1787 stimulant tablets, a hand-made gun and 65 lead balls in Moenaine Ward Paung Tsp in Mon State. During police are patrolling around Narpwe Village and Naungpain Village in Namhsan Tsp in southern Shan State, police arrested 39 suspects and seized 4500 g of heroin powder/block, 81000 stimulant tablets, stimulant tablets packed in 27 woven plastic bags, 18140 g of stimulant tablets crushed powder, 150 l of ICE liquid, 20 gallons of black opium tincture, 20 making narcotic drug huts with instruments making the drugs, 708 acid buckets, 3 drums with acid liquid, 58 iron drums with Hydrochloric acid, 10 l of spirit, 18 boxes of used smell and flavor, 59 boxes, 'CCL' 20 white blocks, 14 refrigerators, 27 steel steamed cookers, 17 steel trays, 107 plastic plates, 110 drums, 1359 gas cylinders, 3 digital scales, 1 grinder, 2 mixer, 6 tablet making machines, 6 drugs cooking tanks, 5 oil drums, 1 generator, a .22 gun, its magazine, 360 7.62mm bullets, 46 grenades and 5 motor vehicles.

There have been 232 cases being opened between 18 August 2019 and 24 August 2019, and 272 men and 33 women have been arrested. Seizures of 664765 stimulant tablets, 27 woven plastic bags with stimulant tablets, 18140 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 9825.904 g of heroin, 0.4 l of liquid heroin, 64592.32 g of ICE, 150 l of ICE liquid, 17239.8 g of opium, 0.1 g of opium liquid, 20 gallons of brown opium liquid, 6 g of low quality opium, 3445.24 g of opium block. 965526.23 g of opium powder, 32.66 g of spiciosa, 2024.7 g of marijuana, 20 making narcotic drug huts with instruments making the drugs, 708 acid buckets, 3 drums with acid liquid, 58 iron drums with Hydrochloric acid, 10 l of spirit, 18 boxes of used smell and flavor, 59 boxes, 'CCL' 20 white blocks, 14 refrigerators, 27 steel steamed cookers, 17 steel trays, 107 plastic plates, 110 drums, 1359 gas cylinders, 3 digital scales, 1 grinder, 2 mixer, 6 tablet making machines, 6 drugs cooking tanks, 5 oil drums, 1 generator, three firearms, 405 bullets, 65 lead balls, one magazine, and 46 grenades.

5. To seize further drugs and to arrest drugs dealers, people are urged to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs, region and state governments and to inform huge cases of drug trafficking and other suspicious cases directly to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President through following contact numbers:

Contacts:

Landline No. —067-590200
Fax Phone No. — 067-590233
Email Address: —antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Use of vacant, fallow, virgin land needs to be in conformity with law

MYANMAR is working on extending its forest reserves as part of its commitment to reducing the impact of climate change.

But, for this, it is necessary to exclude customary lands designated under traditional culture of the local ethnic people, and lands currently used for religious, social, educational, health, and transportation purposes for the public and ethnic people in the forest reserves.

According to statistics compiled in 2018, there are over 47 million acres of vacant, fallow, and virgin lands in Myanmar. It is necessary to ensure that agriculture, livestock breeding, minerals production, and other lawful businesses utilize the land effectively, in accordance with the bylaw of the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Law, for the economic development of the State and to create job opportunities for locals and landless citizens.

> Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Committee has decided to confiscate lands which are being improperly utilized.

For land that is not utilized by a business within four years, a fine would be collected by the State treasury, and the right to cultivate or use the land would be revoked.

In its 21st meeting held on 26 August in Nay Pyi Taw, the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Committee has decided to confiscate lands which are being improperly utilized. The committee has announced that so far, 1.5 million acres of land has been seized for non-compliance with the terms and stipulations of the law.

Section 39 of the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management bylaw has designated land tax exemption periods for various businesses on different types of land. The committee has instructed the authorities to impose fines for late payments or evasion, and have asked those who have not paid yet to do so urgently.

According to the committee, there are 3,404 individuals who would be imposed levy on their land utilization in 2018-2019, and K1,421 million in tax has been projected from 512,000 acres of land, and those concerned have been notified of the tax levy from September.

For land which is being used efficiently, new permissions will be issued, and owners who are granted such permissions are urged to pay taxes to the government on time.

For the objectives, guidelines, and basic principles of the National Land Use Policy to be truly effective, the relevant authorities, organizations, and individuals need to fully understand its contents to enable successful implementation.

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Six Agendas for CPU

U Han Nyunt (Law)

SEVERAL critics have complained that the anti-corruption efforts are extremely difficult to be achieved in Myanmar. It is right that to fight against the corruption is increasingly difficult for the Anti-Corruption Commission. However, it is not the task which cannot be accomplished. The Commission has already committed to reach the ultimate success by combating the corruption, which is a must for the prosperity of Myanmar.

Potentially growing reliability

As anti-corruption is fighting against traditionally rooted moral disruption in the entire Myanmar or correcting improper manner, goal cannot be achieved by suiting all the wrongdoers. Education, prevention, investigation, and prosecution are reasonably exercised for different situations. Especially, it seems to attract people's dependency and reliability, in the future, on Corruption Prevention Unit (CPU) established in Ministries at the union level.

Formation of 32 CPUs

At present, 32 CPUs have already been formed at Union level organizations and 18 Ministries. Three missions of the CPU were determined at a CPU formation workshop, held on 19 January, 2019.

Missions of the CPU are as follows:

(a) To disclose the corrupt problems
(b) To solve the problems lawfully
(c) To perform Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) and mitigate risks

Three Missions of CPU

- Disclose
- Solve
- Mitigate

Unanimous determination

Within the previous six months, some CPUs could undertake corruption prevention efforts via those three missions. However, some CPUs are not daring enough to fulfill those missions. Perhaps, they have just little trust on prevention task. At a Second technical workshop, a three-day workshop from July 24 to 26, 2019, six agendas were unanimously set up as future work plan of all the CPUs. With the permission given by the Union Ministers and heads of the organizations, CPUs will implement the following work plan (agendas).

Six Agendas

(a) Individual CPU need to develop its own TOR to be undertaken.
(b) Departments need to develop SOP and to distribute transparently to the branches regarding to the facts which the public should have knowledge and facts which are directly relevant to the service beneficiary public
(c) Amendment of law, rules, regulations, orders and instructions with potential corruption risks are to be submitted and undertaken.
(d) Associated businesses are to be scrutinized whether ethical or not.
(e) Independent and transparent forums will be held among departmental officials and associated businesses. (If necessary, third party may participate.)
(f) CPU will fulfill service recipient public, at branches via telephone using CPU Toolkit application.

Six Agendas for CPUs

- Develop TOR
- Demonstrate SOP
- Submit amendment
- Examine ethics
- Consult with public openly
- Provide service

People want to know

People will expect and welcome the six agendas of CPU. It is necessary to inform and educate the public with what they should. People want to realize how government ministries, offices and organizations have developed their corresponding functions, time schedule, tax and revenue in transparent manner.

Assisting people to understand the significant notifications and provisions is smoothening the nature of the anti-corruption task.

Transparency

Some departments do not disclose what people should know. In other words, there is no transparency. For example, a notice is to be issued in advance to increase the understanding level of the public. Like, regarding to a task, what the department is going to do, how much official rate this particular department is going to pay, and how long the period will be, it is unnecessary to give bribe to anyone, etc. This will help clarify how the operation goes. By undertaking it by CPU, transparency and corruption-free can be explored officially, improving public trust towards the government departments.

Mutual negotiation

Continuous examination on associated businesses and exercising ethical matters, negotiation, discussion, seeking solution to ease the practical challenges. If necessary, third parties may be invited to the meetings to take advice.

It is encouraging for ministries, which still have not organized CPUs, to form CPUs as early as possible.

Subsequently, CPUs, branches, will contact individual people through phone using CPU Toolkit application.

People's Expectations

By implementing the six agendas of CPUs, the three principal elements of the good governance such as transparency, responsibility and responsiveness will be fulfilled. CPUs are paving the way for the good governance.

Now it can be expected to set up CPUs in different sub-regional governments. People have been increasingly welcoming and waiting for the effective services through CPUs and the progressive achievement of CPUs.

It is estimated that the agendas of the CPUs will be implemented in October 2019.

Translated by Po Po Theint

Microplastic pollution is everywhere, but not necessarily a risk to human health

United Nations

IN ITS first summary of the latest research into the impact of the tiny plastic pollutants on humans, the World Health Organization (WHO) said that they have been found in marine settings, waste and fresh water, food, the air and drinking-water, both bottled and from a tap.

Frequently, microplastics are defined as less than five millimetres long, according to WHO.

Its report notes that the particles most commonly found in drinking-water are plastic bottle fragments.

"Based on the limited information we have, microplastics in drinking water don't appear to pose a health risk at current levels. But we need to find out more," said Dr Maria Neira, WHO's Director, Department of Public Health, Environment and Social Determinants of Health. "We urgently need to know more about the health impact of microplastics because they are everywhere - including in our drinking-water."

According to WHO's findings, microplastics larger than 150 micrometres (a micrometre is a millionth of a metre) are unlikely to be absorbed in the human body, while the uptake of smaller particles is likely to be limited.

Absorption of microplastic particles "including in the nano-size range may, however, be higher", the WHO report continues, before cautioning that available data in this "emerging area" is extremely limited.

Asked by journalists about how levels of plastic pollutants differ between tap water and bottled water, WHO's Jennifer de France from WHO's Department of Public Health, replied that bottled water "in general did contain higher particle numbers".

Nonetheless, Ms. France also cautioned against jumping to conclusions, owing to the lack of available data.

> "Microplastics in drinking water don't appear to pose a health risk at current levels. But we need to find out more - WHO Director, Dr. Maria Neira"

"In drinking water in general, often the two polymers that were most frequently detected were polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and polypropylene," she said. "Now these polymers – the polyethylene terephthalate - is often used in producing bottled water bottles, and polypropylene, is often used in producing caps. However, there were other polymers detected as well, so more studies are needed to really make a firm conclusion about where the sources are coming from."

While citing the handful of available studies into the absorption of microplastics and nanoplastics in rats and mice, which showed symptoms including inflammation of the liver, WHO's report insists that people are unlikely to be exposed to such high levels of pollutants.

Drinking-water contamination: a million lives lost each year

A much more clearly understood potential threat than microplastics is exposure to drinking-water contaminated by human or animal waste, said Bruce Gordon, from WHO's Department of Public Health, highlighting a problem that affects two billion people and claims one million lives a year.

One way that Governments can tackle this problem is by putting in place better waste-water filtration systems.

The move would reduce microplastic pollution by around 90 per cent, the WHO official explained, before noting that the report had touched on people's wider concerns about how to live more sustainably and waste less.

"Consumers shouldn't be too worried," Mr. Gordon said. "There's many dimensions to this story that are beyond health. What I mean by that is, if you are a concerned citizen worried about plastic pollution and you have access to a well-managed piped supply - a water supply - why not drink from that? Why not reduce pollution. Of course, there are times when you need a water bottle when you're walking around, but please reuse it", he emphasized.

Myanmar Gazette

Head of service organization confirmed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Dr Nang Hseng Hom, Rector, Yezin Agricultural University under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation on expiry of the one-year probationary period.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 27th August, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 28th August, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Mandalay Region, Kachin, Northern Shan and Chin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Lower Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions. 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 –12) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and about (6 – 9) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28th August, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28th August, 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28th August, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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MMU increases seats to 400, lowers cut-off

THE Myanmar Maritime University (MMU) has announced that it has increased the number of seats to 400 and lowered the admission marks for its courses due to low number of applicants. Students who have cleared the 2018-19 matriculation exam can apply for the courses.

"The school received 160 students until the end of July. Therefore, the MMU brought up the number of admission seats to 400 and lowered the cut-off to 440 to create job opportunities for youths," said Dr. Myat Lwin, the headmaster of the MMU.

"Earlier, the cut-off mark was set at 470 and 360 students were admitted. Other universities have also set lower entrance marks than the previous year," he added.

The last date for admission was previously set at August-end. But, this year, students can apply for courses at the MMU until 13 September. Additionally, the numbers of seats for female students we planned to be increased to 80.



Myanmar Maritime University (MMU) has increased the students' applicant numbers. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG SOE**

"Although the minimum acceptance mark has been lowered to 440, the exact minimum score will still depend on the number of applications received. It may range from 450 to 460. If the applicants have the same marks, the university will accept them," according to the university.

Students can apply for the following courses at the university: Naval Architecture, Marine Mechanical Engineering, Marine Engineering, Port and Harbour Engineering, River and Coastal Engineering, Marine Electrical Systems and Electronics, and Nautical Science. Female students are allowed to apply for any major, except Marine Engineering, Electrical Systems and Electronics, and Nautical Science.
— Myint Maung Soe ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

Yangon Govt plans housing for squatters

By Aye Yamone

THE Yangon Region Government will develop apartments on state-owned land to tackle the issue of squatting, said U Phyo Min Thein, the Yangon Region Chief Minister. The government will offer a long-term instalment payment plan to squatters to help them purchase the apartments.

The regional government will contribute land and obtain a loan for the housing project. It plans to sell the apartments for K12-13 million per unit, he added.

"Squatters facing accommodation problems will get a chance for proper relocation on state-owned land. Squatting in industrial zones and other commercial sites can cause damage to the drainage system of the industrial zone, increase risk of fire, and other problems. This has prompted the regional government to deal with them at the earliest. The regional government has initiated the project, and its implementation will begin next month," said the Yangon Region Chief Minister.

Besides squatters, civil service personnel and company staff who have not occupied any house will be allowed to apply for the soon-to-be-developed apartments, he said at the 29th meeting of Vice President U Myint Swe with private entrepreneurs, held last Saturday at the office of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

"The apartments will be regarded as community-owned property. Those allowed to live in the apartments will be restricted from reselling them," said the Chief Minister.

At present, the Yangon Region government has collected data on the slum population in the region.

"The regional government will contribute land for the housing project with the aim of reducing the price of the apartments. Moreover, the government is planning to offer a long-term instalment payment scheme to make the apartments affordable for prospective buyers," said U Phyo Min Thein.

The construction of the low-cost apartments will take some time, he said adding that once the project is completed, the apartments will be put on sale.

The Yangon Region government has opened the city gallery on Bogyoke Aung San Road to showcase and sell the low-cost housing apartments. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

International golf club, luxury apartment projects planned in Shan State



MoU signing ceremony for international golf club and value-added apartment project between the Shan State Government and Heho Resort (Innkhaung) Co, Ltd held in Taunggyi, Shan State. **PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG THAN (TAUNGGYI)**

THE Shan State Government and Heho Resort (Innkhaung) Co. Ltd signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at 11 am on 27 August in Taunggyi City of eastern Shan State for the development of an international golf club and a value-added apartment project in the state.

At the MoU signing ceremony, U Soe Nyunt Lwin, the Minister for Planning and Budgeting for Shan State, explained the aims of the MoU for regional development. He said he was delighted with the cooperation project, under which, a capital of K400 million will be utilized to develop 326 acres in Bawnin village-tract, Heho-Innkhaung region, Kalaw Township.

U Aung Aung Soe, the chairman of the company, said it is planning to upgrade the Heho airport to an international airport and contribute to the development of Shan State. —Maung Maung Than (Taunggyi)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Trade at Muse border gate yet to return to normal

SINO-MYANMAR trade at the Muse border checkpoint is yet to return to normal as the export of goods through the gate has almost come to a halt after recent clashes between ethnic armed groups and the Tatmadaw shut off the main trade route between Myanmar and China.

About 500 trucks with goods imported from China have entered the Muse 105-mile zone in Northern Shan State, however, hardly any trucks from Myanmar have headed out to China with goods for export.

The fighting between the AA, MNDAA, and TNLA armed groups and the Tatmadaw troops since 15 August has posed a threat to road safety and security on the Mandalay-Muse route, which is a major trading route between Myanmar and China. As a result, the outflow of goods meant for export to China through Muse has become rare, and only trucks carrying imports from China are entering the gate. So far, only a small number of trucks loaded with eels and crabs have been sent to China through the Muse gate.



Trucks seen at the 105-mile trade zone in Muse, northern Shan State. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

"Goods are stranded at the Muse trade zone. This is a loss for us. Merchants are suffering on account of this. The truck drivers will run out of money soon. Moreover, some goods are perishable. Closure of the main trading route can cause more problems," said truck driver U Myint Naing.

Truck driver Myat Thein Kyaw from the Palaung ethnic community said: "We have carried China goods and also paid duties. However, we cannot move anywhere to deliver them. Thanks to CSOs and charity groups, I do not need to worry about food. Frankly, I do not want any fighting, and neither do I support the fighters. It (closure of trade route) is like blocking the bloodstream of the country. That can hinder the business development of the country."

"This incident is harming Sino-Myanmar border trade. All the stakeholders in the entire trade chain, including depot owners, businessmen, merchants, workers, truck drivers, and many others are suffering on account of this," he added.

At present, although a small shipment of eels and crabs from Myanmar merchants has flowed to China through the Muse gate, goods meant for export have piled up at the gate. Customs and other trade department officials have prepared the necessary documents and are keeping them ready to get started with transportation across border gate once the route is reopened fully. — Thant Zin ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Domestic gold price soars to K1.24 mln on back of gains in global market

By Nyein Nyein



Gold jewellery on display at a shop in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

THE price of gold in the domestic market has touched a high of K1.24 million per tical (0.578 ounce or, 0.016 kilogram), due to a price surge in the global market, said U Ohn Myaing, the general secretary of the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

At present, the price of pure gold has crossed K1.24 million in the local market, while it is pegged at over US$1,530 per ounce in the global market.

"On 27 August, gold opened at K1,238,200 per tical, then rose slightly to K1,242,000 in the afternoon," said U Ohn Myaing.

The domestic gold price is positively linked to global gold prices, which have been volatile recently.

"There is no definite reason for gold to continue gaining. The price is likely to maintain the current high for a while. If global prices cool, the rates may fall in the local market as well", he added.

"With global gold prices soaring, local gold price has been on the rise. Gold trading has cooled in the market," he said.

"Gold trading has seen a normal pause due to the price rise. Only those who want to generate money are selling off gold, and those who want to invest are buying gold. The market has not seen large trades," said U Ohn Myaing.

With prices on the rise, the MGEA has already warned its members of legal action if any fraudulent case is detected against them. Furthermore, traders have been asked to clear payments at once, according to the association.

With global gold prices on the uptick, the domestic price has hit fresh highs this year, reaching K1,050,000 per tical between 17 and 29 January, crossing K1,060,000 (30 Jan to 7 Feb), climbing to 1,070,000 (8 -18 Feb), and then K1,080,000 (19-21 Feb) to reach a fresh peak of K1,110,000 on 21 June. Then, it gradually increased, and hit a new record of K1,200,000 on 7 August.

According to gold traders, the lowest price for gold in May was K1,035,200 (2 May) and the highest was K1,059,200 (14 May). Gold prices touched the lowest level of K1,055,000 on 1 June and the highest level of K1,125,500 on 25 June. Last month, the prices moved in the range of K1,099,000 (1 July) and 1,149,400 (31 July). ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Sagaing Region sees 8% growth in tourism

SAGAING REGION has registered an 8-per cent increase in tourism this year compared to the year-ago period, according to the region's Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

"The tourism growth rate is up 22 per cent compared to 2016 and 2017. In 2018, it was up 17 per cent compared to 2017. The rate this year showed an increase of 8 per cent when compared to 2018," said U Aung Thu Oo, the head of the Sagaing Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

This year, domestic travellers to Sagaing Region have increased from 96,000 to 104,000. Meanwhile, tourist arrivals in Sagaing Region are estimated at over 15,000 each in 2018 and so far in 2019.

This year, ten more hotels have been opened in four tourism zones of Sagaing Region, said U Aung Thu Oo.

Three hotels have been opened in Monywa and Kalay tourism zones each, and two in Sagaing and Katha tourism zones each, according to data provided by the Sagaing Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

"Sagaing Region has witnessed construction of more hotels to provide accommodation to the increasing number of tourists and local travellers in the region year over year. In addition, there are still more hotels which are under construction," said U Aung Thu Oo.

There were 23 hotels in five tourism zones of Sagaing Region in 2016, six more hotels were added in 2017, and seven in 2018.

There are six tourism zones in Sagaing Region: Sagaing, Monywa, Shwebo, Katha, and Kalay and Khamti. Local pilgrims mostly flock to Zalon Taung and the reclining figure called the Alaungdaw Kathapa. Those places are crowded with pilgrims during the high season.

—Win Oo/ Myo Win Tun ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Iran tells US to take 'first step', end sanctions



A handout picture provided by the Iranian presidency on 27 August, 2019, shows President Hassan Rouhani (2 l) attending a ceremony in the capital Tehran. **PHOTO: AFP**

TEHRAN — President Hassan Rouhani Tuesday told the United States to "take the first step" by lifting all sanctions against Iran, a day after US President Donald Trump said he was open to meeting.

"The step is to retreat from sanctions. You must retreat from all illegal, unjust and wrong sanctions against the nation of Iran," Rouhani said in a speech aired live on state television.

He said "the key for positive change is in the hands of Washington", because Iran had already ruled out ever doing what worries the US the most — building an atomic bomb.

"If honestly this is your only concern, this concern has already been removed" through a fatwa issued by supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, he said.

Khamenei is said to have issued a fatwa against nuclear weapons in 2003 and has reiterated it several times since.

"So take the first step. Without this step, this lock will not be unlocked," Rouhani said at a Tehran event marking the start of construction at a housing project.

The US unilaterally pulled out of a 2015 multilateral nuclear deal in May last year and subsequently reimposed biting sanctions. —AFP ■

30 years after Berlin Wall fell, dashed hopes boost far-right



Thousands protested in front of the giant bust of Karl Marx last year after a foreigner stabbed and killed a German national. **PHOTO: AFP**

CHEMNITZ — A giant Karl Marx statue towers in the east German city of Chemnitz but, 30 years after the Berlin Wall fell, another political wind is blowing here as the ex-communist city battles the image of a far-right hotbed.

Polls suggest that Sunday the region's voters will deliver strong gains for the anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD), an ideological ally of nationalist parties now ruling ex-Soviet bloc countries Poland and Hungary. That would rattle Chancellor Angela Merkel's coalition government and force the other parties to team up to form majorities. The AfD speaks to voters like Olaf Quinger, a 62-year-old butcher who voiced his fear and anger about the arrival of more than one million migrants in recent years. "The main problem is that people who are launching a kind of invasion of our country are being treated the same way as Germans," he said, standing at an AfD campaign booth. "That's a huge injustice." Many asylum-seekers have flashy smartphones, he said, and "very few of them are really refugees ... they are here to leech off the state".—AFP ■

Former human rights lawyer wins Nauru presidency

WELLINGTON — A former human rights lawyer was elected Nauru's new president Tuesday, following calls for widespread reform in the tiny Pacific nation which Australia uses as a detention centre for asylum seekers.

Lionel Aingimea (pix) won a parliamentary vote for the presidency 12-6 over rival David Adeang, the Nauru government information office said.

It comes in the wake of a general election last weekend that saw more than half of Nauru's 19 lawmakers swept from office, including two-term president Baron Waqa.

Adeang had been considered favourite to take the top job from Waqa, a strong supporter of Australia's hardline refugee policy. Australia's Lowy Institute think tank last year said the country of 11,000 "lurched towards authoritarianism" under Waqa's leadership.

His government made it difficult for international media to visit Nauru to report on conditions facing asylum seekers and pursued domestic political opponents through the courts, accusing them of rioting during a 2015 protest outside parliament.

Speaking before Aingimea's election to the presidency, opposition figure Mathew Batsiua said the general election was "a decisive win for change".

"Clearly people have had enough of ... a government that's been cracking down on the rights and freedoms of people," he told Radio New Zealand.

"People want a government that's more fair and that doesn't leave people behind."—AFP ■



Lionel Aingimea won a parliamentary vote for the presidency 12-6 over rival David Adeang, the Nauru government information office said. **PHOTO: FLICKR**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran jails British dual national for spying

TEHRAN – Iran has jailed a British dual national convicted of spying for Israel and upheld the sentence of a British Council staffer for "cultural infiltration", the judiciary said on Tuesday.

Anousheh Ashouri, a woman with British and Iranian citizenship, got 10 years in prison for feeding information to Israel's Mossad spy agency, judiciary spokesman Gholamhossein Esmaili said.

The latest Iranian national with a Western passport to be detained in the Islamic republic, she was also handed a two-year prison term for receiving 33,000 euros ($36,600) in illicit funds from Israel and ordered to pay the same amount in fines.

Her sentence came as Iran's judiciary confirmed a 10-year jail sentence against British Council staffer Aras Amiri for "cultural infiltration". Amiri was "sentenced to 10 years in jail... and she is already serving her term. This verdict has been upheld by the court," said Esmaili.—AFP ■

Liberia ex-central bank officials plead not guilty in graft scandal

MONROVIA – Five former Liberian central bank officials, including an ex-president's son, have pleaded not guilty to charges of money laundering and "economic sabotage" in a scandal over millions of dollars of newly printed cash.

A court in Monrovia, the capital of the impoverished West African country, said the group – accused of printing surplus banknotes worth 2.6 billion Liberian dollars (RM53.3 million) without authorisation – all asserted their innocence on Monday. Liberia's President George Weah vowed to tackle corruption when he came to office in January 2018, but has recently faced protests from citizens angry about graft, living standards and spiralling inflation. The Central Bank of Liberia is at the centre of a probe into the cash – materialised between 2016 and 2018 – which prosecutors say the ex-officials cannot account for.—AFP ■

China rises to world's largest goods trade country in 70 years

BEIJING — China's goods trade has posted robust growth in the past seven decades thanks to the country's reform and opening-up efforts.

Goods trade volume stood at only 1.13 billion US dollars in 1950, while the number surged to 4.6 trillion dollars in 2018, the National Bureau of Statistics said Tuesday in a report.

Average annual trade growth remained less than 10 per cent from 1950 to 1977 under the planned economy, but quickened to about 14.5 per cent after China started the reform and opening-up drive in 1978.

The country's goods trade only accounted for 0.8 per cent of the global total in 1978, while the number soared to 11.8 per cent in 2018.

China overtook the United States to become the world's largest goods trade country in 2013 for the first time.

The country has also seen fast inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI), keeping the crown of the developing economy with the biggest FDI inflow for 27 straight years, the report showed.—Xinhua ■



A China-Europe freight train bound for Belarus leaves Nanchang, east China's Jiangxi Province. **PHOTO:XINHUA**

Indonesia's state oil, gas firm registers 112-pct profit growth in H1



One of Pertamina's geothermal plants; part of Indonesia's plan to tap the vast power of its volcanoes. **PHOTO: AFP**

JAKARTA — Indonesia's state-run oil and gas firm Pertamina saw an enormous net profit growth of 112 per cent to 9.4 trillion rupiah (about 660 million US dollars) in the first half of this year, a Pertamina executive said on Monday.

Pertamina Finance Director Pahala Mansury said the net profit growth figure came up from 6-per cent Cost of Goods Sold (CoGS) reduction during the period if compared to that of in the same period last year.

CoGS reduction was, among other, caused by the declining of Indonesia Crude Price (ICP) to 63 dollars per barrel in the first half this year from 66 dollars in the same period last year, he added.

In upstream operation, Mansury said production of Pertamina crude oil reached 413 million barrels of oil per day (MBPOD) in the first half of this year, higher than 385 MBPOD in the same period last year.

"Our crude oil production grew 6 per cent year-on-year," Mansury said .

Pertamina managed to sell up to 34.1 million kilo liters of various fuels for public use in the first half this year, slightly higher than 33.9 million kilo liters in the corresponding period last year.

Mansury added that sales of fuels for non-public use, like diesel and aircraft fuels have risen to 8.3 million kilo liters in first half of this year from 7.9 million kilo liters in the same period last year.

Indonesia has stopped importing diesel and aircraft fuels since May as domestic demands on those fuels can be fulfilled by Pertamina from its productions, he said. —Xinhua ■

Announcement of Mr. San Hwang (Korea Citizen) and all

As far as I Know from my client, Knowing that you Mr. San Hwang (Passport No-M3472 8303), Visa (A-459596) (Business) are now living in Union of Myanmar, I have to let you know that my client Daw Htet Htet Thi is now facing with a great loss form the exporting roasted sesame powder which my client Daw Htet Htet Thi and Mr. San Hwang worked together at Ground Trading Company Limited. She is now willing you to act as the leading man to make a discussion with people dealing in this case.

According to the instruction of my client Daw Htet Htet Thi,

U MYO MYINT (BANK)
LL.B., D.B.L Advocate
No.83, Room (11), Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
Ph: 09-5167237, 09 785167237

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (029 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY. NO. (029 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28-8-2019 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC KYOTO VOY. NO. (933S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC KYOTO VOY. NO. (933S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28-8-2019 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 BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY. NO. (934W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BOX ENDEAVOUR VOY. NO. (934W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28-8-2019 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 KOTA HADIAH VOY. NO. (KHAD 0125 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HADIAH VOY. NO. (KHAD 0125 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28-8-2019 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 2301185

Supporting and promoting MSMEs in Myanmar – a personal thought

Zaw Min GNLM

MICRO, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and small & medium enterprise (SMEs) are deemed important as MSMEs and SMEs outnumber large companies by a wide margin and also employ many more people.

Earlier emphasis on industry and manufacturing MSMEs and SMEs are businesses whose personnel number fell below certain limits. The legal boundary of SMEs around the world varies. In Myanmar the Private Industrial Enterprise Law 1990 defines small and medium enterprises as enterprises using power (HP) from a small of 3 to 25 HP to a medium of 26 to 50 HP. Small enterprises had 10 to 50 workers while medium enterprises had 51 to 100 workers. Capital outlays range from Kyat 1 million for small enterprise and over 1 to 5 million Kyat for medium enterprise. Production value per year was set to Kyat 2.5 million for small enterprises. It was over Kyat 2.5 to 10 million for medium enterprise. As the name of the law itself was Private Industrial Enterprises Law, emphasis was placed on industry and manufacturing while more or less overlooking the role of SME in the service sector like transport.

Recognizing the role of service

2015 SME Development Law however recognizes the roles of sectors other than manufacturing by classifying SMEs into manufacturing, labour-intensive manufacturing, whole sale, retail, service and other as the following table shows.

Legal definition of SMEs according to the 2015 SME Development Law

Classification	Employees	Capital (K million)	Turnover (K million)
SMALL			
Manufacturing	**Up to 50**	**Up to 500**	
Labour-intensive manufacturing	**Up to 300**	**Up to 500**	
Wholesale	**Up to 30**		
Retail	**Up to 30**		**Up to 100**
Service	**Up to 30**		**Up to 50**
Other			**Up to 100**
MEDIUM			
Manufacturing	**51-300**	**500-1,000**	
Labour-intensive manufacturing	**301-600**	**500-1,000**	
Wholesale	**31-60**		**100-300**
Retail	**31-60**		**50-100**
Service	**31-100**		**100-200**
Other	**31-60**		**50-100**

(Source: Myanmar Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Survey 2017)

This was timely as supporting and promoting SMEs or MSMEs need to be targeted to the specific situation of the country itself.



Loaded trucks at a weighing station. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**



School buses being parked near a school in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Specific sector of MSME to support and promote

Back in 2008, data from Ministry of Industry show food and beverages occupying the largest sector of the industrial enterprises accounting for 65.36 per cent. Myanmar MSME Survey 2017 shows the food and beverage sector still occupying 57.7 per cent (food 55.2% and beverage 2.5%).

UNCDF (UN Capital Development Fund) Infographic Country Brief Myanmar 2016 points out that 77% of small enterprises in Myanmar were concentrated in transportation, storage, accommodation and food service activities.

As an agriculture country with the majority of the people in the agriculture sector, it is no wonder that the majority of enterprises, small and medium were agriculture related. As the agriculture products are required to be transported to the markets, it is also no wonder that there was a concentration of small enterprises in the transportation and storage sector.

As agriculture products are perishable with basic values only, enterprises in packaging, canning, preservation as well as value adding need to be promoted for the agriculture sector to develop further. Another set of data would support this even further.

Website of Ministry of Industry, Central Department of Small and Medium Enterprises Development post the top 100 SMEs



Employees packing paper boxes containing sauce bottles in Hlaingthayar Town





Labourers working at a workshop in Kawa Township, Bago Region. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

products but such individuals and small enterprises remain viable in the travel and tourism sector where they produce valued handicrafts and traditional crafts that mass production could not produce.

Financial service provided by Wave Money was the result of development in telecommunication and foreign investment of multi-national corporations but the immediate outcome was 45,000 Wave shops, basically small enterprises, providing money transfer service to 11+ million customers.

Just like individuals, countries have strengths and weaknesses. It is laudable to strengthen our weaknesses but the best is to utilize the strength we had. It would give us better benefit than putting in the same effort toward strengthening our weaknesses.

The strength of our country is its agriculture, its natural beauty and diverse cultures. We can easily strengthen our country by supporting MSMEs related to sectors like food processing, preservation, canning, packaging and transport. We can support MSMEs related to services promoting our natural beauty and diverse cultures.

Services such as transport, accommodation, catering, cultural artifact production etc. promotes our natural beauty and diverse cultures.

These are the industries or sectors in which our MSMEs can thrive and develop. And it is such MSMEs that we should promote and support. ■■■



Foundry worker pouring molten metal into casting mold in Kawa Township, Bago Region. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**



ship. **PHOTOPHOE KHWAR**

in Myanmar. 34 were food and food related while only 20 were non food related enterprises producing traditional and indigenous medicine, shoe, slippers, clothing etc. Not much was found in the industry sector as local MSME would not be competitive enough to the industry/manufacture related MSMEs in China, our neighbor country that was becoming the manufacturer for the world.

Development in telecommunication and promotion of travel and tourism sector could see further blossoming of MSMEs in the telecommunication, travel and tour sector. Handicrafts and traditional crafts, a specialty of individuals and small enterprises could not compete to mass produced



Trucks loaded with goods line up near Muse. **PHOTOPHOE KHWAR**

Myanmar secures third place in AFF Women's Championship

THE Myanmar women's national team won the third place in the 2019 AFF Women's Championship after beating the Philippines team by 3-0 yesterday at the IPE Stadium in Chonburi, Thailand.

The goals for team Myanmar were scored by Yee Yee Oo at 62 minutes, and Nu Nu at 66 minutes and 73 minutes.

"In the first half, our players tried hard but found it difficult to penetrate the defenders of the Philippines team as the weather was very hot. However, the desire to win and cooperation between old and young players helped our team play well in accordance with the instructions. The players must be congratulated for today's win," said U Win Thu Moe, the chief coach of the Myanmar team.

In the final match, Viet Nam beat Thailand 1-0, and won the championship.The winning goal for Viet Nam was scored by Huynh Nhu at 95 minutes (extra time). Myanmar's Yee Yee Oo emerged as the best goal scorer with 8 goals throughout the tournament, followed by Viet Nam's Huynh Nhu with 7 goals and Pham Hai Yen with 6 goals.

A total of nine teams took part in this year's tourney, which was held in Thailand from 15 to 27 August.

Thailand won the 2018 championship which was held in Indonesia, while Australia came second, Viet Nam third, and Myanmar fourth. — Kyaw Khin



Myanmar women's national team's players celebrate after scoring a goal during the match against the Philippines team in the 2019 AFF Women's Championship on 27 August. **PHOTO: MFF**

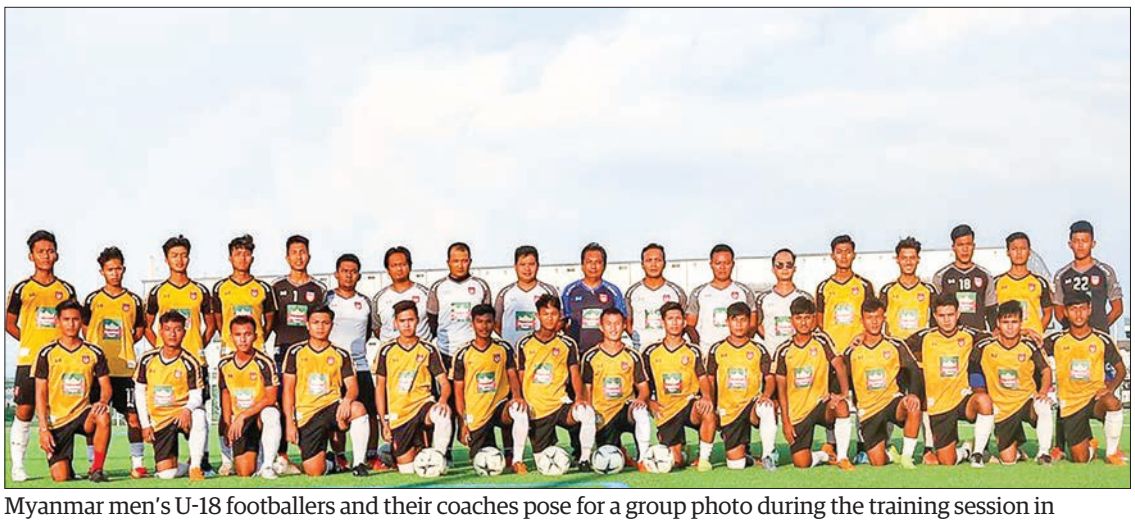
Myanmar to compete in Chinese Taipei Football Association Invitational Cup

THE Myanmar men's U-18 football team will compete in the Chinese Taipei Football Association Invitational Cup, which will be held from 28 September to 1 October at the National Stadium of Kaohsiung City in Chinese Taipei.

Host Chinese Taipei, Myanmar, Hong Kong, and Gibraltar will take part in the tourney. The teams will play one another in a round-robin format.

Myanmar will play against host Chinese Taipei on 28 September, Gibraltar on 30 September, and Hong Kong on 1 October.

Meanwhile, Gibraltar will take on Hong Kong on 28 September, Chinese Taipei will play Hong Kong on 30 September, and Chinese Taipei will face Gibraltar on 1 October, according to the Myanmar Football Federation. — Kyaw Khin



Myanmar men's U-18 footballers and their coaches pose for a group photo during the training session in Yangon. **PHOTO: MFF**

Naismith and Snodgrass recalled for crucial Scotland Euro qualifiers

LONDON(United Kingdom) — Experienced duo Steven Naismith and Robert Snodgrass were recalled to the Scotland squad by Steve Clarke on Tuesday for next month's challenging home Euro 2020 qualifiers with Russia and Belgium.

Naismith, who won the last of his 49 caps against Portugal in October last year, has been beset by injury problems and this term the 32-year-old forward has not played a full 90 minutes for Scottish Premiership side Hearts.

West Ham defender Snodgrass, 31, has not featured in a Scotland side since coming on as a substitute for his 26th cap in the 4-0 hammering by Belgium in a friendly in September 2018.

"He has good experience, Robert," said Clarke. "When I spoke to him over the summer he was very keen to come back on board. "He picked up a little injury last week but he let us know he was fine."

Despite the size of the task facing Scotland, who have conceded seven goals without scoring against Belgium in their last two outings, Clarke decided to give striker Leigh Griffiths more time to reintegrate into the Celtic team.—AFP ■

Week-26 remains, but MNL U-21 title already in MFF Youth's kitty

ALTHOUGH Week-26 matches remain to be played, MFF Youth was in a position to stake claim to the MPT Myanmar National League (U-21) 2019 title at the end of Week-25 itself, with a score of 54 points and second-placed Shan United lagging by five points.

Shan United, which has earned 49 points so far, will meet with MFF Youth on 31 August for their Week-26 match.

After it was defeated by Southern F.C. in Week-25, Shan United had to content itself with the second place.

The MPT Myanmar National League (U-21) 2019 will conclude at Week-26. Each team will play only one match in the final week. Before the Week-26 matches, there remains a postponed match from Week-21 scheduled between MFF Youth and Hantharwady F.C.

Yangon United F.C. is currently in the third place with 40 points and a nine goal difference, followed by Southern Myanmar F.C. with 40 points and a four goal difference. Magwe F.C. is fifth with 39 points. Therefore, Yangon United F.C., Southern F.C., and Magwe F.C. will have to vie for the third place.

Yangon United will play against Zwekapin F.C., Southern F.C. will take on Hantharwady F.C., and Magwe F.C. will face Rakhine United F.C. in Week-26. — Kyaw Khin



Rakhine United's player (red) and MFF Youth's players (yellow) vie for the ball during their Week-25 match of MPT Myanmar National League (U-21) 2019 on 26 August. **PHOTO: MNL**