

NATIONAL

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 31/2019

PAGE-4

NATIONAL

Central Bank of Myanmar releases Statement

PAGE-3

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 139, 5th Waxing of Tawthalin 1381 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Tuesday, 3 September 2019

Profile of President of the Republic of Korea, His Excellency Mr Moon Jae-in

HIS Excellency Mr Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, was born on 24 January, 1953. He completed his school education in Kyungnam High School, Busan and obtained the degree of L.L.B from Kyung Hee University, Seoul.

In 1982, he established a law office specializing in human rights and civil society with Roh Moo Hyun (the 16th President of Korea). From 2003 to 2005, he served as a



Senior Secretary to the President for Civil Affairs and Civil

Society Affairs. He has also served in various capacities; as Chief Secretary of the Blue House and Chairperson of the Promotion Committee for the 2nd South-North Summit in 2007, as a Chairperson of the Roh Moo Hyun Foundation in 2010, as Standing Co-representative of the Innovation and Integration in 2011, as a Candidate of the Democratic United Party for the 18th Presidential Election and

SEE PAGE-3

Profile of First Lady of the Republic of Korea, Mrs Kim Jung-sook

THE First Lady of the Republic of Korea, Mrs Kim Jung-sook, was born on 15 November, 1954. She studied at Sookmyung Girls' Middle and High School and pursued Bachelor's degree in Vocal Music at Kyung Hee University in Seoul.

Between 1978 and 1982, she was a Choir member of Seoul Metropolitan Chorus as a Choir member. In 2012, her work, "Jung-sookssi, Sesang-gwa Baramnada", was pub-



lished. She is blessed with a son and a daughter.

Hluttaw agrees on ratifying child soldier treaty

AT THE 19th-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session held yesterday, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agreed on ratifying Optional Protocol on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict also known as the child soldier treaty. A joint bill committee report on Education Research, Planning and Training Bill was also read and Hluttaw representatives discussed obtaining US\$ 51.2 million from Asian Development Bank (ADB) to fund rural road network project.

Joint Bill Committee report on Education Research, Planning and Training Bill

As a first agenda of the day a report of the Joint Bill Committee on its findings on Education Research, Planning and Training Bill,



SEE PAGE-2

Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session held its 19th-day meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL

Govt discusses plans to combat trafficking in persons with IOM

PAGE-2



NATIONAL

Dy SWRR Minister inspects quake-hit Shwebo District

PAGE-4



BUSINESS

Flood forces 15 schools to close in Taninthayi

PAGE-5



Hluttaw agrees on ratifying child soldier treaty

FROM PAGE-1

disagreed by the two Hluttaws, was read by committee member Daw Kyein Ngaik Man and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the bill to register their names.

Hluttaw discusses and agrees on ratifying child soldier treaty

Next Daw Thandar of Einme constituency, Dr Daw Shwe Pon of Bago constituency, U Nay Kyaw of Dagon Myothit (East) constituency, U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Papun constituency, Dr Tin Tin Win of Bago Region constituency 5, U Soe Win of Tamway constituency, U Sai Oo Khem of Hsenwi constituency, Dr Win Myint Chit of Bago Region constituency 8, Daw Hla Htay (a) Daw Ohn Kyi of Mandalay Region constituency 4, Daw Sha Mu of Kayah State constituency 5, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Col Aung Kyaw Moe, U



MP Daw Thandar of Einme constituency. PHOTO: MNA



MP Dr Daw Shwe Pon of Bago constituency. PHOTO: MNA



MP U Nay Kyaw of Dagon Myothit (East) constituency. PHOTO: MNA

San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3, Daw Khin Hnin Thit of Padaung constituency, Tatmadaw Amyotha Hluttaw representative Major Ye Naing Lwin, U Myint Naing of Rakhine State constituency 5, Daw Nan Than Than Lwin of Hpa-an constituency, Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Latt of Bago Region constituency 3, Daw Htu May of Rakhine State constituency 11 and U Oo Tun Maung of Pon-nagyun constituency discussed Myanmar ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention

on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict also known as child soldier treaty sent by the President.

In his discussion, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin said ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Child on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict would improve the images of Myanmar and the Tatmadaw while showing positive action of Myanmar in protecting and

promoting Rights of the Child. If Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agrees on ratifying the Optional Protocol, Myanmar can send a formal diplomatic note to the United Nations Secretary General Office in the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly to be held in September and supported for the Hluttaw to ratify it.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then obtained the Hluttaw's decision on the matter and announced Hluttaw agreeing to ratify the Optional Protocol.

Hluttaw discuss US\$ 51.2 million loan from ADB

As a final agenda of the day Daw Mya Khwar Nyo Oo of Shwedaung constituency, Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, U Tin Maung Win of Seikkan constituency, Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency, U Aung Thike of Seikphyu constituency, U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3, U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency, Daw Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region constituency 8, U Sa Khin Zaw Lin of Ayeyawady Region constituency 2 and U Chit Htwe of Magwe Region constituency 3 discussed acquiring US\$ 51.2 million from the Asian Development Bank as funding for the rural road network project to be implemented by Ministry of Construction that was sent by the President.

The 20th day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's 13th regular session will be held on 4 September. — Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant (MNA) ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Govt discusses plans to combat trafficking in persons with IOM



Union Minister for Social Welfares, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye holds talks with the delegation led by Mr Akio Nakayama Chief of Mission of the International Organization for Migration in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Social Welfares, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye received a delegation of International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Mr Akio Nakayama, the Chief of IOM Mission in Myanmar, led the delegation, and discussed providing assistance to trafficking survivors,

capacity building for anti-trafficking staff members, ongoing technical assistance to the ministry, welcoming the trafficking survivors back to Myanmar in cooperation with Thailand, rehabilitation programmes and reunion with their family members, and adopting standard operation procedures (SOP) for preven-

tion of human trafficking cases at the IDPs.

The meeting also focused on possibilities of signing two MoUs for anti-trafficking programmes with the Department of Rehabilitation and for loss reduction in disaster management. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Signing ceremony of MoU between Myanmar, Asia Foundation held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Asia Foundation was held at Park Royal Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw, at 2:00 PM yesterday.

At the signing ceremony, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of

Myanmar U Soe Han and Ms. Suzanne Eloise Siskel, Chief Operation Officer and Executive Vice President of the Asia Foundation, signed the MoU.

Also present at the occasion were Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General and officials from the departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and representatives from the Asia Foundation.—MNA ■



Permanent Secretary U Soe Han and Chief Operation Officer Ms Suzanne Eloise Siskel exchange notes at the MoU signing ceremony between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Asia Foundation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Central Bank of Myanmar
Statement
2 September 2019

The Central Bank of Myanmar has been ensuring the stability of the banking and financial sector, in line with international standards, through necessary instructions. The statement made by The Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar on 27 August 2019 at the 13th regular session of the second Pyithu Hluttaw does not fully reflect the position of the Central Bank. The Central Bank of Myanmar will continue to support discussions and interactions between banks and businesses. As the Lender of Resort, the Central Bank of Myanmar will provide the banks with necessary support and assistance as and when required. There is no necessity for the public to be concerned about the banking sector.

Profile of President of the
Republic of Korea, His
Excellency Mr Moon Jae-in

FROM PAGE-1

Member of 19th National Assembly in 2012, as a Standing Advisor of the Democratic United Party in 2013, as a Member of Interim Committee of the New Politics Alliance for Democracy and Chairperson of the Nuclear Plant Special Countermeas-

ure Committee in 2014, and as Chairperson of Democratic Party in 2015. In 2017, he was the Presidential Candidate of the Democratic Party for 19th presidential election and became the President of the Republic of Korea.

He is married to Mrs Kim Jung-sook and has a son and a daughter.

Information ministry organizes Cyber Wellness for the Youth workshop

THE Ministry of Information held a workshop titled Cyber Wellness for the Youth in Yangon yesterday.

As part of the ASEAN-Japan Media and Information Literacy for the Youth, the workshop aims to spread knowledge about cyber-crimes and cyberattacks among students and young people.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint delivered a keynote speech on the workshop which was held at the meeting hall of Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu road.

In his speech, the Union Minister said, "While the international countries are conducting cyber wellness campaigns for the young people, ASEAN member countries are also organizing media and information literacy events."

He also recognized the young people are using information technology in the various platforms of cyberspace to



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint delivers the speech at the workshop on Cyber Wellness for the Youth in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

explore political, economic and social affairs in timely manner.

After the speech, multimedia materials for cyber knowledge created by the Philippines were screened with a projector.

During the workshop session, officials from Ministry of Transport and Communications, UNESCO, Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Computer

Professionals Association and Myanmar ICT for Development Organization made discussions on the topics of relations between internet users and digital culture, media and information literacy among the youth in digital era, cybercrimes, cyber abuse, internet phobia, prevention against online privacy, advantages and risks of social media, internet security

and information scrutiny.

The speakers also replied to the questions of attendees at the workshop.

The Philippines proposed the project of the ASEAN-Japan Media and Information Literacy for the Youth to the ASEAN Secretariat in 2017 to promote cyber wellness, and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to

ASEAN (CPR) permitted the campaigns which have been holding since 2018 supported by the ASEAN Cultural Fund.

Myanmar is a member country in this project, and Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information prepared for holding the workshop to develop an ASEAN identity.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Mid-year Gems Emporium
to be held this month in
Nay Pyi Taw

THE Mid-Year Gems Emporium 2019 will be held at Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw from 16 to 25 September. Local and foreign journalists will be allowed to cover the event during the emporium, and sale data will be released and handed out to journalists on 25 September at the Nawarat Kothwel Gate of Maniyadana Jade Hall.

To cover the event, local and foreign journalists should register at the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Min-

istry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw by 12 September. Forms for journalists are available at the Copyrights and Registration Branch and the Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club. Detailed information is available at 067-412124, 067- 412125 of the News and Periodicals Enterprise, or at 067-414497 of the Administrative Affairs Committee of the Mid-Year Gems Emporium-2019. — MNA ■

(Translated by TTN)

Myanmar to extend one year for preliminary
visa exemption, visa on arrival schemes

MYANMAR will extend preliminary schemes of visa exemption and visa on arrival another one year for the visitors from Japan, South Korea, China and India to attract more tourists into the country, according to the announcement of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Visa exemption was preliminarily allowed for the visitors from Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Macao Special

Administrative Region of China from 1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 and Chinese citizens who enter Myanmar through airports enjoyed visa on arrival for the period. The scheme will be extended to from 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020.

Meanwhile, Indian citizens who took flights to Myanmar were permitted for visa on arrival (tourists) for one year

from 1st December 2018. The period will also be extended from 1st December 2019 to 30th November 2020.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism also informed that these visas application processes may follow the procedures of Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population. — MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein and Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung attend the meeting of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 31/2019

Meeting 31/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 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 Commit-

tee 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 representatives and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Dy SWRR Minister inspects quake-hit Shwebo District

THE Secretary of the National Disaster Management Committee and Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung visited areas affected by the recent earthquake in Shwebo District, Sagaing Region, yesterday.

The Deputy Minister first inspected the damaged pagodas in Sisongon Village, Padauk Chaung village-tract, and handed over donations to the presiding monk.

They then headed to Laungshay Village in KhinU Township and also inspected the damaged pagodas before meeting with local residents. The Deputy Minister instructed on proper procedures to follow when an earthquake strikes, explained the government's endeavours on disaster management, and distributed earthquake aware-

ness brochures.

Next, the Deputy Minister inspected the cracked walls of Sisonlay Village's middle school and arranged for the temporary classroom to receive adequate roofing.

From there, they went to Mankyeetaw Village (South) and Mankyeetaw Village (North) in YeU Township to inspect the diamond buds broken off from the local pagodas and handed over donations to the presiding monk.

The Deputy Minister then met with local authorities at the township general administration department's office. He said the Union Government and regional cabinet are planning to support the losses sustained from the earthquake.

The quake measured 6 on the Richter Scale and caused no

deaths nor loss of homes with only minor damage incurred, said Deputy Minister U Soe Aung. He said the damaged pagodas and religious buildings can be quickly restored if the local authorities and people worked together.

This was followed by the regional Hluttaw representative, Shwebo District Administrator and administrators of Shwebo, KhinU and YeU townships explaining the losses incurred and committee formations planned to respond to the incident.

Afterwards, the Deputy Minister handed over K3,300,000 from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to aid in restoration efforts to the respective township administrators. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Deputy Minister U Soe Aung meets local authorities at earthquake-hit areas in Shwebo District, Sagaing Region, yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association (MAWFA) Fundraising and Charity Bazaar to be held

WITH an aim to showcase diverse cultures, foods and national costumes of ASEAN as well as to promote public awareness of ASEAN and strengthen ASEAN unity, Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association (MAWFA) will organize "Fundraising and Charity Bazaar" at the Yangon Convention Centre, Inya Lake Hotel, in Yangon from 14 to 15 September 2019.

A variety of products, foods, handicrafts, jewelry, traditional costumes and textile from all ASEAN Member States will be displayed for sale at the Bazaar. The Charity Bazaar will be open



to the public with the fees of 1000 Kyats per person.—MNA ■

6.0-magnitude earthquake causes no damages to Thaphanseik Hydro Power Station, related facilities

MINISTRY of Electricity and Energy announced yesterday that the Saturday night earthquake did not cause any damages to power supply facilities of the Thaphanseik Hydro Power Plant.

The 6.0-magnitude earthquake, with its epicenter about 14 miles northwest of Shwebo, jolted Shwebo, Khin U and Ye U townships of the Sagaing Region at 9:39 pm on 31 August.

The facilities announced by the ministry includes infrastructures connected with the Thaphanseik Hydro Power Plant, 230-KV Nyaungpingyi Main Sub-Power Station, Ohn-

taw Main Sub-Power Station, 132-KV Kyaukpahto Main Sub-Power Station, Hngatpyawdaing Main Sub-Power Station and Aungchanthar Main Sub-Power Station, 230-KV Ohntaw-Nyaungpingyi Cable Line, 132 KV Nyaungpingyi-Monywa Cable Line and Thaphanseik-Hngatpyawdaing Cable Line, 66-KV Cable Line which is 151 miles long and 33-KV Cable line which is 792 miles long and other under-construction cable lines and sub-power stations including 230-KV Nabar-Shwebo-Ohntaw Cable Line and sub-power stations. — MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Flood forces 15 schools to close in Taninthayi



The school building is submerged by flood in Taninthayi Region. **PHOTO: NAN THAR YE HTAIN WIN**

WITH the water level in the Taninthayi River remaining above the danger mark in Taninthayi since 27 August, the town in southern Myanmar has experienced a second flood in this rainy season.

So far, the flood has forced

15 schools to close, according to the Taninthayi Township Education Department. The department closed seven schools on 30 August, four schools on 31 August, and four schools yesterday.

The second incidence of

flooding has affected over 4,000 students at the basic education level. The schools will hold classes for students on weekends to make up for the lost school days. — Nan Tharyi-HtainWin (IRPD) ■

(Translated by TTN)

Anti-Corruption Commission sends delegation to South Korea for training

AT the invitation of South Korea's Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC), a delegation of the Anti-Corruption Commission led by member U Khin Maung Myint departed for South Korea on 1 September to participate in an anti-corruption

workshop from the 2nd to 6th of this month. The workshop will take place at ACRC office in Sejong and the Anti-Corruption Training School in Cheongju. The workshop is part of a programme agreed to in

the memorandum of understanding signed between the anti-corruption commissions of both countries in May 2018. — MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Anti-Corruption Commission delegation led by member U Khin Maung Myint seen at the Yangon International Airport to participate in an anti-corruption workshop in South Korea. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgement, hear cases

Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo and all Union Supreme Court judges sat at the Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning and passed judgements on 13 special civil appeal cases. It also heard five special civil appeal cases. — MNA

(Translated by TTN)

Shwebo quake rattles Kuthodaw stupas



CRACKS have appeared on eight stupas in the compound of the Kuthodaw Pagoda in Mandalay after the 6-magnitude earthquake at 9:39 pm on 31 August. The earthquake's epicentre was 14 miles northwest of Shwebo and caused cracks on stupas No. 212, 213, 355, 444, 494, 496, 497 and 499. The Mahalawka Marazein

Kuthodaw Pagoda is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage. Deputy Director U Kyaw Zan of the Archaeology and National Museum Department and engineers U Nyan Lin Htay and U Win Htay inspected the affected stupas yesterday. — Tin Maung (MDY Sub-printing House) (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Kyaikmaraw residents relocated from rising water levels

THE Attayan River rose up to 454 cm yesterday morning after a week of continuous downpour in Kyaikmaraw Township, Mon State, since 25 August and flooded the houses and schools of low-lying areas a second time. The Kyaikmaraw Youth Philanthropic Group, led by U Saw Htoo Lay, managed to

relocate young students and numerous items of the local BEHS branch school away from the rising water. Likewise, residents of Shinsawpu Ward began relocating to higher ground due to fears of a second flood with the increasing water level. — Cho Myat Myat Htwe (Kyaikmaraw) (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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Over 200-million-year-old dinosaur fossil found in Lashio

THE discovery of a dinosaur fossil, estimated to be over 200 million years old, in 2018 at the Yebawhaung mountain in the west of Lashio Town, northern Shan State, shows dinosaurs and extinct reptiles once lived in Myanmar, as per research conducted at the Yadanabon University.
“The fossil was discovered by the Department of Geology, Yadanabon University, in 2018 and it is believed to belong to an extinct reptile Pachypleurosaur, which resembled lizards.

The fossil is estimated to be 210-230 million years old. They were elongate animals, ranging from 20 cm to about a metre in length, with small heads and long necks.

They ate fish,” said Dr Maung Maung Naing, the Rector of the Yadanabon



Fossil of dinosaur discovered in Lashio. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

University.

“This is the first time that an over 200 million years old dinosaur fossil has been discovered in Myanmar. It is a milestone for Myanmar’s geology. The discovery has proved that

dinosaurs and extinct reptiles roamed in Myanmar.

More research studies will be carried out in cooperation with foreign geologists,” he said.

The discovery of the fos-

sil has been published in the Acta Palaeontologica Polonica journal, in cooperation with experts from the University of Edinburgh, the UK, said Dr Khaing Khaing San, the Professor of the Geology Department, Yadanabon University, who found and wrote research paper of the fossil.

“That Pachypleurosaur was mostly found in the Yunnan and Quanzhou provinces of China and Europe.

The discovery of the fossil helps contribute to learning. It brings potential for further discovery as well,” she added.

The origins of the fossil have been identified. However, further studies for scientific classification of the fossil and more discovery tours are being planned. —Min Htet Aung (Mandalay sub-printing house) (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Offshore fishing vessels asked to install monitoring systems by October-end

THE Myanmar Fisheries Department has asked offshore fishing vessels operating in the maritime fishing zone to install vessel monitoring systems (VMS) by 30 October.

Although the no-fishing season ended without vessels installing monitoring systems and the new season has begun from 1 September, the Fisheries Department has allowed fishing vessels to operate and given them two months (1 September to 30 October) to get VMS installed. The move is aimed at improving the livelihood of fishermen and boosting the export sector, said officials.

Fishery companies and owners of fishing vessels have not received the price and information details of the VMS equipment, in spite of a Thai Company introducing VMS machines with videos on 31 August at the Myeik District Fisheries Department, according to officials at the department.

“There are no fishing



Fishing vessels mooring in Myeik. PHOTO: KHINE HTOO (IPRD)

vessels with VMS machines in Myanmar’s marine fishing area, and the department has already asked them to install the systems by the end of October. The VMS can be installed by the concerned department. Fishermen may face difficulties in terms of

increased ice and oil requirements, if they have to return for installing VMS machines,” said U San Maung, the chair of the Myeik District Fisheries Federation.

Located in the southern part of Myanmar, the Taninthayi

coastal zone is the longest of the three coastal areas of Myanmar. There are 1,202 offshore fishing vessels and 20,987 offshore fishermen operating in the area, as per records taken in the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Over 600 fishing vessels headed out to sea on 1 September, the start of the fishing season, according to the department.

“As per recent records, no VMS machines have been imported. Once they are brought in, we will check their quality and issue instructions on their installation. We may face difficulties in getting VMS machines installed because we don’t have accurate information about them,” added U San Maung.

The authorities are working to equip all vessels with VMS in order to monitor the movement of offshore fishing vessels, preserve the ecosystem, and conserve marine life in Myanmar’s maritime zone. — Khine Htoo (IPRD)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Muse women’s vocational training school awards certificates to trainees

THE Women’s Vocational Training School held a certificate presentation ceremony at 9 am on 30 August for its 55th batch of basic domestic science trainees and the 52nd batch of advanced tailoring students in Muse Town of northern Shan State.

The school is currently of-

fering tailoring courses to local women with the aim of improving their lives. Daw Nan Saw Yin, the headmistress of the school, said 1,099 out of the school’s 2,318 students, who have passed the respective courses, can conduct their business on a manageable scale. “The school is offering vo-

cational training courses to young women free of charge, and providing all necessary aids. Sewing machines are also being sold to students under an instalment system,” she said.

District Administrator U Hlaing Soe Thant delivered a speech at the ceremony. A total

of 90 trainees, including 74 trainees from basic domestic science course and 16 from advanced tailoring course, were handed over certificates, and clothes and handicrafts produced by trainees were displayed at the event. — Salai Van Yoe Than (IPRD)

(Translated by La Wonn)

UMFCCI Centennial International Expo to be held on 20-22 September at Fortune Plaza

By Aye Yamone

THE UMFCCI Centennial International Expo will take place on 20-22 September at the Fortune Plaza (Myanmar Expo) in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The expo is supported by the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Commerce, and the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations.

Dr Maung Maung Lay, the vice president of the UMFCCI, made the remarks at a press conference held yesterday at the UMFCCI office.

Myanmar's local products, valued added, and semi-finished products from the respective regions and states will be showcased at the expo, he said.

The expo will feature 200 exhibitors from Germany, the Netherlands, Japan, the Republic of Korea, China, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, China (Taipei), and Myanmar, and it is expected to host around 30,000 to 50,000 visitors.

The objective behind the expo is to showcase the investment potential of Myanmar to international and local exhibitors, and to link Myanmar exporters with foreign buyers, said U Myo Thant, the secretary of the central committee of the event.

Exhibitors engaged in textiles, packaging, agriculture, industrial logistics, supply chain management, international transportation (air/sea/road), warehousing, software development, online payment solutions, electrical appliance building material, security materials, interior design, cosmetics, health and beauty,

garments and fashion, gems and jewellery, auto parts such as car, bicycle, and motorcycle spare parts will display their products at the expo.

Local SMEs who have previously won local expos and fairs will be allowed to exhibit products for free. Additionally, 35 stalls will be provided free of charge to UMFCCI's associates.

The expo will also include a product promotion conference, one-to-one business matching, and seminars. Interested visitors and exhibitors can find further information on www.umfccicentennialexpo.com.

The UMFCCI was founded in 1919. There are 77 associates under the umbrella of UMFCCI which is a national level non-governmental organization (NGO) representing and safeguarding the interests of the private sector. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Number of companies registered on MyCO exceeds 67,000 as of end-August: DICA

THE number of companies registered on the online registry system, MyCO, reached 67,762 as of end-August, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

Registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August, 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017. Since then, more than 21,000 new companies and 46,000 existing companies have registered and re-registered on MyCO. As on end-August, the total number of registered companies was 67,762. Over 90 per cent of companies have submitted applications for registration online, while the rest have filed their applications manually, according to data from the DICA.

MyCO is receiving more than 1,000 applications from new companies every month, according to the DICA.

The DICA had set a six-month deadline from 1 August, 2018 to 31 January, 2019 for registration and re-registration. At the time, it had said that companies which failed to re-register would be struck off from the register list.

Over 60,000 companies were previously registered in Myanmar and all of them were notified to re-register on MyCO. When the deadline closed, 46,377 old companies had re-registered on MyCO and over 10,000 compa-

nies had failed to do so.

After the deadline ended, companies which wanted to restore their corporate status were asked to shell out a fee and provide sufficient reasons, according to the DICA.

According to regulations, companies had to give reasons why they had failed to register before the deadline. They were also required to shell out a fine after the lapse of the six-month deadline, said an official from the DICA.

As per Chapter III of the notification 66/2018 issued by the Ministry of Planning and Finance on 23 July, 2018, if an existing company failed to re-register on the electronic registry system within the deadline, the registrar could strike its name off the register and publish a notice in the Gazette. Once the notice was published, the company would be dissolved, while the liability of the directors and the members of the company would continue to be enforced.

Under Section (d) of Chapter III, a registrar could restore an existing company or corporate body which had failed to re-register, if it provided sufficient cause before its name was struck off the register. Such companies were to be restored after they shelled out a fee prescribed by the Union Minister. —GNLM ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Manufacturing exports up \$1.6 bln



A file photo shows workers seen on a production line at a garment factory in Hlinethaya.

PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

EXPORTS of finished industrial goods touched a high of US\$8.76 billion between 1 October and 23 August in the current financial year, an increase of \$1.6 billion compared with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

As per figures provided by the Ministry, the exports of finished industrial goods totalled \$7.15 billion during the same period in the 2017-2018FY.

Myanmar's manufacturing sector is largely concentrated in

garment and textiles produced on the cutting, making, and packaging basis, and it contributes to the country's GDP to a certain extent.

The CMP industry has emerged as a very promising one in the export sector. The value of CMP exports was just \$850 million in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, but it tripled within two years to reach \$2.5 billion in the 2017-2018FY, as per figures provided during the Myanmar Global Investment Forum 2018, held on 12 September.

In the last mini-budget (April-September, 2018), exports of clothes made under the CMP system were valued at \$2.27 billion.

Japan is the largest market for Myanmar apparel, followed by the European Union.

There are currently over 400 garment factories in Myanmar, which employ more than 300,000 workers. Investors prefer to invest in cheap-labour countries like Myanmar. —Mon Mon ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

The four objectives (of the 2019's Anti-trafficking in Persons Day):

1. To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combating human trafficking as a national duty;
2. To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
3. To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
4. To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders – government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.

circulation@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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We should always be prepared against erratic quakes

EARTHQUAKES are in the category of natural disasters whose impact cannot be mitigated. They vary in size, with the damage they cause only increasing the larger they get.

There have been significantly adverse earthquakes in each century of Myanmar’s long history. We’ve seen moderately strong earthquakes annually these past few years as well. There was the Tarlay earthquake in 2011, Thabeik Kyin earthquake in 2012 and particularly strong ones in Kalay and Chauk in 2016.

The National Earthquake Preparation and Response Plan was introduced recently. We must prepare the necessary strategies, action plans, implementations, laws, rules, regulations and awareness campaigns to protect ourselves from earthquakes.

And with the recent flooding and strong winds rocking this rainy season, there is even less focus on earthquakes. But they are not seasonal and can occur at any time of the year. Experts predict them to be the biggest natural disaster issue for Myanmar in the long run. No matter the case, it is well advised to be properly prepared against and respond to earthquakes should they occur.

The National Earthquake Preparation and Response Plan was introduced recently. We must prepare the necessary strategies, action plans, implementations, laws, rules, regulations and awareness campaigns to protect ourselves from earthquakes.

Natural phenomena are changing and we should be prepared to reduce casualties. We must shield our homes and lives from these unpredictable earthquakes and reduce the damage they cause as much as possible.



A Wake-up Call for Everyone, Natural Hazards

Than Htun (Myanmar Geosciences Society)

A widely accepted definition characterizes natural hazards as “those elements of the physical environment, harmful to man and caused by forces extraneous to him.” (Burton et.al.,1978). More specifically, the term “natural hazard” refers to all atmospheric, hydrologic, geologic (especially seismic and volcanic), and wildfire phenomena that, because of their location, severity, and frequency, have the potential to affect humans, their structures, or their activities adversely. The qualifier “natural” eliminates such exclusively manmade phenomena as war, pollution, and chemical contamination. Hazards to human beings not necessarily related to the physical environment, such as infectious disease, are also excluded from consideration here.

Notwithstanding the term “natural,” a natural hazard has an element of human involvement. A physical event, such as a volcanic eruption, that does not affect human beings is a natural phenomenon but not a natural hazard. A natural phenomenon that occurs in a populated area is a hazardous event. A hazardous event that causes unacceptably large numbers of fatalities and/or overwhelming property damage is a natural disaster. In areas where there are no human interests, natural phenomena do not constitute hazards nor do they result in disasters. This definition is thus at odds with the perception of natural hazards as unavoidable havoc wreaked by the unrestrained forces of nature. It shifts the burden of cause from purely natural processes to the concurrent presence of human activities and natural events.

Although humans can do little or nothing to change the incidence or intensity of most natural phenomena, they have an important role to play in ensuring that natural events are not converted into disasters by their own actions. It is important to understand that human intervention can increase the frequency and severity of natural hazards. For example, when the toe of a landslide is removed to make room for a settlement, the earth can move again and bury the settlement. Human intervention may also cause natural hazards where none existed before. Volcanoes erupt periodically, but it is not until the rich soils formed on

their ejecta are occupied by farms and human settlements that they are considered hazardous. Finally, human intervention reduces the mitigating effect of natural ecosystems. Destruction of coral reefs, which removes the shore’s first line of defence against ocean currents and storm surges, is a clear example of an intervention that diminishes the ability of an ecosystem to protect itself. An extreme case of destructive human intervention into an ecosystem is desertification, which, by its very definition, is a human-induced “natural” hazard.

Subsidence
Hydrologic
Coastal flooding
Desertification
Salinization
Drought
Erosion and sedimentation
River flooding
Storm surges
Volcanic
Tephra (ash, cinders, lapilli)
Gases
Lava flows
Mudflows
Projectiles and lateral blasts
Pyroclastic flows
Wildfire

removed, geologic investigations, good engineering practices, and effective enforcement of land-use management regulations can reduce landslide hazards. It is also important to understand the science of landslides – their causes, movement characteristics, soil properties, the geology associated with them, and where they are likely to occur.

Myanmar occupied 676,578 square kilometres (261,227 sq mi) in size. Approximate half of the landscape is covered in hilly terrains, plateaus and mountain ranges. Annual rainfall in the delta region is approximately 2,500 mm (98.4 in), while average annual rainfall in the Dry Zone in central Myanmar is less than 1,000 mm (39.4 in). Global warming means more evaporation from the oceans, build-up of more rain clouds and increase rainfall in the future. Central Myanmar lies within the complex zone of collision between the tectonic plates called Indo-Australian Plate and the Eurasian Plate. The collision is highly oblique and much of the plate convergence is accommodated by right lateral strike slip dextral faults, of which the largest is the north-south trending Sagaing Fault and well known earthquakes occurred during 2011 and 2012. There is a real potential for causing deep seated and large scale landslides. High risk areas should be inspected and measures taken to save lives and prevent disasters (Michael Tin, 2017).

Landslides

The term landslide includes slides, falls, and flows of unconsolidated materials. Landslides can be triggered by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, soil saturated by heavy rains or groundwater rise, and river undercutting. Earthquake shaking of saturated soils creates particularly dangerous conditions. Although landslides are highly localized, they can be particularly hazardous due to their frequency of occurrence. Classes of landslide include:

- Rockfalls, which are characterized by free-falling rocks from overlying cliffs. These often collect at the cliff base in the form of talus slopes which may pose an additional risk.
- Slides and avalanches, a displacement of overburden due to shear failure along a structural

feature. If the displacement occurs in surface material without total deformation it is called a slump.
- Flows and lateral spreads, which occur in recent unconsolidated material associated with a shallow water table. Although associated with gentle topography, these liquefaction phenomena can travel significant distances from their origin.

The impact of these events depends on the specific nature of the landslide. Rockfalls are obvious dangers to life and property but, in general, they pose only a localized threat due to their limited areal influence. In contrast, slides, avalanches, flows, and lateral spreads, often having great areal extent, can result in massive loss of lives and property. Mudflows, associated with volcanic eruptions, can travel at great speed from their point of origin and are one of the most destructive volcanic hazards.

There is a wide variety of names for the denudational processes whereby soil or rock is displaced along the slope by mainly gravitational forces.

- “mass movement”
- “slope movement”,
- “landslide”

Landslide: “the movement of a mass of rock, debris or earth down the slope” (Cruden, 1991).

The occurrence of slope movements is the consequence of a complex field of forces (stress is a force per unit area) which is active on a mass of rock or soil on the slope.

Movement occurs when the shear stress exceeds the shear strength of the material. Difference with soil erosion. The consequence of these forces in conjunction to the slope morphology and the geotechnical parameters of the material define together the specific type of landslide which might occur.

Landslide definition

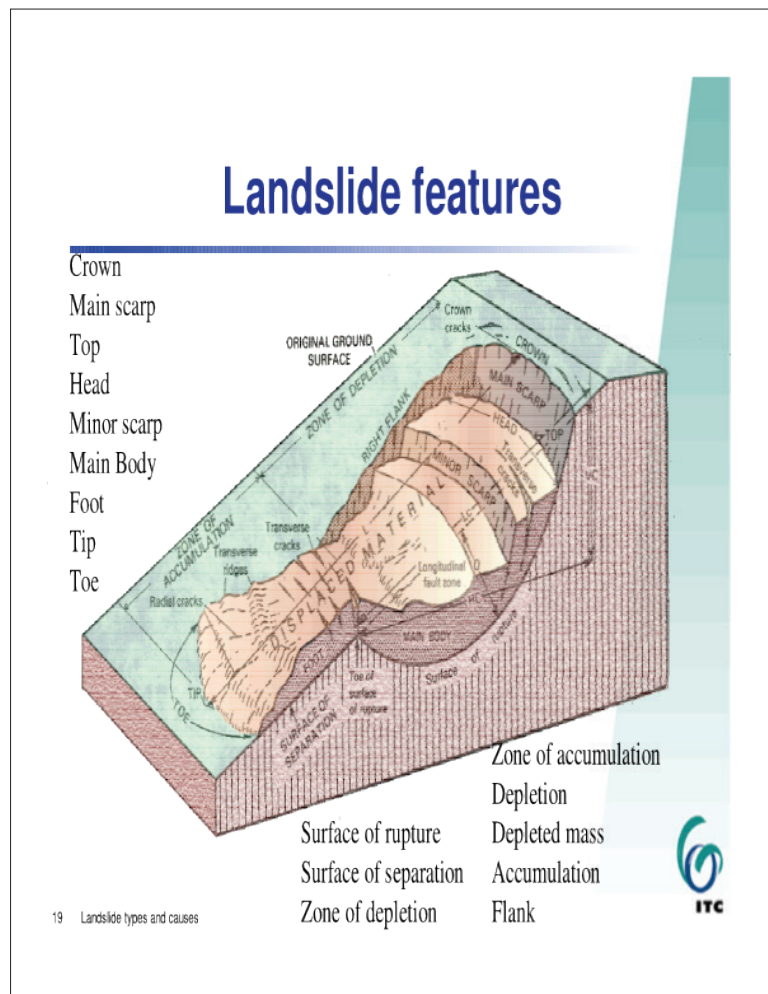
Landslide is defined as the movement of a mass of rock, debris or earth down the slope, when the shear stress exceeds the shear strength of the material.

Landslide causes

The occurrence of landslides is the consequence of a complex field of forces (stress is a force per unit area) which is active on a mass of rock or soil on the slope. Basically, the two main determinative parameters are:

- An increase of shear stress
- A decrease of material strength
- An increase of shear stress
- Removal of lateral and underlying support (erosion, previous slides, road cuts and quarries)
- Increase of load (weight of rain/snow, fills, vegetation)
- Increase of lateral pressures (hydraulic pressures, roots, crystallisation, swelling of clay)
- Transitory stresses (earthquakes, vibrations of trucks, machinery, blasting)
- Regional tilting (geological movements).

SEE PAGE-10



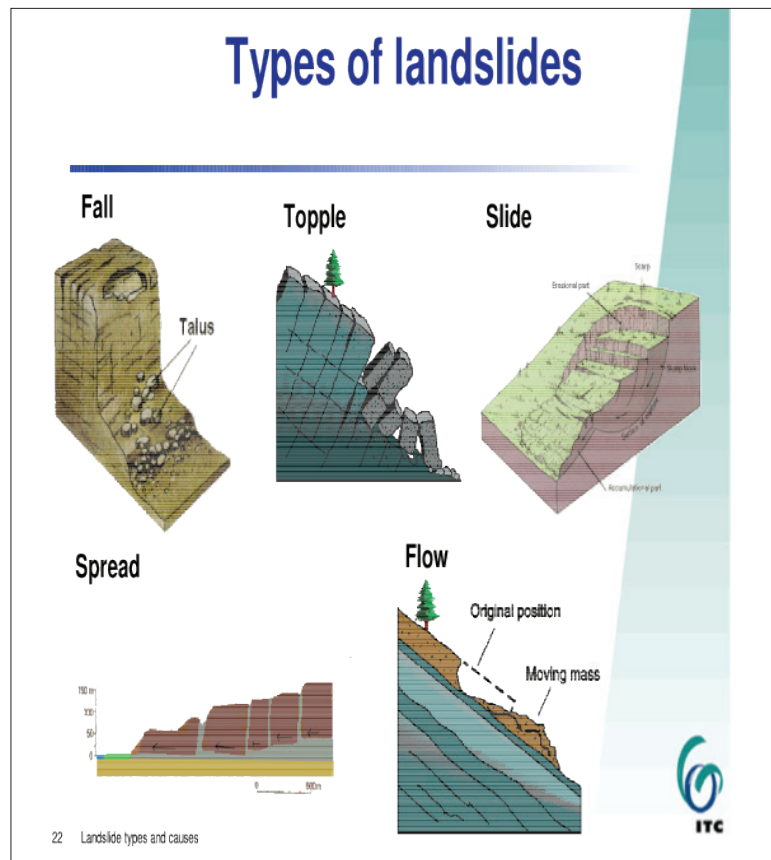
Potentially Hazardous Natural Phenomena

Atmospheric
Hailstorms
Hurricanes
Lightning
Tornadoes
Tropical storms
Seismic
Fault ruptures
Ground shaking
Lateral spreading
Liquefaction
Tsunamis
Seiches
Other Geologic/Hydrologic
Debris avalanches
Expansive soils
Landslides
Rock falls
Submarine slides

Brush
Forest
Grass
Savannah

Of all above natural hazards landslides are a serious geologic hazard common to almost all the country on the continents. As people move into new areas of hilly or mountainous terrain, it is important to understand the nature of their potential exposure to landslide hazards, and how cities, towns, and counties can plan for land-use, engineering of new construction and infrastructure which will reduce the costs of living with landslides.

Although the physical causes of many landslides cannot be



President’s Office continues announcement of illegal drug arrests, seizures acting on tip-offs

The Office of the President issued Press Release No. 33/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs’ arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 31 August.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 31 August.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 4 September issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar.—GNLM

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Head of service organization appointed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Aung Kyaw Zan, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Deputy Director-General), from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Union Minister’s office, as Director-General of the Consular and Legal Affairs Department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 2 September 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over the Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 3 September 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing Region, fairly widespread in Mandalay and Magway regions, Northern Shan State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavyfall in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states and isolated heavyfalls in Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi regions and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

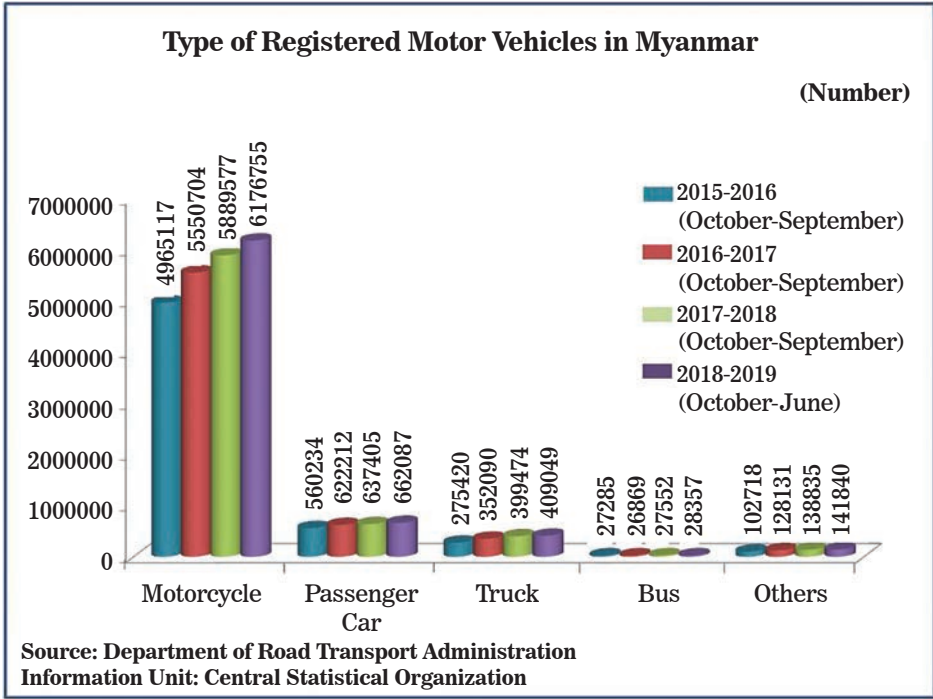
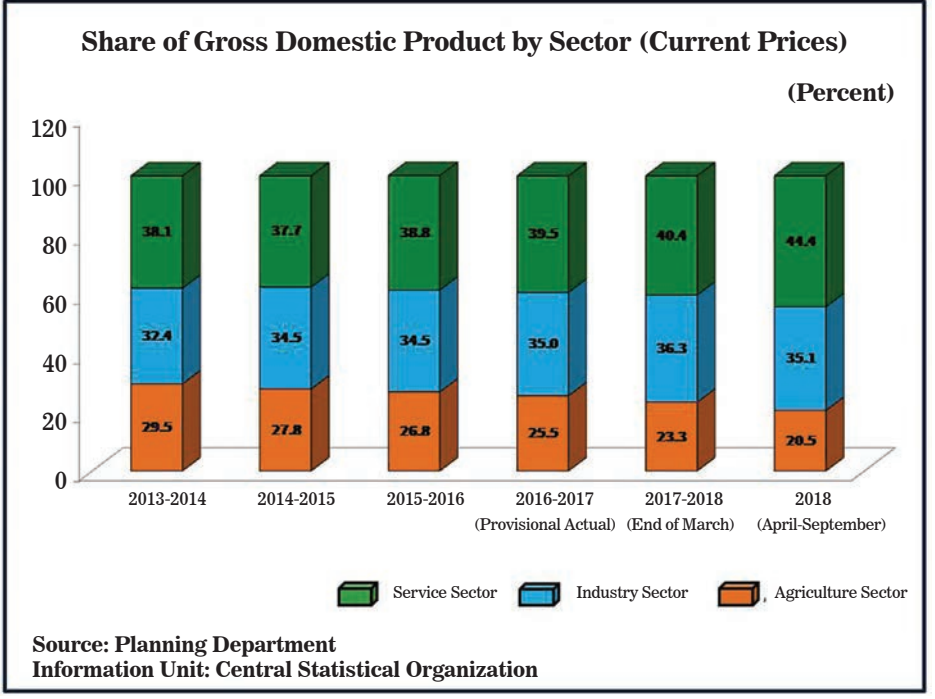
STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Wave height will be about (9 –13) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

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

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 September 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 September 2019: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 September 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).



A Wake-up Call for Everyone, Natural Hazards

FROM PAGE-9

A decrease of material strength

- Decrease of material strength (weathering,
- Change in state of consistency)
- Changes in intergranular forces (pore water pressure, solution)
- Changes in structure (decrease strength in failure plane, fracturing due to unloading)

Checklist of causes

- Geological causes
- Morphological causes
- Physical causes
- Human causes

Impact of landslides

- Increased urbanization and development in landslide-prone areas
- Continued deforestation of landslide-prone areas

- Increased regional precipitation caused by changing climate patterns

Economic losses due to landslides

- Direct Costs:
- Repair, replacement or maintenance resulting from damage to property or infrastructure due to landslides
- Indirect Costs:
- Loss of productivity and revenues
 - Reduced land value
 - Loss of tax revenues
 - Landslide mitigation measures
 - Adverse effect on water quality/ sedimentation/ siltation of reservoirs
 - Loss of human or animal productivity because of injury/ trauma
 - Secondary effects, such as landslide-caused flooding

Landslide Classification

The following factors can be used and have been used to classify landslides:

- Material: Rock, Soil Lithology, structure, Geotechnical properties
- Geomorphic attributes: Weathering, Slope form
- Landslide geometry: Depth, Length, Height etc.
- Type of movement: Fall, Slide, Flow etc
- Climate: Tropical, Periglacial etc.
- Water: Dry, wet, saturated
- Speed of movement: Very slow, slow etc.
- Triggering mechanism: Earthquake, rainfall etc.

Hutchinson's (1988) Classification of landslides:

- Rebound. When ground is unloaded, either artificially by encavation or naturally by erosion, the unloaded area

responds, initially elastically and subsequently by slow swelling (Peterson, 1958)

- Creep. Any extremely slow movements which are imperceptible except through long-period measurement
- Sagging of mountain slopes. A general term for these deep-seated deformations of mountain slopes, which, in their present state of development, do not justify classification as landslides.
- Landslide. Relatively rapid downslope movements of soil and rock, which take place characteristically on one or more discrete bounding slip surfaces which divide the moving mass.
- Debris movement of flow like form. Term covering five types of movement of flow-like form, which differ markedly in mechanism: non-periglacial mudslides,

periglacial mudslides, flow slides, debris flows and sturzstroms.

- Topple. A movement that occurs when the vector of resultant applied forces falls through, or outside a pivot point in the base of the affected block.
1. References: Cees van Westen International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), Enschede, The Netherlands.
 2. Burton, I., Robert W. Kates and Gilbert F. White. The Environment as Hazard (New York: Oxford University Press, 1978).
 3. Michael Tin, 2017. Understanding Landslides, Application of Geotechnical Engineering and Groundwater Hydrogeology Principles.



Rain causes heavy damage, triggers landslide in Kawthoung

CONTINUOUS and heavy rainfall, accompanied by strong winds, on Sunday morning caused considerable damage in the wards and village-tracts of Kawthoung Township, Taninthayi Region, and triggered a landslide in the township. The number of casualties could not be confirmed.

Bridges and trees collapsed, roofs were destroyed, and five houses were damaged

in the landslide. Officials from the Township and Ward Administration departments inspected disaster-hit areas. The Disaster Management Department shifted victims to safer areas and provided them aid.

In addition, the Fire Services Department, the Red Cross Society, and locals removed the debris and participated in recovery operations. — Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)
(Translated by La Wonn)



Landslide occurs in Kawthoung Township, Taninthayi Region due to heavy rainfall. PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)

Seven countries land Haneda airport slots ahead of Tokyo Olympics



File photo shows Tokyo's Haneda airport. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

TOKYO — Seven countries including China, Russia and Australia have won 26 of the 50 new international slots created at Tokyo's Haneda airport in the run-up to next year's Olympic and Paralympic Games, transport ministry officials said Monday.

Finland, India, Italy and Turkey have also been handed slots, alongside one region, Scandinavia. Sweden or Denmark is likely to get that regional opening.

The remaining 24 slots had already been allocated to flights to and from the United States, as the government tries to at-

tract 40 million foreign visitors to Japan in 2020.

The additional slots will be in service daily from late March.

Airlines will decide which cities they will fly to, according to the officials at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

Flights to and from China will receive eight slots, those to and from Russia and Australia will get four each, and the others will get two each, the officials said, adding that — except for China — the slots will go into service for the first time during the airport's daytime from 6 a.m. to 10:55 pm.

Japanese airlines will receive half of the 50 slots, with All Nippon Airways Co. landing 13.5 of them and Japan Airlines Co. getting 11.5.

New flight paths over central Tokyo will be introduced in the spring of 2020, as the government plans to increase the number of international flight slots from about 60,000 to 99,000 before the Tokyo Games. Located about 15 kilometers from central Tokyo, Haneda was the world's fifth-busiest airport in terms of total passenger traffic in 2018, according to the Airports Council International. — Kyodo News ■

Argentina imposes exchange controls to calm markets

BUENOS AIRES (Argentina) — The government of President Mauricio Macri on Sunday imposed foreign-exchange controls on Argentine exporters at the end of a week of financial uncertainty that saw a sharp drop in the value of the peso.

Exporters were ordered to seek permission from the Central Bank of Argentina before purchasing foreign currency, according to a decree published in the Official Bulletin. In other measures, transferring money abroad will now require government permission. And individuals seeking to buy dollars now face a monthly limit of 10,000 greenbacks.

But there are no restrictions on people withdrawing dollars from their bank accounts — a practice known here as the “cor-

ralito,” applied in late 2001 and the spark for the worst economic and political crisis in Argentine history. All these new measures will be in place until December 31.

Last month, markets were rattled when pro-business Macri suffered a huge setback in primary elections, and his leftist opponent in October presidential elections Alberto Fernandez emerged as the favorite.

The decree published Sunday said the currency measures were needed temporarily to “regulate more intensely the currency exchange regime and strengthen the normal functioning of the economy.” Argentina has been in recession since 2018, and is battling rising unemployment and one of the world's highest inflation rates, running at more than 55 per cent. —AFP ■

China's overnight Shibor interbank rate drops Monday

BEIJING — The overnight Shanghai Interbank Offered Rate (Shibor), which measures the borrowing cost of China's interbank market, decreased 2.2 basis points to 2.55 per cent on Monday.

The seven-day Shibor dropped 1.2 basis points to 2.653 per cent. The one-month rate remained unchanged at 2.661 per cent, while the one-year

rate fell 0.1 basis points to 3.05 per cent.

Shibor is a simple, no-guarantee, wholesale interest rate calculated by arithmetically averaging all the interbank yuan lending rates offered by the price quotation group of 18 commercial banks with a high credit rating, with the four highest and four lowest quotations excluded. — Xinhua ■

Tokyo shares fall on renewed US-China trade war concerns

TOKYO — Tokyo stocks fell Monday amid subdued trading on renewed concerns about a further escalation of the trade war between the United States and China as the two countries slapped additional import tariffs on each other over the weekend.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ended down 84.18 points, or 0.41 per cent, from Friday at 20,620.19. The broader Topix index of all First Section issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange finished 6.65 points, or 0.44 percent, lower at 1,505.21.

Decliners were led by mining, land transportation, and farm and fishery issues, with trading volume on the main section falling to 802.81 million

shares, the lowest level since 4 January, 2005, from Friday's 1,207.62 million shares.

A cautious mood dominated the market throughout the day after Washington on Sunday slapped 15 per cent tariffs on \$112 billion worth of Chinese imports, while Beijing immediately responded with the imposition of up to 10 per cent tariffs on some US goods on the \$75 billion target list, brokers said.

Declines were limited, however, because traders took to the sidelines to see the magnitude of the latest tariffs' initial impact on US stock markets, which will reopen Tuesday following a national holiday on Monday, they said. — Kyodo News ■

UK manufacturing hits seven-year low

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Britain's manufacturing activity slumped last month, in part owing to heightened economic and political turmoil triggered by Brexit, data showed Monday.

The sector was plagued also by the US-China trade war impacting the global economy, according to the IHS Markit UK Manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI).

The index dived to 47.4 in August, which was the lowest level since July 2012, languishing below the 50 mark that indicates growth. Market expectations had been for an August print of 48.4, after 48 in July.

“High levels of economic and political uncertainty alongside ongoing global trade ten-

sions stifled the performance of UK manufacturers in August,” said Rob Dobson, director at IHS Markit. “Business conditions deteriorated to the greatest

extent in seven years, as companies scaled back production in response to the steepest drop in new order intakes since mid-2012.” —AFP ■



British manufacturing moved further into contraction last month, according to a survey. PHOTO: AFP

Moon lander separates from India's Chandrayaan-2 orbiter

NEW DELHI — The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Monday said that Vikram Lander has successfully separated from India's second moon mission Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter.

ISRO said in a statement that, "The Vikram Lander successfully separated from Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter at 1315 IST today (Sept. 2). The Vikram Lander is currently located in an orbit of 119 km x 127 km. The Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter continues to orbit the Moon in its existing orbit."

ISRO added that all the systems of Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter and Lander are healthy. Launched on 22 July, Vikram Lander will attempt to make a soft-landing on the Lunar surface on 7 September.

The lander has been named in honor of the father of Indian space research program Vikram Sarabhai—Xinhua ■



Moon lander separates from India's Chandrayaan-2 orbiter. **PHOTO: AFP**

Int'l IoT conference to kick off in China

HANGZHOU — The conference on the Internet of Things (IoT) for Industry and Energy will open in the city of Wenzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province on 10 September.

There are 12 exhibition areas including smart new energy, smart industry and new

materials in the four-day conference, which will display the latest achievements in 5G, IoT for industry and energy and other technologies.

The conference will exhibit cutting-edge IoT technologies and applications of 5G with big data technologies and IoT plat-

forms, said Wang Chi, deputy mayor of the city.

The event is jointly hosted by the China Federation of Industrial Economics, China Machinery Industry Federation, the city government of Wenzhou and other institutions. —Xinhua ■

Baby born to brain-dead mother in Czech Republic

PRAGUE (Czech Republic) — A healthy baby was born in the Czech Republic to a mother who had been brain-dead for nearly four months, doctors said Monday.

The baby girl was born by cesarean section in the 34th week of pregnancy last month, 117 days after her mother was declared brain dead, doctors at University Hospital in the second Czech city of Brno told a press conference.

The girl, weighing 2.13 kilos (four pounds 11 ounces), is "one of the heaviest and most mature babies born to a brain-dead mother," said Roman Gal, the hospital's head anaesthesiologist.

The mother was declared brain dead after suffering a haemorrhage in April when she was 16 weeks pregnant.

Doctors kept her heart, lungs, kidneys and other organs working while monitoring the foetus. Nurses "talked" to the foetus, while her grandmother read her fairytales and a therapist moved the mother's legs to simulate walking, Gal added.

The mother's life-support system was turned off after the birth. The baby is being breastfed by her aunt, who also has a baby.

In a similar case in Portugal, a baby boy was born to a brain-dead mother in 2016.—AFP ■



File photo shows a mother holds the foot of her newborn baby. **PHOTO: AFP**

Circus reinvented in Montreal, this time with high-tech vibe

MONTREAL (Canada) — Montreal — the Canadian city that spawned the global juggernaut Cirque du Soleil — has once again reimagined the circus, this time tapping into the rich animation and video game production talent found in the Quebec metropolis.

In the old port district, between a giant bridge over the Saint Lawrence river and a Ferris wheel, two strange white pyramids sprouted up this summer — an edgy 21st century big top.

They are part of the latest act from Guy Laliberte, the founder of the venerable Cirque du Soleil who, after selling his company to Chinese and American investors in 2015, started a new venture: Lune Rouge (Red Moon).

That company is behind the strange pyramids of PY1, a show that blends acrobatics and multimedia flair with vibrant sounds, lasers, 360-degree projections and special effects.

"Montreal is undeniably the circus capital of the world, but is also becoming known as a

hub for creative entertainment," says Lune Rouge's artistic director Jean Guibert.

Its first show, "Through the Echoes," tells audience members in a jam-packed 60 minutes

"the story of the creation of the universe up to now," according to Guibert, a Frenchman who came to Canada in the early 2000s to work for Cirque.

What does that mean in real terms?

The interior of the main big top is turned into a giant four-sided screen, where abstract images are projected, accompanied by a voiceover about our collective cosmic history to an electro-pop soundtrack.

Beyond the actual show, the PY1 venue is transformed on some nights into a massive futuristic dance club. In the morning, it's used as a huge yoga studio.

In the fall, the 600-seat white pyramids will be moved from Montreal to Miami, where augmented reality glasses will be handed out to showgoers to watch virtual actors and acrobats leap off the screens. —AFP ■



People perform during "The Minutes" at the Montreal Cirque Festival on 14 July 2019 in Montreal, Quebec, where thirty-two acrobats took over the street for a traveling performance. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pope Francis to visit poor of Mozambique, Madagascar, Mauritius

VATICAN CITY (Holy See) — Pope Francis flies out on Wednesday for a week-long tour visiting three Indian Ocean African countries hard hit by poverty, conflict and natural disaster.

The pope will visit Mozambique and Madagascar, as well as Mauritius, countries visited by pope John Paul II in 1988 and 1999.

Commentators see the pope's decision to visit two of the most impoverished countries in the world as an act of solidarity from a cleric who was a frequent presence in the shanty-towns of Argentina.

Mozambique is first on his tour, and the pope recorded a video message in Portuguese for the people there ahead of his tour, mentioning John Paul's visit.

But the man known as the "pope of the poor" will only have time to visit the



Pope Francis recorded a video message in Portuguese to the people of Mozambique ahead of his visit. PHOTO: AFP

countries' three capitals.

That will disappoint those in Mozambique's city of Beira, in the centre of the country, where Cyclone Idai killed at least 600 people and left hundreds of thousands homeless in March.

Six months on, many people are still homeless and lacking a regular source of food.

"I was hoping the pope would come and walk on Beira's soil," 45-year-old

Maria da Paz told AFP, while taking comfort in the fact that some victims of the disaster would be in Maputo to meet the pontiff.

The pope, in his video message, anticipated the disappointment.

"Although I am unable to go beyond the capital, my heart reaches out to all of you, with a special place for those of you who live in difficult situations," he said, adding: "You are all in my prayers." —AFP ■

China-proposed BRI to benefit all participating countries: Malaysian PM

PHNOM PENH — Visiting Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said here on Monday that the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will benefit all participating countries.

The BRI, a reference to the Silk Road Economic

Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, was proposed by China in 2013 with the aim of building a trade, investment, and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient trade routes. So far, 126 countries and 29 inter-

national organizations have signed up to the initiative.

Speaking at an open dialogue with students at the state-run Royal University of Phnom Penh, Mahathir said the BRI will help bring countries closer to each other and improve trade among them. —Xinhua ■

159 people arrested in Hong Kong over weekend violence: police

HONG KONG — The Hong Kong police had arrested 159 people for the massive violence in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) at the weekend, a police spokesman said on Monday.

The arrested included 132 males and 27 females, aged between 13 to 58, Tse Chun-chung, chief superintendent of Police Public Relations Branch, told a

press conference.

They were suspected of unlawful assemblies, possessions of offensive weapons, and assaulting and obstructing police, Tse said. Another eight suspects had been arrested on Monday morning over charges of possession of offensive weapons and breaching an injunction order by court after radical protesters disrupted

the operations in different MTR stations, Tse said. The latest arrests brought the total number of arrests to 1,117 after widespread unrest ripped through Hong Kong and caused mayhem since early June, he said.

Among the arrests, 16 suspects who were charged with rioting on Saturday had appeared at the court on Monday afternoon. — Xinhua ■

UK PM Johnson threatens Brexit purge in pivotal week

LONDON (United Kingdom) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson raised the stakes Monday in a pivotal week of the Brexit saga by threatening to purge ruling party lawmakers who try to block a no-deal divorce with the EU. The warning came as heavyweights from the governing Conservatives such as former finance minister Philip Hammond plotted a way to keep the premier from taking Britain out of the European Union on 31 October without an agreement.

Johnson insists he must keep the chaotic option open to try to persuade Brussels to relent at the last moment and agree a better economic deal for Britain.

He poured more oil on the political fire by deciding last week to suspend parliament — a legal but highly contentious manoeuvre — for more than a month.

As a result, pro-European lawmakers will have just days to try to tie Johnson's hands and avoid a painful split from

Brussels when they return from their summer break on Tuesday.

"It would be entirely unreasonable for MPs, having rejected the previous deal three times, to attempt to bind the hands of the PM as he seeks to negotiate a deal they can support," the prime minister's spokesman told reporters.

A Downing Street source told AFP that Johnson will be meeting his cabinet later on Monday.

'Last chance'

Johnson has upturned political traditions and inflamed passions on both sides of the Brexit chasm since taking over from Theresa May in July.

His strategy of counter-punching his domestic opponents and playing a game of chicken with Brussels has helped his flagging party to shoot back up to the top of opinion polls.

But he enjoys a majority of just one in parliament — a margin that has prompted many to assume that he wants Brexit to happen by any means

possible and then to hold a general election.

"Tomorrow's possible vote is an expression of confidence in the government's negotiating position to secure a deal and will be treated as such," the Downing Street source said.

Trying to stop Johnson will be tricky for MPs like Hammond and pro-European lawmakers from opposition parties who each have their own political interests in mind.

Their first step on Tuesday will see them try to seize power from the government over what legislation is put up for a vote. Success would then

see them draft — and pass — legislation by next week that obliges Johnson to secure a Brexit extension at an October 17-18 EU summit.

Almost two dozen moderate Conservatives have backed similar attempts in the past.

They will be relying on support of the main opposition Labour Party and pro-EU lawmakers from the Scottish National Party and the resurgent Liberal Democrats.

"We must come together to stop no-deal," Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn told his supporters outside the northern city of Manchester. —AFP ■



Britain's new Prime Minister Boris Johnson has a majority of just one in parliament. PHOTO: AFP

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC MERGUI VOY. NO. (935W/936E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC MERGUI VOY. NO. (935W/936E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 03-09-2019 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 LILY QUEEN VOY. NO. (042 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V LILY QUEEN VOY. NO. (042 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 03-09-2019 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 INTER ASIA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

US, ASEAN kick off 1st joint naval exercise off Thailand

CHONBURI (Thailand) — The first naval exercise between the United States and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations began Monday in the Gulf of Thailand.

The five-day ASEAN-U.S. Maritime Exercise involves at least eight ships and four aircraft, as well as more than 1,200 personnel from the United States and all 10 ASEAN

countries.

At the opening ceremony at Sattahip naval base in Thailand's Chonburi Province, Vice Adm. Chareonpol Koomrasi, the Royal Thai Navy Fleet's chief of staff, said the exercise is aimed at enhancing the capability of ASEAN naval forces in dealing with maritime threats and natural disasters.

He cited drugs, illegal

arms trade and human trafficking as examples of such threats.

Rear Adm. Kenneth Whitesell, deputy commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, said the exercise will strengthen collaboration between ASEAN and the United States in ensuring the stability of a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

—Kyodo News

Cambodian opposition leader marks 2 years of arrest, vows to struggle

PHNOM PENH — The president of Cambodia's forcibly dissolved opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party marked two years of arrest Monday by saying he remains determined to continue struggling and making sacrifices for the nation.

Posting on his Facebook account, Kem Sokha, who was released from jail on bail last year but remains under house arrest in Phnom Penh, said, "I know that life that is adhering to democratic principles and the role of the opposition leader will meet countless dangers and pain."

"I am willing to sacrifice for this nation," he added. Kem Sokha described how around midnight on Sept. 2, 2017, "the armed forces stormed into my home and separated me from my wife, who had

no idea where they were taking me and what they would do to me." "The cries of my wife...were the most painful," he said, recalling also the cries of his mother and other family members when his father was taken away by the Khmer Rouge in the middle of the night in 1975.

"I am acutely aware of the pain of being caught unfairly, and I am even more aware that the most tragic ones are families, who don't know where their father and husband are taken to," he added.

Following his arrest on treason charges, Kem Sokha spent over a year in a prison near the Vietnamese border before being transferred back to his home in Phnom Penh and put under house arrest.

He has yet to be put on trial.

Following his arrest, the CNRP was dissolved by a court order and 118 of the party's leaders were banned from politics for five years.

Its dissolution enabled the Cambodian People's Party of Prime Minister Hun Sen to win all 125 seats in the National Assembly in the general election held 29 July, 2018. To date, many of those banned politicians are in self-exile abroad.

Sam Rainsy, acting CNRP president, has vowed to return home on Nov. 9 together with senior colleagues despite repeated warnings that he would be arrested upon arrival. He faces a number of conviction cases, mostly for disinformation and defamation filed against him by CPP leaders including Hun Sen. — Kyodo News ■

Japan, India to hold foreign, defense minister talks by year-end



File photo shows Japanese Defence Minister Takeshi Iwaya. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

TOKYO — Japan and India will hold their first "two-plus-two" foreign and defense ministerial talks by the end of the year to strengthen security cooperation, Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya said Monday.

"Security and defense cooperation between Japan and India is vital not only for the two countries but also for regional stability," Iwaya told reporters after meeting with Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Tokyo.

Iwaya said they agreed that the two countries will work hard toward an early conclusion of an acquisition and cross-servicing agreement, or ACSA, which allows them to share defense capabilities and supplies including fuel and ammunition.

Last October, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and

his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi agreed to institute the two-plus-two talks by upgrading their vice-ministerial level framework.

The upgraded security talks will be held before a meeting between Abe and Modi, which is expected to take place by the end of the year, according to Iwaya.

At the outset of the meeting, he told Singh that Japan wants to work closely with India based on the two countries' commitment to a "free and open Indo-Pacific."

Japan's vision for the initiative that stresses the importance of the rule of law has been promoted by Abe's government amid China's growing assertiveness in regional waters. Singh said Japan is "one of our closest partner countries," emphasizing that their strategic partnership, based on shared values and interests, is "becoming more important."

Iwaya said they also discussed recent missile launches by North Korea and China's military activities.

The previous meeting between Japan and India's defense chiefs was held in New Delhi in August last year when Japan's Itsunori Onodera and India's Nirjala Sitharaman agreed to start talks on an ACSA. Singh later met with Abe, who said, "I'm glad that the bilateral defense cooperation has been developing." — Kyodo News

S Korea lawmaker grills official nominee for not giving birth

SEOUL (South Korea) — A South Korean lawmaker provoked outrage Monday when he berated a female economics professor nominated as the country's antitrust chief for not "fulfilling her duty to the nation" by having a child.

Despite its economic advances, South Korean society remains highly patriarchal and is facing a demographic crisis with women increasingly reluctant to have babies for reasons ranging from the expense of child-rearing to career setbacks.

The government has spent billions of dollars since 2005 to try to boost the birth rate — one of the world's lowest — by providing child subsidies and expanding daycare services, without success.

Jeong Kab-yoon, a five-time



The global #MeToo movement has unleashed an unprecedented wave of female-led protests in South Korea. **PHOTO: AFP**

lawmaker from the conservative opposition Liberty Korea Party, sparked an outcry when he

scolded Joh Sung-wook, an unmarried academic who is in her mid-50s, for not having children.

"I'm aware that you are still single and the biggest problem in South Korea is that (women)

are not giving birth," Jeong said at Joh's confirmation hearing to head the Fair Trade Commission, according to Yonhap news agency. "You have a great resume but please fulfil your duties to the nation," Jeong added.

Joh appeared taken aback but did not react to his remark.

Social media users, though, were furious. "This is an outright sexual assault and a violation of women's rights," one wrote.

Another asked: "Would a male nominee have faced this question?"

The country's total fertility rate — the number of children a woman is expected to have in her lifetime — dropped to 0.98 in 2018, far short of the 2.1 needed to maintain population stability. —AFP

‘Catastrophic’ Dorian pounds Bahamas, US evacuates coast

RIVIERA BEACH (United States) — Hurricane Dorian battered the Bahamas with ferocious wind and rain on Sunday, the monstrous Category 5 storm wrecking towns and homes as it churned on an uncertain path toward the US coast where hundreds of thousands were ordered to evacuate.

There was no immediate word on casualties in the low-lying islands.

But the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) called the storm’s impact “catastrophic”.

Packing sustained winds of 165 miles per hour (270 kph) with a towering 18 to 23 foot (5 to 7 metre) storm surge, Dorian crashed over the Abacos Islands, in the northwest Bahamas, as the strongest storm ever to hit the Caribbean chain.

It was tied for the second most powerful hurricane ever in the Atlantic basin, the US National Weather Service said — with footage on social media showing major destruction from howling gusts of wind and pounding seawater.

Video posted on the website of the Bahamian newspaper Tribune 242 showed water up to the roofs of wooden houses in what appeared to be a coastal town. Capsized boats floated in

muddy brown water dotted with wooden boards, tree branches and other debris.

After days of nerve-wracking uncertainty surrounding the storm’s path, the southeastern US states of Florida, Georgia and South Carolina finally ordered hundreds of thousands of coastal residents to evacuate.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) said the storm will be “dangerously close” to the Florida coast Monday night through Tuesday.

On Sunday night, the eastern part of Grand Bahama was experiencing the eye wall of the storm.

The NHC said the situation on that island was life-threatening and would only worsen overnight.

“Do not venture out into the eye, as winds will suddenly increase after the eye passes,” the NHC warned in its 0500 GMT update. Bahamas Prime Minister Hubert Minnis broke down in tears at a news conference, calling it “probably the most sad and worst day of my life,” the Nassau Guardian reported.

“We’re facing a hurricane... one that we’ve never seen in the history of the Bahamas,” he said.

As of 0600 GMT, the storm was 35 miles (50 kilometers) east of Freeport on Grand Bahama



Waves picking up as Hurricane Dorian approached on 1 September 2019 in Nassau, the Bahamas. PHOTO: AFP

and moving slowly west, according to the NHC.

“It feels like we are standing in a line waiting for a beating,” Yasmin Rigby, a resident of Freeport, the island’s main city, told AFP. Initial rapid emergency assessments, carried out by the IFRC and local authorities, said as many as 13,000 buildings may have been damaged or destroyed by Dorian.

Sune Bulow, head of the IFRC Emergency Operations Centre in Geneva, said: “We don’t yet have a complete picture of what has happened. But it is clear that Hurricane Dorian has had a catastrophic impact.”

Strongest storm to hit Bahamas

NHC director Ken Graham said the Bahamas would be under major hurricane conditions for a punishing 30 hours or more — enduring roaring winds and torrential rainfall of 15 to 20 inches, even 30 inches in places.

In Washington, President Donald Trump met with his emergency management chiefs and declared “this looks monstrous.”

“We expect that much of the eastern seaboard will be ultimately impacted and some of it very, very severely,” he said.

Florida issued its first

evacuation orders in parts of Palm Beach, home of Trump’s Mar-a-Lago resort, and Martin Counties.

South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster followed suit Sunday ordering mandatory evacuations of the state’s coast — affecting some 800,000 people — while Georgia gave orders to evacuate six coastal counties. Both orders take effect Monday at noon. “Given the strength and unpredictability of the storm, we must prepare for every possible scenario,” McMaster said.

Neighboring North Carolina has also declared a state of emergency.—AFP ■

Berlin zoo delights in rare birth of panda twins

BERLIN (Germany) — Berlin zoo said Monday its resident panda Meng Meng had delivered twins, as it voiced delight at the first such births in the country.

“Meng Meng became a mom - twice! We are so happy, we are speechless,” the zoo said on Twitter, also posting a video of the new mother guiding one of her pink babies to feed.

The births are particularly rare as it is notoriously hard to breed pandas.

The panda delivered its first cub on Saturday evening. About an hour later, a second baby was born. “Meng Meng and her two cubs coped well with the birth and are all in good health,” zoo director Andreas Knieriem said.

At birth, the pink cubs, with their fine white down and disproportionately long tails, bear little resemblance to the adult black and white bears. Their genders have not been determined, the zoo said, although the two cubs weighed in at 136 and 186 grams.

On loan from China, Meng Meng and male panda Jiao Qing arrived in Berlin in June 2017 to great fanfare. Famed for its “panda diplomacy”, China has dispatched its national treasure to only about a dozen countries as a symbol of close relations.

The zoo pays \$15 million (13.4 million euros) for a 15-year contract to host them, with most of the money going towards a

conservation and breeding research programme in China. While the cubs are born in Berlin, they remain Chinese and must be returned to China within four years after they have been weaned. China has previously given three pandas to Germany but the last one, 34-year-old Bao Bao, died in Berlin in 2012, having become the oldest male panda in the world.—AFP ■



The file photo taken on 10 July 2017 shows female giant panda Meng Meng eating some bamboo in her enclosure at the Zoologischer Garten zoo in Berlin. PHOTO: AFP

China’s ‘Belt and Road’ risks Paris climate goals: analysis

PARIS (France) — Carbon-heavy development in countries part of China’s Belt and Road Initiative could render the Paris climate goals unreachable, according to a new analysis on the gargantuan global infrastructure project released Monday.

The massive network of ports, railways, roads and industrial parks spanning Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe will see trillions invested in new infrastructure across 126 countries.

While the Chinese state is putting up a significant part of the cash, the project will also see other national and private-sector investment, and opponents warn of its devastating environmental impact. An analysis of the possible carbon footprint of infrastructure development in Belt and Road (BRI) countries said there was a significant risk

of the initiative alone producing enough greenhouse gas emissions to derail the Paris climate goals. The 2015 accord enjoins nations to cap temperature rises to “well below” two degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels.

The Tsinghua Center for Finance and Development said that the 126 Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) countries excluding China currently account for 28 per cent of manmade emissions.

It modelled the effects of different approaches to the development of megaports, pipelines, train lines and highways in 17 BRI countries. It found that countries such as Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia would need to lower carbon emissions 68 percent by 2050 compared to current trajectories in order to keep the world on course to 2C of warming.—AFP ■

23 footballers chosen for U-23 squad; to play training matches in Thailand

VELIZAR POPOV, the head coach of the Myanmar national U-23 football team, has released the list of 23 players selected to play training matches in Thailand, according to the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

The Myanmar National League was temporarily suspended for about one month as the national football team took part in the FIFA World Cup qualification. The national U-23 football team was also being trained in a camp since

19 August.

The 23 players selected for the U-23 squad are goalkeepers San Satt Naing and Phone Thitsar Min, and defenders Zin Ye Naung, Aung Wunna Soe, Htoo Khant Lwin, Kyaw Phyo Wai, Ye Yint Aung (1), Ye Min Thu, Hein Phyo Win, and Kyaw Thu Tun.

Midfielders selected on the team are Kyaw Myo Naing, Myo Min Phyo, Nay Moe Naing, Myat Khaung Khant, Wai Lin Aung, Aung Niang Win, Kaung

Htet Soe, and Soe Lwin Lwin, and forwards are Aung Kaung Man, Htet Lin Lin, Win Naing Tun, Hein Htet Aung, and Thant Zin Myint.

The Myanmar U-23 football team will play training matches against the Singha Chiangrai United team on 5 September and the Chiangmai team on 8 September at the Singha stadium in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand, which is the home ground of the Singha Chiangrai United team. — Kyaw Khin

Darmian leaves Man United to join Parma

ROME (Italy) — Italy full-back Matteo Darmian has joined Parma after four seasons with



Darmian spent four years with Manchester United. **PHOTO: AFP**

Manchester United, the Serie A club announced on Monday.

The 29-year-old joined United from Torino in 2015, but fell out of favour after his first season and made only 14 Premier League appearances across the last two campaigns.

Parma said Darmian had signed a four-year deal, but did not reveal the transfer fee.

Darmian played 92 matches for United in total, scoring one goal, and has made 36 international appearances.—AFP ■

Van Dijk, Ronaldo and Messi shortlisted for FIFA award

ROME (Italy) — Liverpool centre-back Virgil van Dijk is on the shortlist to add FIFA's best player award to his UEFA Men's Player of the Year honour.

The Dutch international denied Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi for the European title last week and the same trio are in the running for the FIFA accolade to be announced in Milan on 23 September. Van Dijk starred in Liverpool's triumphant Champions League campaign.

England full-back Lucy Bronze won UEFA's women's award and is on FIFA's shortlist with the United States' World Cup-winning duo Megan Rapinoe and Alex Morgan.

Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola is up against Liverpool's Jurgen Klopp and Mauricio Pochettino of Tottenham for best men's coach.

Phil Neville, who led England's women to a World Cup semi-final, is up for the women's coach award with the USA's Jill Ellis and Sarina Wiegman who

guided European champions the Netherlands to the World Cup final.

FIFA Best shortlists

Men's player:

Cristiano Ronaldo (Juventus/Portugal), Lionel Messi (Barcelona/Argentina), Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool/Netherlands)

Women's player:

Lucy Bronze (Lyon/England), Alex Morgan (Orlando Pride/USA), Megan Rapinoe (Reign FC/USA)

Men's coach:

Pep Guardiola (Manchester City), Jurgen Klopp (Liverpool), Mauricio Pochettino (Tottenham)

Women's coach:

Jill Ellis (USA), Phil Neville (England), Sarina Wiegman (Netherlands)

Women's goalkeeper:

Christiane Endler (Paris St-Germain/Chile), Hedvig Lindahl (Wolfsburg/Sweden), Sari van Veenendaal (Atletico Madrid/Netherlands)—AFP ■

England's Nowell suffers World Cup fitness setback

LONDON (United Kingdom) — England's Jack Nowell has suffered a setback ahead of the World Cup after having his appendix removed.

The Exeter wing spent four nights in hospital after experi-

encing pain following his arrival at England's training camp in Treviso last week.

He had an operation and was released on Sunday to continue his recovery.

Nowell has yet to make

an appearance in England's first three World Cup warm-up games as he recovers from the ankle injury sustained in the English Premiership final.

He will not be involved in Friday's clash against Italy, leaving England's tournament opener against Tonga on 22 September in Sapporo as his potential comeback match.

"Jack was sick. He had appendicitis and came out of hospital yesterday. He's nice and hungry. He's in good spirits and is back running," defence coach John Mitchell said on Monday.

"It's a sickness that you can't deal with too much and you lose a bit of weight, but we back Jack. It's about being supportive and making sure he gets healthy.

"His general ankle progression is in line with where he needs to be. He's right on target for us. I don't know how much weight he's lost but he looks lean."—AFP ■



England's wing Jack Nowell runs in their first try during the Six Nations international rugby union match between England and Scotland at the Twickenham, west London, on 16 March 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

Brighton's Andone joins Galatasaray on loan

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Brighton striker Florin Andone joined Turkish champions Galatasaray on a season-long loan on Monday.

Romania international Andone endured a difficult spell with the Premier League club and Albion boss Graham Potter has allowed him to leave for more regular first-team action.

Brighton have an option to recall Andone in January as part

of the agreement.

The 26-year-old came off the bench to score in Brighton's win at Watford on the opening day of this season, but was sent off on his first start this term against Southampton.

"We feel this loan to Galatasaray gives Florin the opportunity to go and play regularly, which he's found difficult here," Potter told Brighton's website.

"He also has the prospect of

Champions League football. We wish Florin well for the season ahead, we have the option of a recall in January and we will closely monitor his progress."

Andone, capped 26 times by Romania, joined Brighton from Deportivo La Coruna in July 2018.

He scored six times in 30 appearances in all competitions, making just nine Premier League starts.—AFP ■



Van Dijk won the UEFA Men's Player of the Year award last week. **PHOTO: AFP**