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Myanmar, Korea launch industrial complex, hold business forum



South Korean President Moon Jae-in, Vice President U Myint Swe and dignitaries strike a ceremonial stake to signify the beginning of the Myanmar-Korea industrial complex. PHOTO: MNA

A LAUNCHING ceremony of the joint industrial complex between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea was held yesterday afternoon together with a forum to discuss a partnership for development and prosperity. ROK President Moon Jae-in and Vice President U Myint Swe attended the two events held at

the Lotte Hotel in Yangon. Korea International Trade Association's Chairman & CEO Mr Kim Young Ju and UMFCCT's Chairman U Zaw Min Win extended greetings to the attendees. Documentary videos about the amazing Han River of ROK, New Southern Policy, future cooperation goals and the special economic zone were screened.

Korea Land & Housing Corporation's President Byeon Chang Heum explained about the establishment of the industrial complex for economic cooperation between the two countries. Vice President U Myint Swe expressed his thanks to be given the opportunity to speak at the launching ceremony of the industrial complex for economic

cooperation between Myanmar and ROK and the business forum of the two countries. He also said that he greatly appreciated the presence of President Moon Jae-in at the ceremony, and that he hoped the ROK President would enjoy his visit in Myanmar. U Myint Swe added that he expected the visit of the ROK

President would promote friendly ties, cooperation and partnership between the two countries. Bilateral relations between Myanmar and ROK had become stronger through exchange visits of government officials and cooperation in the economic sector since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1975. **SEE PAGE-3**

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves Joint Scrutinizing Committee' report

THE 13th regular session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has approved the report of Joint Scrutinizing Committee on the Second Bill Amending the Constitution during its 20th day meeting yesterday.

The report was tabled by the 145 MPs, including Dr Maung Thin from Meiktila constituency.

Among the MP discussions about the report, the committee's secretary, Dr Myat Nyana Soe, explained that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's MP exchanged views on the Joint Scrutinizing Committee's report in line with their duties and responsibilities, and that he requested the Hluttaw to make its decision on the report.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat also said that a total of 33 MP debated on the report with their references, suggestions and opinions. Although he handed this report in accordance with his duties and responsibilities, a final decision on the debates is concerned with the Hluttaw. He also assured all the processes in this motion were carried out as per Article 21, 22 and 23 of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law.

In line with the laws and procedures, the report was approved by 376 votes to 203 with 4 abstentions through electronic voting system.

US\$ 51.20 mln loan from ADB

Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Linn and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win discussed about the issues sent by the State President on seeking US\$ 51.20 million loan from the Asian Development Bank for construction of rural road networks which will be carried out by the Ministry of Construction.

The Construction Deputy Minister explained the needs for construction of rural road networks to transport agricultural produce which is the main driver for the country's GDP, and that the ministry has projected 80 per cent of rural roads would be able to use for all seasons by 2030. He also said the country could sign a loan agreement with ADB by December this year, the amount of grant would be \$5.8 million and the amount of loan will decline to \$45.4 million.

The first package of loan will be spent in Ayeyawady and Magway regions, and that the ADB will increase loans in the following years.

He then sought an approval



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA



Union Minister U Ohn Win. PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win. PHOTO: MNA



MP Dr Myat Nyana Soe. PHOTO: MNA

of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to take the loan, and MoPF's Deputy Minister also supported the motion.

Then Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the loan plan by 554 votes to 27 with 4 abstentions.

The members of Union level organizations discussed about the principles in the report of findings and recommendations from the two joint committees, regarding the National Planning Bill and the Union Budget Bill for 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win explained the ministry's policy, objects and the plans to be implemented in line with the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan.

He also said the ministry has expected K 12.044 billion from foreign funds to implement 36 projects for 2019-2020 fiscal year. He also pledged to spend the budgets in line with rules and regulations, with close monitoring and scrutinizing on the expenditures.

Deputy Minister for Home

Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu said the ministry has been budgeted a total of K471.823 billion for 2018-2019 fiscal year, and some of these budgets are being spent for erection of barbed wire fences at the western land border of Myanmar with Bangladesh since 2009-2010 fiscal year in contract system with the Office of Quartermaster General under the Ministry of Defence. He also assured that the construction processes were carried out transparently and cooperated with the local Hluttaw representatives and the local governments for inspecting and scrutinizing.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw said the ministry has expected K 1,073.529 billion to implement the projects under the National Planning Bill in 2019-2020 fiscal year. He also guaranteed the ministry will manage the budgets in line with the findings and recommendations of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee in carrying out the ministry's objectives on

economic development and socio-economic development of rural people based on agricultural and livestock sector.

The issue was also discussed by Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Major General Than Htut, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Minister for Industry Dr Min Ye Paing Hein, Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun, Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Linn, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Aung Myin Tun, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Soe Min and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win.

Next, the MPs discussed about the 2019 Union Tax Bill.

Daw Cho Cho, MP from Ottwin constituency, suggested an average of 20 per cent tax and 25 per cent tax for each cigarette box worth over K1,000.

She also discussed the reduction of income tax for anyone who earn K4.8 million and above each year or who get income from any profession, business and other sources after abstracting the amount of tax exemption in line with sub-para (a) of Article 6 under the Income Tax Law.

Lt-Col Aung Kyaw Moe, MP of Tatmadaw representative, suggested the taxation rates should be fixed in comparing with the previous experiences, economic situation of the country, possible increment due to investments, increasing employment opportunities, increase in revenue and objectives of taxation.

He also advised to protect taxpayers, reasonable tax rate and less burden of tax on the poor and the middle-class persons.

The bill was also discussed by Dr Thet Thet Khaing from Dagon constituency, U Khin Myo Win from Thaninthayi Region constituency 12, U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo from Hline constituency, Dr Pyae Phyo from Ayeyawady region constituency 7, U Myo Win from Mon State constituency 8, Major Soe Naing of Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative, U Ye Htut from Sagaing region constituency 5 and Dr Khin Sithu from Loikaw constituency.

The 13th regular session of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will convene its the 21st day meeting on 6th September.— Aung Ye Thwin and Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Myanmar, Republic of Korea launch industrial complex, hold business forum in Yangon



South Korean President Moon Jae-in delivers the address at the Business Forum in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

FROM PAGE-1

The industrial complex for economic cooperation of the two countries has been a milestone for both nations, and it is expected to attract more investments from ROK, making the bilateral cooperation stronger.

The Vice President said he also appreciated the assistance of the ROK President and his country, together with the relevant organizations, in establishing the industrial complex.

He also congratulated the ROK's New Southern Policy that aimed to promote cooperation with ASEAN member countries and India.

The Vice President also explained that Myanmar was making reform processes to create a more decent destination in the country for investors as it had adopted a people-centered all-inclusive sustainable economic development policy, and its 12 economic policies were geared for the sustainable development of the country. Meanwhile, the country has been practicing an investment policy which supported the national economic policy and economic development of the country.

Myanmar did not discriminate investors, and had been inviting responsible investments that could develop the country such as in infrastructure by adopting a sound legal framework.

Myanmar was trying to adopt the best international

practices like other countries of the world including ASEAN members, in order to attract foreign investments, and was striving to overcome all the obstacles faced by the country.

The country occupied a geographically strategic position in the region, and had lower labour wages and human resources. These opportunities have provided great benefits for the manufacturing sector in the country, and had developed industrial and economic zones with partner countries.

The ROK was a country that was putting in major investments in the manufacturing and infrastructure sector of Myanmar. Due to the development of the private sector and its cooperation with the state sector, the investment flow from ROK had gradually increased in Myanmar year by year. According to the figures of the Myanmar Investment Commission up to July 2019, Myanmar had permitted US\$81 billion worth of 1,779 businesses from 50 countries. The ROK had already invested \$3.9 billion for 177 investment projects, standing at the 6th position among foreign investor countries.

In scrutinizing the investment proposals, Myanmar has favoured responsible businesses which take into consideration conservation of the natural environment and social environment.

In this regard, the investments of ROK were found to

meet the priority sectors for the promotion of Myanmar's foreign investment.

Vice President U Myint Swe concluded that ROK's investments have brought employment opportunities, knowledge and skills into the country, and it was believed to create a better socio-economic situation for the Myanmar people. He also made a wish for further success in bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and ROK.

Also present at the ceremony were Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, U Han Zaw and U Thaung Tun; Yangon Region's Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and the regional cabinet members, Myanmar Ambassador to ROK U Thant Sin, ROK Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa, the members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Chairman & CEO of Korea International Trade Association and businesspersons of the two countries.

President of the Republic of Korea Moon Jae-in said that in the vicinity of Myanmar's economic capital, Yangon, a large-scale complex has been constructed housing a whole host of industrial infrastructure with capacity for various industries, including fashion, textiles, construction and telecommunications.

It is a significant result of the efforts of two governments working towards a common goal. And in doing so, Myanmar and Korea will together be

able to go beyond Asia and into the global market. He said his appreciation that Korea may take its part in the powerful leap of Myanmar's economy.

He also expressed his sincere gratitude to both the Myanmar Ministry of Construction and the Korea Land & Housing Corporation for their efforts in launching the Korea-Myanmar Industrial Complex.

Myanmar is the hub that links 3.4 billion consumers in China, India and the ASEAN. With a population of 53 million, half of which comprised young individuals below the age of 30 years old, Myanmar is a young and dynamic nation.

Myanmar government's economic reforms have resulted in consistently rapid growth of 6-7% per year; growth visibly represented by daily changes to its skyline as hotels and shopping malls are constructed. Myanmar is making fast and strong progress in keeping with the country's name. Myanmar is making fast and strong progress in keeping with the country's name.

It is all thanks to the hard work and achievements you have accomplished together. He also expressed his hope that the Korea-Myanmar industrial Complex will be a stepping stone in creating the "miracle of the Ayeyawady River" in Myanmar, just as Korea made possible the "miracle of the Han River" through economic growth.

During the Korean War 70 years ago, Myanmar provided

\$50,000 worth of rice in aid to the Korean people, this was life changing to those who had to worry about each meal in the ruins of the war.

The bilateral trade volume between the two nations amounted to over \$1 billion for the seventh consecutive year, as a result of the complementary relationship that has formed. The two countries have many things in common.

Myanmar's culture of public offerings, sharing meals and building virtues resembles Korea's similarly Buddhist culture. Moreover, there is a shared culture of respecting elders and observing the rules of manner.

Myanmar and Korea have nurtured a close relationship allowing them to be able to create stronger economic cooperation through shared culture and emotion.

Myanmar's "Sustainable Development Plan" is composed of three pillars: "Peace and Stability", "Prosperity and Partnership", and "People and the Earth". The Republic of Korea's new southern policy seeks to prosper with ASEAN, sharing much of the same philosophy and goals as of what is contained in Myanmar's development plan of "cooperation for people, coexistence and peace." Based on these common goals, he highlighted three future-oriented cooperation directions for both countries.

Myanmar, Korea launch industrial complex, hold business forum



Vice President U Myint Swe. PHOTO: MNA

FROM PAGE-3

The ROK President said, “First of all, we will strengthen cooperation among those who are willing to share knowledge and experience. Myanmar’s enthusiasm for higher education and outstanding human resources are the cornerstones of a new economy. We will endeavor to strengthen our higher education capacity and cooperate utilizing direct education to innovate Myanmar’s education system to ensure the successful operation of Myanmar’s R&D and Trade and Investment Promotion Organizations which will play a pivotal role in economic development, we will share experiences and cooperate.”

He added, “Cooperation” and “Start-up innovation” agreed yesterday will bring about an opportunity to explore and develop promising future projects such as bio, nano, space, and nuclear power industries. Second of all, we will reinforce cooperation in building infrastructure that contributes to helping people’s lives as well as industries. Our two countries have successfully cooperated in the construction of infrastructure such as with the Korea-Myanmar Friendship Bridge, the construction of transmission networks, railway



Vice President U Myint Swe, ROK’ President Moon Jae-in, Union Ministers and representatives from the two countries pose for a photo at the launching ceremony of industrial complex in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

renovations and further bridge construction.”

He continued that the two countries have hoped to further cooperate with each other through the \$1 billion external economic cooperation fund agreed by the two countries. The Economic Industrial Complex will provide companies with well-equipped infrastructure to help businesses operate stably and successfully.

When ‘Korea Desk’, a window for Korean companies, is established, investment and entry of companies will be further

expanded thanks to support from export financing and investment guarantee agreements.

He also pledged to promote and enhance cultural exchange while expanding cooperation on household goods. A K-Pop audition program in Korea inspired a similar program to be made in Myanmar, ‘Myanmar Galaxy star’, and a joint film coproduced between Korea and Myanmar has greatly enhanced cultural content exchange between the

dedicated to Korean franchises, allowing Myanmar consumers to get to know more about Korea and its culture.

He also expressed his hope that this exchange of culture will be expanded with new items and services in Myanmar, and expected that the rich culture and household goods of Myanmar will be introduced and loved by the Korean people.

In commemorating the 30th anniversary of Dialogue with the

day’s event will be a place where businessmen from both countries build friendships and whereby we may all ride the same boat for peace and prosperity. The Korea-Myanmar Economic Industrial Complex is just a starting point towards greater things and closer ties.

He concluded his speech with saying to continue to help each other, learn together and move upwards and onwards toward a brighter future.

After the speech, a video on Myanmar-ROK economic cooperation was shown.

President Korea Moon Jae-in also attended the signing ceremony of MoU’s for nine Korean companies which will be investing in Myanmar.

Then, the launching ceremony of the Korea-Myanmar Economic Industrial Complex was held.

President Korea Moon Jae-in, Vice President U Myint Swe, Union Minister U Han Zaw and Yangon Region’s Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein drove the ceremonial stakes to launch the project.

Both sides then posed for documentary photos.

At the ceremony, Yangon Region Government and KB Kookmin Bank signed an MoU for financial cooperation in the real estate sector. The regional government and Korea Land Housing Corporation also signed an MoU for the preliminary survey of the Dala New City Project.

The UMFCCI and the Woori Financial Group also signed an MoU for cooperation in economic development, holding economic forums regularly and exchange of economic information between the two countries.— MNA

Translated by Aung Khin



Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung holds talks with Ms Andrea Forstner, Australian Ambassador to Myanmar, at Ministry of Border Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister Lt- General Ye Aung receives Australian Ambassador to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-General Ye Aung received Australian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Andrea Forstner, at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting , they discussed providing stability in border areas, social and economic development and enhancing human resources, government’s implementation of peace within the country and national

reconciliation, rehabilitation of IDPs in conflict zones, providing road, bridges, water, electricity, educational services, health care, low cost housing, food and other necessities to IDPs, ministry’s collaborations with NGOs and ministry’s collaboration with Australia for the development in border areas and sustainable human resources.—MNA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

National Disaster Management Committee receives aid for flood-afflicted regions

A ceremony to accept donations from the Road and Bridge B.O.T Entrepreneurs Association to provide aid to flood-affected regions was held at the Vice President's meeting hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio, who is also Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, delivered a speech at the ceremony.

In his speech, the Vice President said climate change has caused natural disasters to become more frequent and powerful to the point that they are seen as something normal rather than uncommon.

He said as the culture of cooperation between the government, the public, businesses and humanitarian organizations increase, they will be able to



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the ceremony to accept donations from the Road and Bridge B.O.T Entrepreneurs Association to provide aid to flood-affected regions. PHOTO: MNA

provide better protection and aid to those afflicted by natural disasters.

The Vice President expressed gratitude on behalf of the affected people and the com-

mittee to the donors as this rainy season has seen much floods and landslides. He hoped they would

be able to continue providing aid in conjunction with the government if similar disasters occur in the future.

Next, a representative of the donors, U Ye Myint, gave a short briefing about the donation for the rescue and rehabilitation efforts for people affected in Mon State, Kayin State and Taninthayi Region.

The donors then handed over K45 million to the Vice President who gave certificates of honour in return.

The ceremony was attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr Win Myat Aye and Nai Thet Lwin, Deputy Ministers U Tin Myint, U Soe Aung and U Hla Maw Oo, permanent secretaries and representatives from the donating organization.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein delivers the speech at the fourth coordination meeting for observing 2019 International Democracy Day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Fourth coordination meeting held for 2019 International Democracy Day

INTERNATIONAL Democracy Day Organizing Steering Committee held the fourth meeting with work committees for holding the 2019 International Democracy Day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at 3:30 pm yesterday.

Present at the meeting were Chairman of International Democracy Day Organizing Steering Committee, Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Vice Chairman of the committee, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, U Aye Tha Aung and members of the committee,

At the meeting, Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw said that as the final meet-

ing of committee will be held on September 11th, it is necessary to discuss matters which have yet be touched on.

Then, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw said that it is known that working committees have done their jobs by the finishing dates and urge to discuss matter left to talk over.

Afterwards, chairmen and secretaries of the working committees explained about the completion of their jobs and necessities.

The meeting was concluded with the speech by Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. —MLA ■

(Translated by Alphonsus)

Union LIP Minister U Thein Swe receives UN Special Envoy

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General on Myanmar, Ms Christine Schraner Burgener, and her delegation at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on the ministry's efforts in issuing National Verification-NV cards across the nation and in Rakhine State, how the NV cards allow people to apply for citizenship, distributing appropriate cards during the processing period, how the NV card verify the holder lives in Myanmar and allows freedom to travel in the designated region and other benefits.

They also discussed organ-

izing for both sides in Rakhine to live together peacefully, opening and maintaining Taung Pyo Letwe and Nga Khu Ya reception centres for receiving returnees from Bangladesh, the lack of returnees despite the best efforts of both nations, holding Technical Working Group -TWG meetings, cooperating with the UNDP and UNHCR, holding meetings with the JWG for repatriation processes, the ministry's review of the IDP list sent from Bangladesh, international cooperation on repatriation efforts, providing requested information on the ministry and its processes and the UN Special Envoy's support on accomplishing them.

—MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister U Thein Swe meets with Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar Ms Christine Schraner Burgener in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

ROK President visits Yangon, attends business forum

THE visiting President of the Republic of Korea Moon Jae-in and First Lady Kim Jung-sook, on their goodwill visit to Myanmar at the invitation of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho, arrived in Yangon from Nay Pyi Taw yesterday by a special flight.

The ROK delegation was accompanied by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and wife Daw Khine Nwe Oo, Myanmar Ambassador to the Republic of Korea U Thant Sin and the Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa.

They were welcomed by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and wife, Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Aung Soe Moe, departmental heads and officials at the Yangon International Airport.

In the afternoon, the ROK President attended the Myanmar-ROK business forum at Lotte Hotel in Yangon.

In the evening, the visiting president laid wreaths at the Martyrs' Mausoleum, paying tributes to Bogoyoke Aung San and other martyrs, and then visited the Aung San Mausoleum, the Korean Martyrs Memorial in the compound and laid wreaths paying tributes to Korean martyrs.

Afterwards, the ROK president and delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda, signed at the visitors' book of the pagoda, and offered flowers, water, lights and incense sticks.

The delegation then observed the religious buildings, going round the pagoda clockwise, and had a group photo taken at the victory land on the Shwedagon Pagoda platform.

—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



President Moon Jae-in and First Lady Kim Jung-sook perform religious ritual at Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

First Lady of ROK visits Foreign Languages University in Yangon



Korean First Lady Kim Jung-sook meets with students at the University of Foreign Languages in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE visiting First Lady of the Republic of Korea visited the University of Foreign Languages

in Yangon yesterday afternoon. Kim Jung-sook, the spouse of ROK's President Moon Jae-

in, was welcomed by Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister Dr Pe

Myint's wife Daw Khaing Nwe Oo, Yangon Region Chief Minister's wife Daw Khin Mi Mi Kywe,

Rector of YUFL Dr Kyi Shwin, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Higher Education and officials.

The Korean First Lady looked around the contesting wallposters of Korean language students at the university.

She then greeted the Korean language students at the Multimedia Lecture Room in LRC Hall.

U Aung Ko Ko Lat who graduated with Korean language, Mr Jang Young Sung who graduated with Myanmar language and Korean language students shared their experiences in learning the two languages.

A total of 500 students are attending graduate, postgraduate and diplomas courses at the Korean Department of YUFL.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

CBM Governor meets Hluttaw bank, finance committee

U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar, held a meeting with Daw Khin San Hlaing, the Chairwoman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Financial Development Committee, and her delegation at CBM's headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed the price of gold,

bank procedures, managing foreign currency and legal affairs conducted by CBM.

—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

CBM Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung holds talks with Daw Khin San Hlaing, the Chairwoman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Financial Development Committee, and MPs in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting

PYIDAUNGsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting on National Planning Bill for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and Union Budget Bill for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 sent by the Union Government at the second floor meeting hall of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Joint Bill Committee and Joint Public Accounts Committee Chairman U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Joint Bill Committee deputy chairmen, secretary, joint secretary and committee members, Joint

Public Accounts Committee's deputy chairman, secretary, officials from Joint Vetting Committee's groups nos. (3), (4), (5), (12), (13) and (18), the Hluttaw representatives who put amendment proposal, and officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Border Affairs, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Union Attorney General Office, Nay Pyi Taw Council and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

MIC Chairman Union Minister U Thaung Tun receives President of Industrial Bank of Korea

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) U Thaung Tun received Mr Kim Do-Jin, President & CEO of Industrial Bank of Korea, and his team at Directorate of Investment and Com-

pany Administration (DICA) in Yangon yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters relating to IBK future operation activities in providing assistance to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development in Myanmar.—MNA



Union Minister U Thaung Tun holds a meeting with President & CEO of Industrial Bank of Korea Mr Kim Do-Jin in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win receives Australian Ambassador

UNION MINISTER for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win received Australian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Andrea Faulkner at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to bilateral defence cooperation and trainings, the Rakhine affairs and peace process.—MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)



Union Minister Lt-Gen Sein Win meets with Australian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Andrea Faulkner in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin cites ARSA threat as major obstacle for repatriation at meeting with UNSG Special Envoy on Myanmar

U KYAW TIN, Union Minister for the Ministry of International Cooperation, received Ms Christine Schraner Burgener, Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar, at 1 pm yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on recent developments in Myanmar and on possible ways and means to remove obstacles hindering repatriation of displaced persons from Rakhine State. Union Minister U Kyaw Tin cited ARSA's threat to those wishing to voluntarily return to Myanmar as major obstacle for repatriation. He also explained that non-compliance with the proper procedures for sending the forms as agreed in the bilateral arrangements was also another reason of unsuccessful



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin greets Ms Christine Schraner Burgener, UNSG's Special Envoy in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

repatriation on the agreed date of 22 August. The Union Minister also requested Special Envoy's assistance in persuading Bangladesh to send back soonest 444 displaced persons of Hindu faith who have clearly expressed their desire to return to Myanmar. The Union Minister also briefed recent developments in Myanmar's efforts in creating more conducive condition for the returnees in cooperation with ASEAN and the United Nations Agencies.—MNA

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Improving transport infrastructure can help uplift rural areas

AS an agricultural country, Myanmar must give priority to building its transport infrastructure, especially for agricultural products in rural areas, which underpin the country's GDP.

Besides, by making roads and bridges accessible all year long, people living near them can travel faster and more easily to markets to sell agricultural products. Their income would rise and living conditions improve significantly.

Infrastructural development of the regions and states can play a crucial role in helping increase the country's GDP. Better road networks are required to transport finished products to the market.

Hence, the Union Government has adopted a strategy to turn 80 per cent of rural roads into all-weather ones by 2030.

The move to help realize this dream came yesterday, with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw giving its nod to the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Planning and Finance to borrow US\$51.20 million from the Asia Development Bank.

In support of the strategy, the ADB has offered a loan to Myanmar, and if we can sign the agreement by December, we can enjoy the grant of \$5.8 million, and so, the actual amount of loan would be reduced to US\$45.4 million.

The loan would be spent on building transportation infrastructure in Ayeyawady Region and Magway Region first, and it will be utilized for similar projects in other regions and states next year.

The Ayeyawady Region is a delta area full of rivers and creeks. With fertile land and abundant aquatic resources, agriculture is a major source of livelihood for the local people.

The region was widely known as the granary of Myanmar, and the promotion of its agricultural sector is largely dependent on easy access to the area.

Developing road networks would help make this delta area reachable, without consuming much time.

Meanwhile, reliable road transport could support farmers who grow peas, pulses, and sesame in the Magway Region of central Myanmar.

Developing basic infrastructure across the country would help farmers avoid wastage and derive greater benefits.

Hence, the process for borrowing the loan from the ADB should be completed by December.

We are confident that the rural transport system and farm-to-market roads, in general, can help improve the economic conditions of farmers, who make up 70 per cent of our labour force.

■ ■ ■

Improving graduate employability

By Dr. Myo Kywai (Hsinbaungwae)

THE National Education Policy Commission and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) discussed matters relating to the University-Industry Engagement 23 August 2019. UMFCCI adviser Dr Aung Tun Thet said that according to the demand and supply mechanism, there must be an almost 100 per cent balanced ratio between the number of graduates and diploma holders produced by universities, colleges and technical schools and the employment demand, and warned that if not there might be mismatching.

In some cases, the demand may be low although the supply is high as the latter doesn't meet the academic qualification of a particular demand. But in other cases business companies face a shortage of required employees and a high cost of providing courses for recruits as the supply of professionals for a particular job



Enhancing graduate employability is a key priority for higher education. GRAPHIC IMAGE: BT

Some institutions of higher learning in Myanmar are running courses on tourism. These courses or subjects can be prioritized.

is low amidst the high demand, said the meeting minute. Nanyang Technological University of Singapore systematically conducted a graduate employment survey and presented its report.

Human resources development through academic learning will take time, as it is a long term undertaking that never shows results in a short period. It can take two to three years for the teachers of the institutions of higher learning to complete their further studies such as master's degree courses and

doctorate courses abroad. So, our country's human resources will need five to ten years of time to gain extra acceleration. If we can have foreign aid, we can arrange programs in which professors and technicians from abroad will give lectures on various subjects in Myanmar. The initial research deals with identifying prioritized subjects for short-term development of the national economy. For example, Some institutions of higher learning in Myanmar are running courses on tourism. These courses

or subjects can be prioritized. As a matter of fact, tourism is a smoke-less industry, earning much income for the country. Accordingly, those subjects should be also lectured at other universities and colleges so that graduates of those higher learning schools will have higher employment opportunities.

Our team visited Chiang Mai in Thailand in June 2019 to attend educational workshops and to visit the universities of Thailand's second largest city. Although Chiang Mai airport seemed to be smaller than Yangon Airport, the number passengers it is handling is twice or thrice larger than our main airport. According to the 2018 record, Myanmar welcomed 3.58 million in that year. Thailand hopes to receive 40.1 million tourists in 2019, and of them over 10 million will enter the country through Chiang Mai airport.

The Faculty of Social Sciences of Chiang Mai University has a tourism department and the courses on tourism subjects conducted by the School of Tourism Development of Maejo University. They are conducting

diploma courses and master's degree and doctorate courses, apart from bachelor degree courses, which are providing human resources for the generating the country's foreign exchange income through the smokeless industry. There are tourism departments in other universities of Thailand that are also acting as human resources developers of the industry.

Without a doubt, tourism is the fastest growing and the most successful industry in the world. Globally, it employs 270

million people, and in Thailand alone, over six million people are involved in the industry. If we leave no stone unturned in our quest for tourism develop through inclusive efforts, the industry will earn more money for the nation and generate more job opportunities for its citizens. We can conduct the following diploma courses, bachelor degree courses, master's degree courses and doctorate courses in connection with various branches tourism industry at our institutions of higher learning.

Without a doubt, tourism is the fastest growing and the most successful industry in the world. Globally, it employs 270 million people, and in Thailand alone, over six million people are involved in the industry.

1. BA (Travel and Tourism Management)
2. BA (Hospitality, Travel and Tourism Management)
3. B.Sc. (Travel and Tourism Management)
4. BA (Hospitality and Travel Management)
5. BBA (Travel and Tourism Management)
6. BBA (Hospitality and Travel Management)
7. BBA (Air Travel Management)

We can also carry out cultural tourism, eco-tourism, environmental tourism and agro-tourism, apart from ordinary tourist services. We saw with our own eyes the practical use of tourism related courses as a source of income by universities in Chiang Mai.

Our country can also run diploma courses, bachelor degree courses and master's degree courses on food development, culinary, food science and technology. Although we have an abundant domestic supply of milk and fruits including grapes, we have to dig deep into our pockets as we are consuming milk, milk powder, butter, cheese that come from Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and China because of the weakness in our packaging technology. Moreover, lack of technology has pushed us to rely mainly on imported wines and various kinds of fruit juices which are more expensive than the local ones. Our reliance on the import will continue till we can disseminate require technology through the respective courses in our country. We also need laboratories, testing processes and up-to-date production technologies for our goods to meet the international level.

In this regards, we should reduce the number of diploma courses, bachelor degree courses and further studies which are not in conformity with the age, and should increase the number of professional courses and research and development programs that may be beneficial for the State.

(Translation: TMT)

■ ■ ■

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 4th September, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (18:30) hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over North-east Bay of Bengal and adjoining North Odisha-West Bengal Coasts (India) still persists. Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and strong elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 05th September, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, (Northern and Eastern) Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin and Southern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and Rakhine 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) mph. Wave height will be about (9-13) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Moderate to strong monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05th September, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05th September, 2019: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR Mandalay and NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 05th September, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Own name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— **Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar**

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YGN signs smart city MoU with Korea Land and Housing Corporation

THE Yangon Region Government and Korea Land and Housing Corporation signed an MoU for a feasible study of the New Dala City Project at Yangon's Lotte Hotel yesterday.

Speaking at the ceremony, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw first congratulated the occasion and said they will surround Yangon with smart cities just as they have in South Korea's capital of Seoul.

The Union Minister said the time for starting this feasible study coincides with the implementation of the Korea-Myanmar Industrial Complex (KMIC) and Dala Friendship Bridge, which is good news. He then thanked South Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MoLIT) and the Land and Housing Corporation for contributing to Myanmar's de-

velopment. He said his ministry will work closely with the Yangon cabinet to ensure everything operates smoothly.

This was followed by separate addresses from Regional Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, MoLIT Minister Ms Kim Hyun Mee and Korea Land and Housing Corporation CEO Mr Byeon Chang Heum.

Next, Yangon Mayor and YCDC Chairman U Maung Maung Soe signed the feasible study MoU with Mr Byeon Chang Heum.

In addition, another MoU signing ceremony for cooperation on housing finances between the Yangon Region Government and KB Kookmin Bank was held later at 3:30 pm in Lotte Hotel.

According to the programme, KB Kookmin Bank first played an introductory video and



An MoU signing ceremony between Yangon Region Government and Korea Land and Housing Corporation for a feasible study of the New Dala City Project held in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Han Zaw delivered a speech.

This was followed by separate addresses from the regional

Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transportation, Daw Nilar Kyaw, and KB Kookmin Bank's President and CEO Mr Hur Yin.

Mr Hur Yin then signed the MoU with Deputy Mayor U Soe Lwin.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo delivers the opening speech at the 1/2019 law officers' refresher course at the Office of the Union Attorney-General in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UAGO conducts refresher course for law officers

THE Union Attorney General's Office launched a refresher course for mid-level law officers yesterday.

U Tun Tun Oo, the Attorney General of the Union, made an opening remark on the 1/2019 refresher course conducted in its office in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Attorney General said that legal officers need to cooperate with relevant departments and partner organizations for effective implementation in justice for public in line with the strategic plan of the UAGO entitled 'Moving Forward to the

Rule of Law'.

He also suggested the trainees to explore knowledge in cybercrime, intellectual property and money laundering cases, as well as criminal proceedings.

The three-week refresher course was attended by 34 trainees, and it aims to promote capacity in legal advice for bill, international and business treaties, lawsuits and legal proceedings and administration in line with the laws, bylaws and the existing laws of the UAGO and other legal proceedings.—MNA ■ (Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Attorney-General receives FBA Project Manager

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo received Mr Par Skold, the Project Manager of Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) in Sweden, and delegation at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to implementing the tasks of the Strategic Plan (2015-2019) of "Moving Forward to the Rule of Laws" and the Strategic Plan (2019-2023) of "Justice for Public" and the Union Attorney-General Office's cooperation with international development partner

organizations in rule of laws.

They also discussed matters related to Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA)'s educative programmes on rule of laws, and FBA's rule of laws implementation processes in Myanmar that can be cooperated with the Union Attorney-General Office.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint, Permanent Secretary Daw Nu Nu Yin and Director-General Dr Thida Oo.—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo meets with Mr Par Skold, the Project Manager of Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) in Sweden, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Traditional handmade lanterns enjoy good demand ahead of Thadingyut Festival

MYANMAR traditional handmade lantern businesses are earning a good income due to high demand in the rural market ahead of the light festival of the Thadingyut season, according to traditional handmade lantern makers.

“Normally, sales of lanterns rise in July (Warso), and most of the lanterns are sent to the rural regions by the end of July. As for the urban market, we have to send the lanterns in August. Furthermore, the cost of making the lanterns is increasing year after year due to the high price of raw materials,” said Ma Htay Kyi, a traditional lantern maker.

Myanmar traditional lanterns are usually made ahead of the Thadingyut Festival at 42nd street, southern part of Ward 840 in Mahaangmyay Township, Mandalay Region. Most of the lanterns are purchased from Kyauk-



A man making traditional handmade lanterns at his workshop. PHOTO: TINZAR HLAING (IPRD)

se, Sagaing, Shwebo, Namhkam, and Wundwin towns.

The price of handmade lanterns ranges from K150 to K3,500,

depending on the size and design. Lantern makers are designing a variety of shapes, including Pyittinehtaung, giant, cube, aero-

plane, truck, ship, rabbit, peacock, and other animal shapes, to penetrate the kid's market.

“After the Thingyan festival,

lantern makers start to trim the bamboos for raw drawing and the transparent papers needed to put on the shaped bamboos. The lanterns are sent to the markets after they are painted and sun-dried. At present, the sales of traditional handmade lanterns have declined compared to the previous years due to the inflow of China-made lanterns in the local market,” said Ko Phoe Kyaw, a traditional lantern maker.

“Myanmar traditional handmade lanterns are made of bamboo, transparent paper, wooden wheel, glue, and clothes string. Previously, entire wards conducted lantern businesses, but now, there are only four or five makers left due to the high cost of raw materials. Moreover, traditional lanterns can be easily damaged by the rain,” said the lantern makers. — Tinzar Hlaing (IPRD)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Yangon Chief Minister discusses investment promotion with Hong Kong delegation

A delegation led by Mr Edgar Kwan, the Chairman of the Myanmar-Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce and Industry-MHKCCI, met with the Yangon Region Chief Minister Tuesday to discuss promotion of investment. They spoke at the opening ceremony of the Myanmar-Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Sule Shangri-la Hotel, Yangon.

At the opening ceremony, the Yangon Region Chief Minister said that Myanmar has eased investment rules to attract more investors to the country. The country is also upgrading the Asian highway that will benefit logistics and trade flow for India, China, and ASEAN countries. The regional government is welcoming investments, he said.

The stakeholders discussed

matters to accelerate Yangon-based mutual investment activities through the establishment of the Myanmar-Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Hong Kong has been working towards closer economic integration with ASEAN countries, including Myanmar. Economic interaction between Myanmar and Hong Kong has been increasing rapidly.

Hong Kong has emerged as the fourth largest investor in Myanmar, after Singapore, China, and Thailand. Between 1988 and July, 2019, 210 enterprises from Hong Kong brought in foreign direct investment of US\$8.27 billion into Myanmar, according to official data on existing enterprises provided by the Directorate of Investment

and Company Administration.

Meanwhile, the value of Myanmar's bilateral trade with Hong Kong touched \$210 million in the October-July period in the current fiscal year, with exports surpassing imports, according to data provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

Between October and July, Myanmar shipped goods worth \$195.5 million to Hong Kong and imported goods valued at \$14.67 million.

Myanmar's major items of export to Hong Kong include precious stones, agricultural products, fishery products, and garments. The nation mainly imports telecommunications equipment and optical goods from Hong Kong.—San Kyaw Oo/ Ko Khant

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Private sector agro exports show slight decrease in current fiscal

PRIVATE sector agro exports have fallen slightly by US\$28 million, while public sector exports have showed an increase of \$356.6 million in the past eleven months of the current fiscal year compared with the year-ago period, as per figures released by the Commerce Ministry.

Between 1 October, 2018 and 23 August, 2019, Myanmar's exports of agricultural products crossed \$2.98 billion from \$2.65 billion in the corresponding period of the 2017-2018FY. While the public sector shipped agricultural products worth \$1.34 billion, the value of private sector agro exports was registered at \$1.6 billion.

In the exports sector, the agriculture industry showed the highest performance, along with the natural gas sector. The chief items of export in the agricultural sector are rice and broken rice, pulses, corn, and rubber. Fruits and vegetables, sesame, dried tea leaves, sugar, and other agro products are also exported to other countries.

Myanmar agro products are primarily exported to China, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. However, the export market remains uncertain due to un-

steady global demand.

“Myanmar is facing slower access to market information, which sometimes causes obstacles to exports. Moreover, the country has poor logistics and warehouse infrastructure, thereby, the quality of fruits suffers,” said an official from the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association (MFVP).

According to the Myanmar Rice Federation, quality control and food safety are key to the promotion of exports. Therefore, improved agricultural practices need to be developed.

“Additionally, the country requires specific export plans for each agro product, as they are currently exported to external markets based upon supply and demand. Contract farming systems involving regional and state agriculture departments, exporters, traders, and some grower groups are required in order to meet production targets,” said an official from the Agriculture Department.

The Commerce Ministry is working to help farmers deal with challenges, such as high input costs, procurement of pedigree seeds, high cultivation costs, and erratic weather conditions.— Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Sesame from Myaing, Yaw regions enters Pakokku market

SESAME from Myaing and Yaw regions began entering the Pakokku market starting September, according to local sesame merchants.

“Although brown sesame and yellow sesame have entered Pakokku market, there are only a few products in the market. The market price of brown sesame is K46,000 per viss, while that of yellow sesame is K44,500,” said a local merchant.

“Brown sesame and yellow

sesame that have entered the market contain acid residue. So, the market price of sesame is around K45,000. The price of high quality sesame will be up to K50,000 per viss,” he said.

“New sesame from Yaw region has started to enter the market. But, the volume is low as farmers have just started harvesting sesame. More sesame will enter the market in the days to come. Some farmers got the sesame while it was raining. Such

sesame has been found to contain acid residue, and its price is, thus, only over K40,000 per viss,” he added. “Although there is high demand, buyers are looking at the quality of the sesame,” said the local merchant.

Last year, the price of sesame hit a record high in Pakokku market due to high demand from merchants. At the time, the market price of black sesame reached around K90,000 per viss. —Aye Cho (Translated by Hay Mar)

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Over 30 firms show interest in Yangon water distribution project

By Nyein Nyein

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) has invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) for a project for zoning the water distribution system in the city under public-private partnership (PPP), and over 30 local and foreign companies have inquired about the project and purchased application forms, said U Myint Zaw Than, the head of the Water Resources and Water Supply Authority Office under the YCDC's Engineering Department.

"Interested local, international, and joint-venture companies can purchase EOI documents at the Water Resources and Water Supply Authority

Office in YCDC's 12-storey new office building at No 390, Merchant Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, from 28 August. Within a week, 33 companies have come to buy the forms at the YCDC," he said. "Sealed applications need to be delivered in person to the Water Resources and Water Supply Authority Office by 28 October. EOI documents submitted later than the designated time and date will not be considered," he added.

After the evaluation of EOIs, the Tender Committee will invite Proposal Bids from applicants who have been prequalified.

The YCDC is planning to privatize water distribution as it is dealing with water pipe leakag-

es, water losses, and shortage of staff, said U Maung Maung Soe, Yangon Mayor.

Additionally, the current rates for water supply do not cover production costs, he said.

"Water meter bills must include the charges for laying pipe networks and water distribution costs. If we compare the water meter rates with the distribution cost, the existing bills are much lower than that, excluding the cost of machines. Thus, like in the case of power supply, the government is making a loss on running the service," said U Maung Maung Soe. However, there is no plan to hike the water rate for now, he added.

"At present, the Yangon au-

thorities are raising awareness about systematic water meter installation, dealing with water pipe leakages, unsystematic water consumption, management of water loss in urban water distribution, and curbing illegal connections to the water pipe network," said the Yangon Mayor.

Currently, the rates for water are K88 per unit (220 gallons) for households and K120 per unit for businesses. The Gyophyu, Phoo Gyi, and Nga Moe Yeik reservoirs are the main sources of water supply in Yangon, providing over 2 million gallons of water every day, about half of which gets wasted due to water losses and leakages in the supply system.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Unlicensed food cars will be penalised: YCDC

By Nyein Nyein

MOBILE food car vendors will face one-month imprisonment if they are found operating without a licence, said U Kyaw Min, the head of the Administrative Department of the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC)

"Unlicensed food car vendors will be fined K10,000 to K100,000 at the first instance. If they continue operating without a licence, they will face one-month imprisonment. Moreover, food car vendors are not allowed to sell food in six townships of downtown

Yangon. They can sell food in other townships," he said. "Licenses are not being issued to mobile food car vendors in six townships of downtown Yangon. This is because, they may act like street vendors on the Yangon main roads. At present, action is being taken against food car vendors. Car vendors can sell food in other townships except the downtown areas. But, they can operate only at fixed locations, where vehicles can be stopped without causing traffic congestion. However, sales must not be conducted the whole day," said U Kyaw Min.

"Vendors holding business licenses are obligated to follow the rules embodied in the licence. If they are found violating the rules, they will face a fine and get their licence revoked for a period of one to three months, or permanently," he added. The YCDC is currently issuing mobile food vending license. However, unlicensed vendors are still operating in Yangon.

Mobile vendors can register with the YCDC if they hold an e-driving licence issued by the Road and Transportation Administration Department by present-

ing the vehicle registration book, said U Kyaw Min.

"Only Yangon licensed trucks can apply for business licenses. While seeking a license, the vendors have to present the vehicle registration book and a copy of the wheel tax receipt, census, tax receipt from the related Internal Revenue Department, and a commitment to follow the rules and food descriptions," said U Kyaw Min.

Currently, licences have been issued to over 170 cars vendors, according to YCDC data.
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Homes, roads submerged in Zigon Township



Schools and houses are submerged in flood water after heavy rain in Bago Region. PHOTO: TOWNSHIP IPRD

SONE wards and some village-tracts in the east of Zigon Township were flooded with 3 feet of water from the Minbu and Bawbin creeks on 1 September due to the continuous and heavy rainfall in Bago Region.

As the water level declined on 3 September, the villages in the west part of Zigon Township faced flooding. An estimated 108 houses in Taungpotharyar village, 379 houses in Chaungk

village, 192 houses in Talpinkan village, 12 houses in Laymyatnar village, and 8 villages in Thitnaphar village were flooded. Village roads were submerged under creek water.

No injuries to humans or animals were reported. The Township Disaster Management Committee and donors provided aid to flood victims. – Township IPRD

(Translated by La Wonn)

Myanmar sees arrivals of more Thailand visitors by car

WITH the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism implementing measures to boost the tourism sector and provide safe and smooth transportation, local and foreign visitors have been travelling to destinations in Myanmar using air, water, and road transport.

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and the arrangement of Mother Ayeyarwaddy Travels and Tours Co. Ltd, 24 tourists from Thailand travelled on the Hteekee-Dawei-Maungmagan route on 11 cars from 23 August to 25 August,

and left Myanmar through the Hteekee border gate. Tourists have been entering Myanmar through the border gates to explore well-known destinations, enjoy the scenic beauty, and observe the different cultures and traditions of the ethnic people of Myanmar.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is also granting visa exemptions and easing the visa policy to attract tourists. It is creating new tour plans to stimulate tourism growth in Myanmar.—MOHT

(Translated by La Wonn)



Travellers from Thailand visit Myanmar on their vehicles by crossing the Hteekee border gate. PHOTO: MOHT

Man arrested for robbing Korean woman in Yangon

THE Shwebo police on 3 September arrested a man for assaulting an elderly South Korean citizen in Yangon and robbing her of jewelry

According to police, Myo Myint, also known as Nay Myo Aung and Maung Myo, 27, reportedly visited Miss Kim Min Sut, 60, on 2 September at her fifth-floor apartment on Bohmu Ba Htoo Road, Ward 48, North Dagon, on the pretext of servicing her air con.

He allegedly assaulted Miss Kim Min Sut and bolted with her jewelry.

Thereafter, she filed the case at the North Dagon police station.

Acting on a tip, a task force led by Police Captain Thein San Oo, under the supervision of Police Lt-Col Myint Maung, caught Myo Myint with the stolen items in Shwebo the next day.

The Shwebo police said they will hand over Myo Myint and the confiscated items to the Yangon Region police soon.—Moe Tauk

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Suspect Myo Myint seen with stolen jewellery and other confiscated items. PHOTO: MNA

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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OSLO TRADER VOY. NO. (934S/936N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 05-09-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Relief donation for flood victims in Mon state, Taninthayi Region handed over to Myanmar Embassy in London

HEAVY rain caused flood and landslide in Mon State and Taninthayi Region in August 2019. Natural Disaster Emergency Relief Committee – UK led by Dr Tint Lwin handed over donation of 12,150 £ to Myanmar Embassy in London on 2nd September, and Ambassador U Kyaw Swar Min received it .

The donation was made by Buddhist mon-astery, Myanmar organizations and Myanmar people in Great Britain. It was reported that the donated money will be handed over to Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Department of Disaster Management.—MNA

(Translated by Al-phonsus)



Ambassador U Kyaw Swar Min accepts aid for flood victims from Natural Disaster Emergency Relief Committee - UK. PHOTO: MNA

Boat with rotten cattle carcasses found in Maungdaw

POLICE seized an owner-less motorized boat containing rotten carcasses of cattle at the seashore west to Kyaukpanu Village in Maungdaw Township yesterday, according to Myanmar Police Force.

With the formation received, police went to the boat and inspected. They found around 50 decayed carcasses of cattle inside the boat. The boat motorized with an 180hp-engine is 60 feet in length, 18 feet in width, 20 feet in height and 12 feet in draught. Police are probing into the case to apprehend the suspects of the case. —GNLM

(Trans: Kyaw Zin Tun)



The unmanned motorboat filled with over 50 abandoned cattle carcasses was discovered near Kyaukpanu Village, Maungdaw Township. PHOTO: MNA

Invitation for Bids

Date: 4th September 2019
Loan Agreement No: MY-P26 dated 29th March 2018
IFB No: IFB-MR/BD/2110

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of the Yangon Mandalay Railway Improvement Project Phase II. The Bid is invited by Myanma Railways as follows:

Invitation for Bid	Description: Procurement of Multiple Tie Tamper and Rail Inspection Car	Issuing Date	Closing Date & Time	Non-refundable Document Fee
IFB No: IFB-MR/BD/2110	Supply of (1) Two (2) units of Multiple Tie Tamper and (2) One (1) unit of Rail Inspection Car.	4 th September 2019	18 th October 2019 At 2:00 pm	USD 1,000

Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement.

(1) The Eligible Nationality of the Contractor(s) shall be Japan in case of the prime Contractor.

(2) In case where the prime Contractor is a joint venture, such joint venture will be eligible provided that the nationality of the lead partner is Japan, that the nationality of the other partners is Japan and/or the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and that the total share of work of Japanese partners in the joint venture is more than fifty percent (50%) of the contract amount.

(3) The Myanma Railways, Ministry of Transport and Communications now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the design, manufacture, supply, installation, delivery, testing and commissioning of Multiple Tie Tampers and Rail Inspection Car described above (“Procurement of Goods”). International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with JICA’s Single-Stage (One Envelope) Bidding Procedure.

(4) A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased and inspected by interested Bidders upon submission of a written application to the address below during office hours from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m on Monday to Friday (except public holidays of Myanmar).

(5) Bids must be submitted to the address below, on or before 2:00 p.m. on October 18th, 2019 and must be accompanied by a Bid security of Japanese Yen Thirty-Seven Million (37,000,000.-JPY).

Managing Director
Myanma Railway, Ministry of Transport and Communications
Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station Compound, Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
Telephone: +95-67 77024, Facsimile number: +95-67-677164
Email address: dgmplan.rail@mrt.gov.mm, dgm.planning.mr@gmail.com (not for submission but for clarification)

Myanmar Steel Industry getting ready to support industrialization and modernization

Zaw Min GNLM

STEEL plays an important role in industrialization and modernization. Before bulk production of steel with Bessemer process, steel production was very expensive to produce and was used in small and expensive items like knives, swords and armour. With Bessemer process and modification of it, steel became a major source of the world's industrial economy providing the base on which industries develop.

First steel frame structure in Myanmar if not Asia

The first steel structure building in Myanmar, if not Asia, was reported to be the New Court Building constructed in Yangon during the colonial period. The British Governor of Myanmar Sir Harcourt Butler laid the foundation stone for the New Court Building in March 1927. Steel frames produced by Dorman & Long Company were used to construct this building and this company also provided steel frames for the famous Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia. During the colonial period of early 19th and 20th century, iron works and steels were produced in the west only. New Court Building was the latest heritage



Fabricating a factory chimney. **PHOTO: SMI**

building to be awarded with a Blue Plaque and was now being renovated as Rosewood Yangon Hotel. This building close to 100 years old shows the durability of

steel structures.

Opening of the economy and establishment of industrial zones

In the 1990s Myanmar

opens up its economy to become a market economy from the centrally planned socialist economy. When industrial zones were established, new factories were

built with modern steel structures. Initially, as in the colonial period, steel structures were imported. Steel structures custom made to the local requirements were fabricated by foreign steel fabricators and imported into the country. The difference between colonial period and the 1990s was production of steel. Even though Myanmar was not a steel producer, countries like Japan and China in Asia were producing steel that were competitive both in quality and price wise. As more and more industrial zones were established with factories constructed by steel, local business person saw opportunity in the steel fabrication business and a local company Southern Metal Industry (SMI) Co., Ltd. became the first local steel fabricator producing steel structures with imported steel.

Expanding into other construction sector

More and more local steel fabrication companies entered into the market as industrial sector and construction sector booms. Office buildings, banks, car showrooms, shopping



Fabricating a steel structure for steel Mill. **PHOTO: SMI**



Hydraulic straightening machine in SMI. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

malls as well as houses were quickly constructed with steel structures in addition to factory buildings. In addition to I and H beams, local steel companies were producing box columns for high-rise buildings and bridges.

First steel structure high rise in Yangon

Another factor pointing to the emergence of steel was in the building construction sector. The under construction M Tower high-rise building situated between Hledan Centre and Asia Green Development Bank in Kamayut Township, Yangon was a milestone in Myanmar's building construction sector. While New Court Building mentioned earlier was the first steel structure building in Myanmar at least if not in Asia as claimed, M Tower was the highest steel structure building to be constructed in Myanmar with many more to follow. This modern steel structure high rise was constructed by Mottama Holding Company with steel structures produced by Min Dhama Steel Structures Co., Ltd. which was part of Mottama Holdings. Raw materials used in the buildings were imported from China, South Korea and Japan and more than 8,000 tons of quality Japan technology steel were being used.

Fabrication of special steel structures

Another development in Myanmar steel fabrication sector

was SMI's fabrication of special steel structures for Pang Pet Steel Mill No. 1 of Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry. This was another forward step of Myanmar steel fabrication sector from importing steel and producing I, H beams and box columns to fabricating custom made special steel structures.

Requirement of regulations and regulatory bodies

With the stated developments in the Myanmar steel sector, there was no reason for Made-in-Myanmar steel to thrive in Myanmar market and export to foreign market. Some local steel fabricators were already doing this already. Our labour cost as well as workmanship in the steel sector is highly competitive compared to its neighbours.

As a local consultant recently pointed out in an article "The future of Myanmar's steel industry is in the Government's hands" (Global New Light of Myanmar 1 September 2019 issue), Myanmar to its credit plays by the rules and was not putting up tariffs while some of its competitors in the region were imaginatively putting up a wide ranging barriers to the smooth entry of our own steel into their market. Furthermore lack of regulation and oversight in Myanmar was allowing sub-quality steel products into the local market under cutting the quality based price of local players.

This is similar to smuggled

low quality goods entering into the country illegally threatening the existence and survival of local producers. A free and fair trade is good for the market players as well as the consumer by providing quality products and services at competitive rates. A free and unfair or unregulated trade provide poor products and services at dirt cheap rates that are detrimental to quality producer and the consumer alike while promoting traders and producers of sub-standard products and services.

Government moving toward setting up regulations and regulatory bodies

Sensing this, our incumbent government was doing much needed reforms. Recently, at the 14th-day meeting of Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 13th regular session held on 27 August 2019, Deputy Minister for Industry had said that at the moment under the title of state-owned enterprises (SOEs), the SOEs were conducting the (multiple and conflicting) functions of policy maker, regulator, public service and economic entities.

As per international practice, SOEs were to be classified and the transition or transformation needs to be systematically implemented.

The meaning was to sep-

arate the functions so that the SOEs were not in a conflict of interest mode affecting the business sector it was in.

Earlier in the 10th-day meeting of Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's seventh regular session held on 26 February 2018, Deputy Minister for Construction said the ministry was moving forward as much as possible to convert its departments into regulatory bodies instead of being SOEs.

The first to become a regulatory body was Department of Building. Starting from 1 April 2018 the Department of Rural Development will not conduct any work on its own with the union budget. However, if governments of states/regions request the ministry, the department will continue to work until 30 September 2019, and starting from 1 October 2019, it will become a regulatory body, said the Deputy Minister.

For the Department of Road and Department of Bridge to become a regulatory body, standards and specifications, rules and regulations, laws, standard operation procedures, policies and plans are being drawn up with the help of the Asian Development Bank. Once this is done, the plan is for the two departments to become a regulatory body before December 2020, explained the Deputy Minister.

The sooner these transitions and reforms were accomplished to Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Industry, the better it'll be for Myanmar steel industry. And the sooner such transitions and reforms were accomplished in other ministries, the better it'll be for the country, the people and the economy.



Fabricating a factory smoke stack. PHOTO: SIM

2022 World Cup Qualifiers: Myanmar to play Mongolia today



Myanmar national football team's head coach, Miodrag Radulović, at a pre-match conference yesterday in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, ahead of the 2022 World Cup Qualifiers between Myanmar and Mongolia. **PHOTO: MFF**

THE Myanmar national football team will take on Mongolia's national team at the 2022 World Cup Qualifiers at 3.30 p.m. (Myanmar Standard Time) today at the Football Stadium in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

A pre-match conference for the qualifiers was held yesterday at the Holiday Inn in Ulaanbaatar.

The head coach of the Mongolian team, Michael Weib, said that Myanmar is a very strong team.

He said that under the helm of the new head coach, team

Myanmar is very different and strong.

"The match will not be easy. Myanmar's youth players from the era of former head coach Gerd Zeise are currently star players," he said.

"Myanmar has become better within a two-year period, not only in tactical, but also the physical aspects, but we are hoping for the best result on our home venue," said the Mongolian head coach.

The captain of the Mongolian national football team, Tsedenbal Norjmoo, said that

their team met team Myanmar in 2011, and Myanmar is quick, with fast strikers.

The fast strikers of Myanmar can make the game difficult for Mongolia, he said. The captain said his team will need to focus hard in the face-off with Myanmar. He also said the match will be thrilling as both teams have talented young players.

The head coach of Myanmar, Miodrag Radulović, said that in his experience, all the openers will be tough, especially with the team playing under different weather conditions, time, and venue. Earlier, Myanmar was defeated on Mongolian turf, but this time will be different, and the team will shape a good result, he said. The goalkeeper of team Myanmar, Kyaw Zin Htet, also revealed that this is the second time Myanmar has played in Mongolia.

"Like us, team Mongolia are far better, with strong players with better stamina and power of play. We will compete with respect, and do everything to gain a victory in the opening match," said Kyaw Zin Htet.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

World Cup Qualifiers: Tickets for Myanmar, Japan match on sale from today

ADVANCE tickets for the World Cup Qualifier match between Myanmar and Japan on 10 September will go on sale from today, according to a statement released by the Myanmar Football Federation.

The tickets are priced at K5,000 for grandstand, K3,000 for east stand, and K2,000 for ordinary stand, said officials from the football federation.

Tickets will be available at the Thuwunna Stadium and Aung San Stadium, Padonmar Stadium and Hledan Centre in Yangon starting today, the officials added.

Myanmar national football fans need to furnish their National Identity Cards for buying tickets, and they can buy two tickets per card, said officials.

Team Myanmar has been placed in Group F with Japan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

The face-off with Japan will be Myanmar's second match in the second round qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup. Team Myanmar are scheduled to play Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar on 5 September (today).—Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Myanmar team's defender David Htan kicks the ball during a training session ahead of the upcoming World Cup Qualifiers this month. **PHOTO: MFF**

England pick Marchant for Italy match despite World Cup omission



Joe Marchant has been selected to play for England against Italy in a World Cup warm-up. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON (United Kingdom)—England have selected from outside their World Cup squad for Friday's final warm-up match against Italy by naming Joe Marchant at outside centre in a "mix-and-match selection". Marchant is not in the 31-man squad bound for Japan on September 8 but slots into the midfield alongside Piers Francis, with captain Owen Farrell starting the final warm-up fixture at fly-half.

Two further players not picked for Japan 2019 are present on

the bench in lock Charlie Ewels and flanker Matt Kvesic.

Ruaridh McConnochie finally makes his debut on the right wing after two aborted attempts in the double header against Wales due to hip and hamstring injuries. The Bath sevens specialist forms a rapid back three alongside Anthony Watson and Leicester flyer Jonny May.

Henry Slade has lost his battle with a knee injury and misses the last opportunity to get some game time before the World Cup and Ben Youngs is given another run at scrum-half.

Star number eight Billy Vunipola will make his fourth start of the campaign. Mark Wilson makes his first start of the summer at openside flanker and Tom Curry is given another run at six.

"We have gone with a mix-and-match selection policy to develop our adaptability and the team's ability to cope with any situation," said England coach Eddie Jones. England have enjoyed a promising World Cup warm-up series, with a win against Wales at Twickenham and crushing victory over Ireland only slightly offset by a narrow defeat in Cardiff.

Italy complete the four fixtures in the nation's first outing at St James' Park, two days before the squad set off for a pre-tournament training camp in Miyazaki. "We have had a solid training week in Treviso with hot conditions so we are looking forward to testing ourselves against Italy on Friday night," said Jones. "Then we hop on the plane and are ready to go to Japan." —AFP ■