President U Win Myint addresses teacher candidates of national races university

PresIDENT U Win Myint received graduates from the University for the Development of the National Races of the Union yesterday morning at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

The students were the third batch to successfully complete the five-year education degree course. They paid their respects to the President and sought advice from him.

The event was attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Dr Pe Myint, U Min Thu, U Ohn Maung, Nai Thet Lwin; Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Than Htut and U Win Maw Tun; departmental heads, the Rector, the Deputy Rector and teachers of UDNRU and officials.

The President first extended greetings to those at the ceremony and expressed appreciation in meeting with the students as he said the students have recently completed the five-year education degree programme and have become potential architects who would build up the future of education for the country and its people.

The President added that Myanmar comprised over 100 ethnic races who have lived together in unity for many years, sharing weal and woe. The divide and rule policy of colonialists left doubts, mistrusts and disagreements among the people from upper and lower Myanmar. This policy was one of the underlying reasons for the prevailing internal armed conflicts in Myanmar, hindering the nation-building process of the country.

Seeing this root cause, successive state leaders have tried to work for infrastructure development, human resources development and poverty reduction programmes.

One part of these efforts included the establishment of the Institute for Development of the National Races of the Union on 20 October 1964. It was promoted to a university on 10 March 1991 to offer higher level education for the ethnic people in border areas.

President U Win Myint also emphasized the importance of human resources for national development, and that the Education and Training Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs has offered a free education system of basic and higher levels for the ethnic people in border areas by setting up 45 youth training schools across the country, as well as the University for the Development of the National Races of the Union and the colleges of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree in Yangon and Sagaing regions.
Meeting 45/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 45/2019

Meeting 45/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

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

Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations receives British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, U Thaung Tun, received the Baroness Elizabeth Grace Sugg, British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. The British Parliamentary Under-Secretary was accompanied by Dan Chugg, the British Ambassador of United Kingdom.

Union Minister informed the British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State and delegation of the wide range of reforms carried out by Myanmar to open up its economy to foreign trade and investment. He also informed the government’s efforts for the development of Rakhine State including job creation, poverty reduction, women empowerment, improvement of the health and education sectors. He expressed appreciation for UK’s humanitarian and development assistance to Myanmar.

The British Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State acknowledged the Myanmar government’s effort to meet the challenges in Rakhine State. She affirmed that UK will continue to provide the development assistance to Myanmar as well as to support the investment promotion activities. — MNA (Translated by TTNI)
Capable, confident civil service backbone of democracy: President tells varsity students

He said education was the most fundamental requirement for human resources development, and that it developed the mental, ethical and physical development of the young people. Education was key to the prosperity of individuals and the whole country. And that the state established the UDNRU to generate capable teachers who would then share their knowledge at the basic education schools in remote areas after studying for five years theoretically and practically.

The President also expessed that the government was trying to develop the country into a Democratic Federal Union enjoying sustainable development in the world. In this regard, the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (2018-2030) has been adopted. The Goal 4 under this plan had focused on human resources and social development for a 21st century society, and it has set a strategy to improve equitable access to high quality lifelong educational opportunities. It was the aspiration of every citizen with regard to education.

As Myanmar was implementing the National Education Strategic Plan (2016-2021), the teacher candidates need to have possessed 21st century skills and soft skills of personality.

The President also suggested them to train the students for the skills in collaboration, communication, critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation and citizenship which were required to overcome various challenges in the world. He also advised to match these skills with honesty.

He also asked them to produce the students who can accept the concept of equality and diversity, respect democratic practices and human rights norms, and promote varieties of ethnic languages, cultures, arts and customs of ethnic people in 21 century knowledge era.

The President also said the capacity of teachers was pivotal to education reform to meet international norms, and that they were urged to continue lifelong learning to develop professional skills and to share their knowledge again as only those who were seeking knowledge continuously could survive in the changing trend of globalization to be able to enjoy future opportunities.

He remarked that the fast-developing world had delivered both challenges and opportunities, and that it was important for all to build up their capacity for better chances. He also advised them to promote human resources of ethnic youths in accordance with the policies of the Ministry of Education on no discrimination at all levels of education, no one outside education and no dropout from schools.

The President firmly reminded the avoidance of narcotic drugs in various forms for the young people as the illegal drugs would pose dangers on the young people.

According to the 2018 statistics of the Ministry of Health and Sports, there were around 93,000 injection drug users in Myanmar, with an increase in the drugs related communicable disease such as HIV, Hepatitis C and Tuberculosis. The President urged them to work for ensuring illegal drug-free schools as the government was eradicating narcotic drugs as a national task. He also called for developing union spirit that could protect sovereignty of the State and cultural heritage of the ethnic people who were living in the country with abundant natural resources.

The President also remarked that healthy lives and high level of education were the major resources for the future of the country and that these factors were the indicators to measure the development of a country. Lower living standards and lack of health knowledge were the underlying reasons for diseases, and that school healthcare services could help to disseminate this knowledge. He also advised to develop the physical and mental well-being of the young people.

Regarding the principles of civil service staff, the President said the civil employees play a pivotal role in administrative pillar together with the other two pillars of legislation and judiciary of a country. He also remarked that capable and self-confident civil service employees were the main backbone for democratic practices due to their good ethics, free of bias, responsibility and accountability. These attitudes could make mutual trust between the public sector and the people as the performance of civil service staff represented the image and the value of the State.

The President also asked them to try their best for the socioeconomic development of ethnic people and to spread union spirit among national brethren, while he highlighted peace and stability for the development of the country by promoting education to ensure lasting prosperity resulted from the knowledge and education.

He then called for the collective strength of all national people with their powers in strong belief, unity and knowledge in building a powerful country in the world.

The President also urged to reapply the knowledge received from this excursion tour in their respective areas, and finally advised to generate ethical citizens, to train for 21st century skills and soft skills in personality, to persuade the local people for conserving national prestige and for cherishing the country, to take part in local development programmes, to respect languages, cultures and customs of ethnic people for thriving union spirit and to help the government in the efforts of peace, stability and rule of law.

After the President’s speech, Poe Kayin student Ma Nan Yin Yin Htwe from Kawkareik township of Kayin State expressed words of thanks.

Then, the students presented a commemorative gift as a reminder of their excursion tour to the President.

Next, the President and Union Ministers posed for documentary photos with the students and attendees at the event.

After the ceremony, the President cordially greeted the students. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)
Border Affairs Union Minister hosts luncheon for national races university students

UNION MINISTER for Border Affairs Lieutenant General Ye Aung hosted a luncheon for Rector U Mya Win, teachers and 268 students from the Batch 3 of University for the Development of the National Races of the Union on Wednesday.

Before the luncheon at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw, Lt-Gen Ye Aung delivered a speech to congratulate the students as they completed the degree.

The Union Minister also said the students to implement the advice of President U Win Myint on that morning, to perform as good civil service personnel in education sector, to learn regional knowledge during excursion tours, to reaply the knowledge in works, to serve for the country and to develop human resources of the country.

Then, the Union Minister presented cash and served with luncheon before the Rector gave the commemorative gift for the excursion tour.

After the luncheon, all the attendees posed for documentary photo.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

ALI Union Minister receives Thai Ambassador, JETRO Managing Director separately

UNION MINISTER for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu received Thai Ambassador Mrs Suphatra Srimaitreephithak and Managing Director of Japan External Trade organization-JETRO Mr Kazufumi Tanaka separately at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting with Thai Ambassador Mrs Suphatra Srimaitreephithak and delega-
tion, they discussed matters related to establishing centres for providing agricultures and livestock technologies, manufacturing value-added products, the use of fertilizers that contain a low percentage of chemical residues and conducting more research projects.

They also discussed mat-
ters related to cooperation in rural development projects, ag-

ducational insurances and microfinance businesses, seeds manufacturing which is vital source for agriculture, and cooperation in water resources development and irrigation technology sectors.

During the meeting with Mr Kazufumi Tanaka, the Managing Director of Japan External Trade organization-JETRO, and party, they discussed matters related to investments from Japanese companies in the agriculture and livestock sectors of Myanmar, expanding local and foreign markets of dairy products with the dairy products development projects being invested in Myanmar by Japan’s Noble Diary Company.

They also discussed mat-
ters related to proper distri-
bution of dairy products in the regions, the conditions of present actions and sustainable livestock sector development in accordance with 2018 livestock census of Myanmar, and potentials for promoting foreign investment and farmland utilization of Myanmar in accordance with rules and regulations.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Mass Walking marks 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

THE mass walking event to mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday kicked off in front of the Mahatma Gandhi Building in Bo Aung Kyaw Street yesterday morning (around 6am).

Yangon Region Chief Minis-
ter U Phyo Min Thein, Indian Ambas-
dor Mr Saurabh Kumar and Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe first delivered speeches.

Afterwards, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, the Indian Ambassador and wife, the Yangon Mayor, Chairman of the Committees for 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday celebration and officials unveiled the signboard of ‘The Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Trust’ by pressing the button.

The Yangon Region Chief Minister, the Indian Ambassador and the Yangon Mayor then cut ribbons to start the mass walking.

Yangon Region Chief Minis-
ter, the Indian Ambassador and the Yangon Mayor accompanied by participants in the event started the walking from Bo Aung Kyaw Street through Strand Road, Sule Road and Bogyoke Aung San Road, and finished at the start point. — Yi Yi Myint

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Indian Ambassador Mr Saurabh Kumar participate in mass walking event to mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday yesterday. PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT
Union Minister for Education receives US Assistant Secretary of State

UNION Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi received the United States of America’s Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs Ms Marie Royce at the guest hall of Yangon University of Foreign Languages in Yangon yesterday. During the meeting, they cordially discussed cooperation education sector.—MNA
(Translated by TTN)

Myanmar, Thailand sign agreement for second Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand signed an agreement on the management, maintenance and use of the second Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge at the Ministry of Construction in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw said the bridge would be much beneficial for not only Myanmar and Thailand but also other regional countries as it was located on the trade route of Myanmar’s Myawady and Thailand’s Mae Sot as well as on the East-West Economic Corridor that crosses Da Nang city in Vietnam and Mawlamyine city in Myanmar. Transport Minister of Thailand Mr Saksayam Chidchob also delivered a speech.

Union Minister U Han Zaw and Transport Minister of Thailand Mr Saksayam Chidchob sign the agreement on the management, maintenance and use of the second Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge in Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: MNA

35th Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management enters second day

THE 35th Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) began at Shwe San Eain Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 1 October. During the second day session yesterday, Dr Ko Ko Naing, the Director-General of Department of Disaster Management from Myanmar, served as the Rotating Chairman of ACDM and Mr Kistoffer James E Purisima, the Assistant Secretary and Deputy Administrator for Administration from the Philippines, as the Joint-Chairman.

In the morning, the ACDM held talks with ASEAN Plus 3 countries—People’s Republic of China, Japan and Republic of Korea—on collaborative plans, with ASEAN Plus 1 of Japan on cooperation in disaster management and with representatives from UNDP and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) on regional partnership programmes.

In the afternoon, the Governing Board of the AHA Centre held a meeting where Executive Director Ms Adelinal Kamal explained about activities of the centre on capacity-building training course in the regional countries, emergency assistance, information management and cooperation with the partner organizations.

The governing ASEAN members collaborated on the needs of AHA Center.—MNA
(Translated by Aung Khin)

Finn Under-Secretary of State arrives in Myanmar

THE delegation of Finland led by the Under-Secretary of State for external economic relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Nay Pyi Taw at 12:30 pm. Ms Nina Irmeli Vaskunlahti and party were welcomed by Secretary of Finland Embassy in Myanmar Daw Than Than Lwin and officials at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA
(Translated by Aung Khin)

A delegation of Finland led by Ms Nina Irmeli Vaskunlahti, Under-Secretary of State for external economic relations in Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: MNA

The second day of 35th Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) takes place at Shwe San Eain Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: MNA

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NATIONAL 5
Police to monitor hiring of tour guides

By Nyein Nyein

THE tourist police will verify whether tourists are hiring local tour guides or not, said Naw Pan Thin Zar Myo, the Yangon Region Minister for Kayin Ethnic Affairs and the vice-chairperson of the Regional Tourism Committee.

“Although Myanmar has made it mandatory for tourists to hire local guides, tourists are only using guides from their own country. Those guides may not reflect the Myanmar culture. Additionally, this may lead to a lack of jobs for local guides. So, the tourist police will now check whether local guides are being hired,” she added.

“We have already issued instructions to police to ensure that tourists hire local tour guides. We have often found that local guides are being hired by tourists, but English guides are being hired for Chinese tourists. Local guides are not getting jobs as tourists only use guides from their own country. Therefore, we need to resolve this issue. We need to keep a check on this at the entry gates,” said Naw Pan Thin Zar Myo.

“Tourists are choosing to hire guides from their own country, which is not beneficial for the local community. So, we have already made arrangements for the tour police to use technology to check whether tourists are hiring local tour guides or not. For this, the tourist police will have to undergo training next month,” she added.

“If the tourist police find the policy is being disobeyed, the local agent, who tied up with the tour company, will face legal action, said Naw Pan Thin Zar Myo.

Currently, Chinese tourists are opting for cheap tour packages offered by Chinese tour agencies, which are also known as zero dollar or zero budget tours. But, they are being asked to buy jade lots at set shops, she said.

Myanmar receives US$30 per visitor from Chinese tourists for issuing visas. The tourists are spending a minimum of $80 per day. Local tour companies hire entire hotels and restaurants for zero budget tours, in cooperation with Chinese tour companies. As a result, the enterprises make money, while the government loses out on income.

At present, most of the tourists entering Myanmar are from China. Between January and July, 2018, more than 646,000 tourists visited Yangon. During the same period this year, the number of tourists crossed 740,000, said U Naing Win, the director of the Yangon Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Earlier, the hotels and tourism sector was regulated by the Union government. After the implementation of the Myanmar Tourism Law 2018, the sector has been decentralized and power has been devolved to the region and state governments, said Naw Pan Thin Zar Myo.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein is the chairman of the regional tourism committee. The committee also includes officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Union of Myanmar Travel Association, and Civil Society Organizations as members.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Thrice as many foreign visitors as locals coming to watch Ayeyawady dolphins

THE number of foreign visitors coming to watch cooperative fishing with Ayeyawady dolphins has been three times higher than local visitors this year, according to U Maung Lay, the leader of the Ayeyawady Dolphin Conservation and Cooperative Fisheries Team.

Between January and September, more than 1,430 tourists and over 430 locals observed demonstrations of fishing with the dolphins.

“This year, Japanese visitors came for video shooting for more than one month. We were booked for the entire day, and they paid high rates. Local people are also interested in watching fishing with the dolphins.

“This year, Japanese visitors came for video shooting for more than one month. We were booked for the entire day, and they paid high rates. Local people are also interested in watching fishing with the dolphins.

Tourists have been visiting every day since the start of the tourist season,” said U Maung Lay. Germans topped the list of foreign visitors. According to travel data, about 73 foreign and 90 local travellers watched the Ayeyawady dolphin shows in 2016, while 96 foreign and 183 local travellers watched them in 2017. The number increased to 181 foreign and 402 local travellers from January through May, 2018.

Groups of private school students have also been coming down to observe the dolphins. The dolphin conservation and community-based tourism projects have been successful. We have implemented dolphin conservation and community-based tourism projects in eight villages. Now, local people are earning extra income from cooking, selling souvenirs, and showing dolphins,” said U Htay Win, the Head of Dolphin Conservation.

A demonstration on fishing with dolphins can fetch K40,000 per boat. A single boat can carry two foreign passengers or four local passangers in one trip. The implementation of community-based tourism has helped increase the number of tourists significantly year by year. —Khant Kyaw

(Translated by Hay Mar)
NREC Union Minister discusses eco-friendly matters with Finnish delegation

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, U Ohn Win, received a delegation led by Ms Nina Irmeli Vaskunlahti, Finland’s Under-Secretary of State for External Economic Relations, at his ministry yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on technical support for water distribution, purification and treatment, possible cooperation on generating energy from waste, a strategic plan for waste management and its implementations, cooperation on overseeing industrial and other wastes to ensure they meet set standards, manufacturing solar panels, producing pulp from eucalyptus trees and other fast growing plants, producing biomass from agriculture and forests, establishing forest plantations managed by a region, and the implementation process of the national reforestation strategy.

—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union E&E Minister, Finnish, US officials hold talk over energy sector

Union Minister U Win Khaing holds talks with Ms Nina Irmeli Vaskunlahti, Finland’s Under-Secretary of State for External Economic Relations, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Win Khaing holds talks with Ms Nina Irmeli Vaskunlahti, Finland’s Under-Secretary of State for External Economic Relations yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye discusses human rights, gender equality issues in ROK

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye separately visited the Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission of Korea and the Minister for Gender Equality and Family during his visit in the Republic of Korea.

While meeting with Ms Choi Young-ae, the Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission of Korea, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye held talks on the efforts of Myanmar in democratic reform and human rights in accordance with UN conventions such as Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) that monitors the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), signing of Myanmar in the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC) at the 74th UN General Assembly, the cooperation of ministry with Myanmar National Human Rights Commission in taking actions against human rights abuse, implementation on the ten-year reforestation strategy between Myanmar and ROK, collaboration between National Human Rights Commission of Korea and Myanmar, cooperation with international communities including ASEAN in the issue of displaced persons from Kachin State, and strengthening cooperation between ASEAN countries and ROK in the New Southern Policy.

In making discussions with Minister of Gender Equality and Family Ms Lee Jung-ok, the Union Minister exchange views on women’s participation in democratic reform of Myanmar, gender equality and the role of women in the Women Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong, the efforts of government in establishing a democracy federal union, the formation of Myanmar National Committee for Women’s Affairs with the participation of government ministries, women organizations and civil societies, prevention against gender-based violence, justice for the victims in gender-based violence, rehabilitation works, vocational trainings, implementation of joint communique on Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Protection Women against Women in natural resources, future plans for generating, transporting and distributing electricity, loans for developing the electricity and energy sector, and the further implementations concerning the MoU for developing the electricity sector signed on 30 July 2018.

During the meeting with the US-ASEAN Business Council, led by its President Mr Alexander C Feldman, and officials from the US Embassy, they discussed investments concerning basic infrastructure for electricity and energy, improving cooperation between both nations and future projects.

—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye shakes hands with Ms Choi Young-ae, the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission of ROK. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye discusses human rights, gender equality issues in ROK

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy, U Win Khaing, met separately with Ms Nina Irmeli Vaskunlahti, Finland’s Under-Secretary of State for External Economic Relations, and officials from the US-ASEAN Business Council at his ministry yesterday.

During his meeting with the Foreign Under-Secretary, they discussed cooperation on renewable energy sources with Finnish companies working in the energy sector, generating energy from waste products, sharing technology and experience on clean and smart energy, finding sustainable solutions to conflicts after signing with UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General Ms Pramilla Patten, women development programs, the role of young people and youth policy, the enactment of Child Rights Law (2019) in Myanmar, teenager issues and possible cooperation between the two ministries.

—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)
Unicode spells brighter service system for Myanmar

It has been some time since the Myanmar language was规范化d for use in typing with computer systems. First there was CE, used widely in the 1990s, and then Academy. When the Win shell and the advent of mobile phones the Zawgyi font came on the scene. Then came Myanmar 1, Myanmar 2, and Myanmar 3 to supply letter images, metric letters, pinyi, khit and other symbols.

With all these positives and benefits presenting themselves before us, we need to change our font system together with the government ministries, which have done the same.

As community-based tourism entails direct involvement of residents, their suggestions, views, along with current trends should be taken into account.

"Tourism and Jobs: A Better Future for All"

By Hein Lwe (Tourism)

The government’s role is the main organization that is adopting and realizing tourism policies, instilling involvements, facilitating the functions of the travel and tour companies, transport companies and other businesses, recruiting manpower for the industry, taking safety measures and arranging international connections. In turn, for the tourism industry, apart from the people who are directly involved in it. Their attitudes, hospitality, and support are of vital importance. Accessibly-based tourism has direct involvement of the residents, their suggestions, views, and trends should be taken into account. Their roles should be enhanced through training, transport reports on the benefits and proceeds. Many developing countries are effectively using community-based tourism as the driving force behind employment reduction and job generation programs. Myanmar started community-based tourism in 2015. The Ministry of Tourism and Hotels is working together with local businesses and the government of a nation is among the main players of its tourism industry together with private enterprises, non-governmental organizations and local communities and people.

The government can channel the revenues and investments from the industry in the national economic drive and in protecting and preserving national heritage, culture, and archaeological sites and also in the living standards of the people.

Local residents
The involvement of resident communities is also important as community-based tourism entails direct involvement of residents, their suggestions, views, along with current trends should be taken into account.

Women are joining the tourism sector that generates more jobs than other industries. In comparison with other industries, the number of women taking part in the industry is two times higher. Their roles range from handicraft businesses to hospitality services. So, women are earning income for their households, and in some cases, they the breadwinners of a household, thus helping improve the socio-economic and living standards of households. So we must promote the role of women in the tourism industry. They should enjoy equal rights with their male counterparts and should be given the leading role in some issues or businesses. Besides, there should not be any gender discrimination in any workplace or occupation. Moreover, women should be provided with proper training and encouragement and support to run small or medium tourism businesses.

Social benefits
The development of tourism will bring infrastructure development for many sectors and places, especially the remote areas. The industry will act as an engine of growth by improving the transport cultural heritages, bringing sustainable progress of the countries. As the task of bringing sustainable progress and eternal peace for the mankind remains important in the future, we will not allow hands with the tourism industry and strive in accordance with the theme of World Tourism Day 2019 “Tourism and Jobs: A Better Future for All” for realizing a peaceful future for the entire planet.  

Correction
Please read “Win Kyaing (Myanmar Fisheries Federation)” for the writer of the article titled “Myanmar Fisheries Sector: Current status, opportunities for policy reform” on Page 4 of the 21st October issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. GNLM regrets it.—GNLM

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

RAYS IN THE NYAN: Weather is a fear cloud over the Central Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL 11.00H ON 3 October, 2019: Rain or thunder showers will be widespread at Sittwe, Tanga, Ngwesaung, Ngwesaung, Kikun and Kyauktada. Wave height will be about (3–6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3–6) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS FOR 1 October, 2019: Isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR VANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 October, 2019: Isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 October, 2019: Isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
THE Embassy of the Republic of Korea celebrated the National Day and the Armed Forces Day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The event at the Hilton Hotel began with the national anthems of Myanmar and the ROK. Afterwards, Ambassador of Korean Mr Lee Sang-hwa and Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu extended greetings.

Next, invited guests had the documentary photos taken and enjoyed the dinner.

During the dinner, the artists of the Fine Art Department performed with Myanmar and Korean cultural dances.

Also present at the event were U Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, U Hla Thein, Chairman of the Union Election Commission, Union ministers Dr Pe Myint, Dr Aung Thu, U Thant Sin Maung, U Ohn Win, Dr Myint Htwe, U Soe Win, U Thaung Tun and Nai Thet Lwin, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr Myo Aung, Lt-Gen Than Tun Oo of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee U Kyaw Thu Bin, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Myint Maw, deputy ministers Rear Admiral Myint Nwe, U Aung Hla Tun, Dr Ye Myint Swe, U Win Maw Tun and Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint and their wives, permanent secretaries, directors-general, diplomats, military attaches and invited guests.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Union Minister for Health and Sports attends high level and related meetings on UHC

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe attended a high level and related meetings on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) held in New York, United States from 22 to 25 September and arrived back to Yangon on the evening of 30 September.

Under the invitation of Stop TB Partnership Executive Director, the Union Minister attended a TB Innovation Summit 2019 on 22 September and participated in a round table talk as a speaker together with Brazil minister of health.

Next, the Union Minister met with New York based Myanmar doctors association members and discussed for the Myanmar doctors who had become US citizens to visit and provide health care in Myanmar and to share experience and knowledge. Later the Union Minister met with chief executive officers of Washington DC based FHI 360 group.

On 23 September, the Union Minister attended the high level meeting on UHC held at United Nations headquarters in New York. Speeches were delivered by 74th UN General Assembly chair, UN secretary general, WHO director general and World Bank president at the opening ceremony. Meeting attending presidents, prime ministers and health ministers then delivered speeches on behalf of their respective countries and Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe delivered a speech on behalf of the country.

Later in the day, the Union Minister attended a meeting held by Business Council for International Understanding on increasing the momentum of health care on non-communicable disease.

On the morning and afternoon of 24 September, the Union Minister met with General Electronic and One Sight Foundation and later attended a discussion on Eliminating Poor Vision in a Generation.

Afterwards, the Union Minister met with KIRK Humanitarian Group Chairman and Program Director and accepted the pledge by KIRK Humanitarian group to continue providing medicines for Myanmar and to continue cooperating in research on expecting mothers.

On 25 September, the Union Minister attended the Goalkeepers 2019 Program organized by Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation discussed matters relating to Myanmar designated as Goalkeepers.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Min Lin)

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe delivers the speech at the high level and related meetings on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in New York, United States on September 23. PHOTO: MNA

Legal affairs working committee discusses child labour eradication

LEGAL affairs working committee for eradication of child labour in Myanmar held its third meeting at the Union Attorney-General’s Office in Nay Pyi Taw on 1 October.

Deputy Attorney General U Win Myint, the chairman of working committee, presided over the meeting and delivered a speech. He said that eradication of child labour is a national duty of the country, and a national level committee and eight working committee have been formed to perform this task.

He added the legal affairs working committee will focus on better laws to eradicate child labours.

Yangon Region, Bago Region, Ayeyawady Region, Kayin State and Mon State were designated as prioritized project areas, while his committee has been implementing 11 processes.

The working committee will also report the findings in legal issues to the national committee.

The representatives of relevant departments, Nay Pyi Taw Council, and members State Region governments also discussed the implementation of committee.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)
Fishery exports cross $700 mln

Myanmar likely to improve Ease of Doing Business ranking post WB report: DICA

Export earning from the fishery sector in the period from 1 October, 2018 to 20 September, 2019, in the 2018-19 financial year reached US$708 million, an increase of $21.9 million from the year-ago period, according to statistics released by the Commerce Ministry.

In 11 months of this FY, the export volume of fishery products crossed 540,000 metric tons, according to the Commerce Ministry. This year, fishery exports have risen, but the price offered is much lower than that during the same period in the previous fiscal, said an official from the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar’s fishery products, such as fish, prawns, and crabs, are exported to markets in 40 countries, including China, Saudi Arabia, the US, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, and countries in the European Union.

Earlier, only fish caught in the wild were allowed to be exported to the EU market. At present, Myanmar is exporting farmed fish, prawns, and crabs to the EU.

Saudi Arabia’s suspension of fish imports from Myanmar, beginning April last year, has affected rohu fish suppliers. Myanmar keeps only 25 per cent of rohu fish for local consumption and exports the remaining 75 per cent to Saudi Arabia, UAE, as well as Bangladesh.

Myanmar’s exports to Saudi Arabia account for 30 per cent of its farm-raised fish exports and 40 per cent of rohu exports.

The Myanmar Fisheries Federation is making concerted efforts to increase fishery export earnings by developing fish farming lakes which meet international standards and adopting advanced fishing technologies.

There are over 247,000 acres of fish farms and 240,000 prawn breeding farms across the country. Myanmar exported 340,000 tons of fishery products worth $300 million in the 2013-2014 FY, 330,000 tons worth $480 million in the 2014-2015 FY, 360,000 tons worth $500 million in the 2015-2016 FY, 430,000 tons worth $600 million in the 2016-2017, and 565,000 tons worth $700 million in the 2017-2018 FY, according to the Commerce Ministry.

MFF Vice President Dr Toe Nanur Tin said the federation has asked the government to tackle problems faced in the export of farm-raised fish and prawns through G2G pacts and ensure smooth freight movement between countries to bolster exports. According to the MFF, integrated poultry and fish farming cannot ensure food safety, which is a requirement for export. Therefore, the federation has asked for the formulation of a law to restrict that kind of mixed farming. Fish farming must be conducted as a large-scale project to get access to Project Bank loans, according to the MFF.

By Nyein Nyein

Myanmar is expected to move up in the Ease of Doing Business ranking in 2020 against last year, following the initial report of the World Bank, according to U Thant Sin Lwin, the Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Myanmar has been ranked as one of the top 20 improvers in Doing Business 2020 by the World Bank, based on the number of reforms and the degree by which the country’s ease of doing business score has improved in five initiatives; two of which are directly related to the DICA.

“The first initiative is that Myanmar launched an online company registry platform, merging several procedures and reducing the need for in-person interaction. The country showed improvement in starting a business indicator. When Myanmar had been placed a lowly 171 in Doing Business Ranking 2019, it was ranked 154th in starting a business. We expect it will improve its ranking this year. The second initiative is the enactment of the Myanmar Companies Law in which directors’ stipulated duties and changes in shareholding are embodied. Therefore, we expect better results in the 2020 report,” said U Thant Sin Lwin.

Myanmar expects an under-100 ranking in Doing Business 2021, said U Aung Htoo, the Deputy Minister for Commerce, who is also a part of the Improving Ease of Doing Business Ranking working group.

Myanmar was ranked 171st among 190 countries in the World Bank’s Doing Business 2018 report. The country remained 171 in the 2019 report.

The Myanmar Investment Commission under the Ministry of Planning and Finance is targeting a rank of 100 in 2020, 80 in 2025, 60 in 2030 and 40 in 2035, according to the Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan.

The World Bank has determined ease of doing business rankings based on 11 indicators: starting a business, obtaining construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, resolving insolvency, and managing labour, all of which were incorporated into the indicators in 2018.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)
Steps taken to draft National Land Law

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo addresses the work Committee meeting on Drafting the National Land Law and Harmonization of Laws Related with Land Management in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE Work Committee on Drafting the National Land Law and Harmonization of Laws Related with Land Management held its first meeting at the Office of the Union Attorney-General in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, Chairman of the work committee Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo detailed about the duties of the committee saying that the committee is obliged to amend and add the existing laws related with land management as part of efforts for drafting the National Land Law and for bringing harmonization among the laws related with land management in consistency with the National Land Use Policy.

He pledged that the National Land Law would guarantee sustainable land management, land rights, giving protection to rights of ethnic minority groups, settling land disputes and encouraging responsibility and accountability for investment.

The work committee was formed to implement the tasks of the National Land Use Council, which was established to implement the National Land Use Policy.

To support the work committee, the Work Group for Supporting Drafting the National Land Law was also formed to support the work committee.

The work committee will conduct national-level workshops so that the people can participate in drafting the law. The work committee will also provide guidelines to the supporting group to draft the law. At the meeting, members of the work committee, the supporting committee and experts.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

KITZ CORPORATION, a company registered under the laws of Japan, which is located at 10-1, Nakase 1-chome, Mihama-ku, Chiba-shi, Chiba, Japan, is the sole owner of the following trademark:

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Reg. No. 23416/2019

In respect of Class 6: Valves of alloy (other than parts of machines); junctions of alloy for pipes, flanges of alloy, alloyed iron (unwrought or semi-wrought); alloyed steel (unwrought or semi-wrought); alloys of non ferrous metals; building materials of alloy; prefabricated building assembly kits of alloy; liquid storage tanks or reservoirs (of alloy); industrial water storage tanks (of alloy); pulleys of alloy (other than for machines); springs (alloy hardware); packaging containers of alloy; stoppers of alloy (for industrial packaging containers); keys of alloy (mechanical element); cotter pins of alloy; water tanks of alloy for household purposes.

In respect of Class 7: Valves of alloy (parts of machines); shafts of alloy; spindles or axes of alloy for machines (not for land vehicles); bearings of alloy (machine elements not for land vehicles); shaft couplings of alloy (machine elements not for land vehicles); metalworking machines of alloy; semiconductor manufacturing machines and systems of alloy; non-electric prime movers of alloy, not for land vehicles (other than “water mills” and “wind mills”); parts for non-electric prime movers of alloy for land vehicles; power transmissions and gearing of alloy for machines (not for land vehicles); shock absorbers of alloy (machine elements not for land vehicles); springs of alloy (parts of machines); brakes of alloy (machine elements not for land vehicles).

In respect of Class 11: Water purifying apparatus of alloy; household tap water filters of alloy; taps and faucets of alloy; washers of alloy for water taps; level controlling valves of alloy for tanks; pipe line cocks of alloy(spiplotes); boilers of alloy (other than parts of machines); gas water heaters of alloy (for household purposes); non-electric cooking heaters of alloy (for household purposes); distillation apparatus (for chemical processing) of alloy; heat exchangers of alloy (other than parts of machines); air-conditioning apparatus of alloy; solar water heaters of alloy; bath tubs of alloy.

KITZ CORPORATION claims the trademark rights and other relevant intellectual property rights for the mark as mentioned above. KITZ CORPORATION reserves the rights to take legal measures against any infringer who violates its intellectual property or other legal rights in accordance with the concerned laws of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

For KITZ CORPORATION
Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyaunktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

DATED. 3rd October 2019

TRADEMARK CAUTION

PREDATOR ENERGY DRINK
Reg. No. 18869/2019

In respect of Class 32: Non-alcoholic beverages; carbonated drinks; energy drinks; syrups for making beverage; concentrates for making beverage; powders for making beverage; preparations for making beverage; syrups for making carbonated drinks; concentrates for making carbonated drinks; powders for making carbonated drinks; preparations for making carbonated drinks; syrups for making energy drink; concentrates for making energy drink; powders for making energy drink; preparations for making energy drinks; beers.

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For Monster Energy Company
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Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

DATED. 3rd October 2019

TRADEMARK CAUTION
AICHR discusses commonalities of EIA in ASEAN member states

THE ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) held a Regional Consultation on Commonalities of EIA in ASEAN Members States and Advancing a Harmonized and Rights-Based Approach to EIA in ASEAN at the Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

During the meeting, Professor Dr Amara Pon-sapich, the Chair of the AICHR, Ambassador (Rtd) U Hla Myint, the Myanmar Representative of AICHR, U Hla Maung Thein, the Director General of Environmental Conservation Department, and Mr Andrew Haine, the Head International Environmental Law Unit of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), delivered speeches. The meeting was attended by representatives of ASEAN countries to the AICHR, environment and human rights experts from ASEAN regional and international organizations, experts from international organizations, civil society organizations and representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.—MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

CBM Governor receives US-ASEAN Business Council delegation

THE CENTRAL Bank of Myanmar Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung received Ambassador of the United States Mr Scot Marciel, US-ASEAN Business Council President Mr Alexander C Feldman and party at the Zabuthiri Hall of CBM in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to increasing economic cooperation between the two countries, trade and investment, services of banks and financial affairs, insurance, development of information communications technology, progress of electronic cash transaction and E-payments system in finance and banking sector of Myanmar, and development of Myanmar’s financial sector and capital market.—MNA

(Translated by TTN)

Singapore film crew documents Myanmar’s hair trade

A SINGAPOREAN filming crew recently filmed Thet Nay Lin’s business in buying, cleaning and exporting human hair from Pyaywbe Township, and the livelihood of small business of local residents.

The film crew first filmed women donating hair at Yegu Myoma Monastery in Mayangone township, Yangon. They took scenes of the presiding abbot sharing how donating hair is a meritable act and the longest hair donated in record was the 550 feet long ‘Shweza-pin da-dar’ (Golden hair bridge) in Alaungdaw Katapa garden, Sagaing Region. The film crew also documented the hair trade in Yangon and Mandalay regions and Chinese bicycles donated in Hmawbi, Tantapin and Taikkyi townships.

The filming is scheduled for broadcast with the Assignment Asia programme on CGTN Online Channel, which is based in China.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MLV MCC KYOTO VOY. NO. (938S/940N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC KYOTO VOY. NO. (938S/940N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 03-10-2019 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MLV ALS SATSUKI VOY. NO. (009W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ALS SATSUKI VOY. NO. (009W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 03-10-2019 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.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Phone No: 2301185
Cambodian PM fires arrest warning to fans of his arch-rival

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia’s premier Hun Sen on Wednesday threatened to arrest supporters of his nemesis Sam Rainsy if they mobilise for the opposition figurehead’s much-trumpeted return from self-exile next month.

Rainsy, who has lived in France since 2015 to avoid jail for convictions he insists are politically motivated, has promised a dramatic return on November 9, Cambodia’s Independence Day.

Seeking to maintain his support base after years outside the country, Rainsy has urged police during a clash the previous Wednesday in Hong Kong on Wednesday con-stricted for restricting civil liberties — insist new measures are necessary to stop falsehoods circulating. PHOTO: AFP

Rally held in Hong Kong after teenager shot by police

HONG KONG — A rally was held in Hong Kong on Wednesday in protest at the shooting of an 18 year-old high school student by police during a clash the previous day on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China.

The male teenager was critically wounded in the chest when he was shot by a riot police officer at close proximity, but he was in stable condition Wednesday after surgery according to local media.

In Hong Kong, National Day celebrations were largely overshadowed by violence that left over 100 protesters and police officers injured, including two critically.

The Hong Kong government on Wednesday condemned the protests, which have become increasingly violent since they began in June, over a now-abandoned bill that would have allowed Hong Kong citizens to be sent to mainland China for trial.

Students were among the participants at the protest rally held near the wounded teenager’s school on Wednesday.

The student was hospitalized in critical condition after being shot with a live round during a clash in Tsuen Wan in the New Territories, according to local media.

Footage uploaded online showed him wielding a metal rod at police standing at arm’s length when the shot was fired. —Kyodo News
Johnson promises ‘compromise’ Brexit offer to Brussels

The UK’s Prime Minister Boris Johnson prepared his keynote speech for the annual Conservative Party conference in Manchester, northwest England, on 1 October, 2019 which he’ll deliver on the final day on 2 October, 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Leaked blueprint
Johnson, a leading “leave” campaigner in the 2016 EU referendum, took office in July vowing to deliver Brexit at the end of this month in all circumstances. But like his predecessor Theresa May, he has struggled to deliver Brexit at the end of October 31.

His promise to leave without a deal was renounced when MPs last month passed a law demanding he seek to delay Brexit if he has not reached an agreement by an EU summit on October 17. Johnson is now racing to renegotiate the exit terms May agreed with Brussels, which were rejected by the British parliament three times.

His proposals focus on finding an alternative to her controversial “backstop” plan, which aims to keep an open border between British Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland after Brexit. The current arrangement would keep Britain in an effective customs union with the EU, which critics argued would force London to abide by the bloc’s rules indefinitely.

Johnson said his plan would “under no circumstances have checks at or near the border in Northern Ireland”. It would seek to protect cross-border agricultural trade by extending existing regulatory arrangements — indicating Northern Ireland will continue following some EU rules.

But the province will remain part of the same customs territory as mainland Britain, he said. “We will allow the UK — whole and entire — to withdraw from the EU, with control of our own trade policy from the start,” he said. The Daily Telegraph newspaper reported the plan would potentially create two new borders — regulatory checks between mainland Britain and Northern Ireland along the Irish Sea, and customs checks on the island of Ireland.

It added that Johnson wanted to keep this arrangement until 2025, when the devolved assembly in Belfast would be able to decide how to proceed. But the EU has warned many times it will not accept any attempt to put a time limit on the border plan.—AFP

UN urges Australia to release Tamil family

Protesters holds up placards in Melbourne on 1 September, 2019, during a rally in support of a Tamil refugee family of four — including two Australian-born toddlers — who have been moved to the remote Australian detention centre on Christmas Island. PHOTO: AFP

S Y D N E Y — The United Nations has called on Australia’s government to release a Tamil asylum seeker family from offshore detention, weighing in on a case that has galvanised huge public support.

The Tamil family of four have been held at the Christmas Island detention facility for the past month while their fight to stay in the country is before the courts.

Kokilapathmapriya Nadesalingam and Nadesalingam Murugappan, from Sri Lanka, arrived in Australia by boat separately in 2012 and 2013 seeking asylum and have not been accepted as refugees.

Their two children, Kopika and Tharunicaa, were both born in Australia and the family’s legal battle hinges on the youngest daughter as her lawyer argues her claim has never been assessed. Lawyer Carina Ford made a submission to the UN’s Human Rights Committee last month on the toddler’s behalf.

In an 1 October letter, seen by AFP, the committee says in response that it “has requested the State party to transfer (the family) within 30 days into a community setting arrangement or to find another way to end their existing situation of detention”— AFP

Cuba slams US denial of visas to medical delegation

HAVANA — Cuba’s Foreign Affairs Ministry on Tuesday criticized the United States for refusing visas to a medical delegation scheduled to take part in a high-level meeting of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO).

“We reject this arbitrary measure,” the ministry said in a statement, adding “the U.S. government without justification is violating its obligations as host country of an international organization.”

Washington is “once again trying to silence the voice of Cuba,” it added.

On Monday, US authorities denied visas to Cuba’s Minister of Public Health Jose Angel Portal and other officials who planned to attend the PAHO forum this week.—Xinhua

Iraq police fire to disperse new protests despite restraint calls

B A G D A D — Iraqi security forces fired live rounds on Wednesday to disperse new protests in the capital, despite calls from top leaders for restraint a day after two demonstrators were killed.

The protests are the first significant popular challenge to Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi, who formed his government a year ago this month and who controversially blamed the violence on “aggressors” among the protesters.

On Wednesday, the iconic Tahrir Square in Baghdad where hundreds of protesters had gathered the previous day was sealed off by security forces, with some demonstrators gathering around the edges.

Smaller crowds took to the streets in Al-Shaab in north Bagh- dad and Zaafaraniya in the south, an AFP correspondent reported, with riot police attempting to disperse them with tear gas and live rounds fired in the air.

Like the previous day, pro- testers rallied against state cor-ruption, failing public services and unemployment.

“I came out today in support of my brothers in Tahrir Square,” said Abdallah Walid, 27.

He spoke to AFP in Zaafaraniya, where protesters were burning tyres on streets lined with riot police vehicles. —AFP
Premier League appoints David Pemsel as chief executive

LONDON — The Premier League has appointed David Pemsel as its new chief executive, announcing on Wednesday that he would take up the role “no later than April 2020.”

Last November, the league selected Susanna Dinnage for the post but, after accepting, she changed her mind and decided she no longer wanted the job.

The league said Pemsel’s appointment had been approved unanimously at a special league shareholders’ meeting.

Pemsel is chief executive of the Guardian Media Group.

Bruce Buck, the chairman of the Premier League nominations committee, said: “We are delighted to welcome David to the Premier League. His straightforward style and personal integrity make him an ideal person to lead the business.

“At the Guardian, he has shown strong leadership through a period of change and transformation.” Buck praised Richard Masters for his performance in the role of interim chief executive. “I am thrilled to have been offered this incredible opportunity,” Pemsel said. “The Premier League is the most-watched football league in the world and I am very excited to be a key part of that.”

Dinnage withdrew late in 2018 to remain in her role with the Discovery group of TV channels. Her appointment had been hailed as a significant step forward for women in sports administration. When Pemsel takes over he will become the permanent successor to Richard Scudamore, who first joined the Premier League as chief executive in 1999. He served as executive chairman from June 2014 until his retirement in November 2018.

Grassroots festival, youth football tourney to be held in Sittway

WITH the aim of identifying, grooming, and training the next generation of youth footballers, a grassroots football festival and an U-14 tournament will be held in Sittway this month, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The festival and tourney will be supervised by the Myanmar Football Federation and the Myanmar National League, and will be mainly sponsored by Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), said an official.

The Grassroots Football Festival will be held on 20 October, and the opening ceremony for the U-14 football tournament will also be held on the same day.

The U-14 Football Tournament 2019 will run from 21 to 29 October, according to the Myanmar National League.

During the grassroots football festival, children will learn new and innovative football skills, and then showcase their talent and participate in activities with friends and football trainers.

Grassroots football festivals are being organized to show the power of soccer to educate, inspire, and mobilize youth in Myanmar to overcome health challenges, live productive lives, and be agents for change in their communities.

Grassroots festivals have also been held in Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine, and Taunggyi with hopes of improving youths’ skills and health.

Similar grassroots football festivals were held last year across Myanmar, including in Mandalay Region, Shan State, Mon State, Yangon Region, and Bago Region. Local children studying at the Basic Education level can benefit from the festivals and improve their health and sports knowledge, and get opportunities to hone their football skills.

Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola holds the Premier League trophy. PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar U-19 arrive back home with CTFA Cup silver medal

The Myanmar U-19 football players (in blue jerseys) were welcomed by officials from the Myanmar Football Federation yesterday at the Yangon International Airport.

The Myanmar U-19 men’s national football team arrived back at Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon.

Team Myanmar, led by head coach U Soe Myat Min, were welcomed by officials from the Myanmar Football Federation, led by the general-secretary of the MFF, U Ko Ko Thein.

The invitational cup started on 28 September and was held at the Kaohsiung National Stadium in Kaohsiung City, Taiwan.

The Myanmar U-19 team met with host Chinese Taipei U-19 team, the Hong Kong U-19 team, and the Gibraltar U-19 team from Europe in the tourney.

The Chinese Taipei team won the championship title with nine points from three wins.

The Myanmar team secured the second placed with six points from two wins and one loss.

Myanmar lost to Chinese Taipei by 0-1 in the opening match of the tourney on 28 September: The team defeated Gibraltar by 2-1 on 30 September.

The Myanmar team arrived back home after 22 days in China. PHOTO: MFF

Grassroots festival, youth football tourney to be held in Sittway

A boy shoots a ball into a net during a grassroots football festival in Bago. PHOTO: MFF

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