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Yangon to hold Thadingyut light festival

YANGON will celebrate the five-day Thadingyut light festival downtown at Maha Bandoola Park to mark the end of the four-month rain-retreat.

The festival will be held from 10 to 14 October, with lights projecting 30 prominent icons, including the traditional Shan long drum, owl, and rabbit.

Besides, well-wishers will donate food to 30,000 people on 13 October, the Fullmoon of Thadingyut.

Artistes will perform at night during the festival.

The Yangon City Development Committee office downtown will also be lit up, with the lights depicting the YCDC and dolls.— Htin Paw Win (Kamayut)

Maha Bandoola Park in downtown Yangon is lit up two day ahead of a light festival to mark the end of the four-month rain-retreat which will end on Sunday, 13 October. **PHOTO: HTEIN LIN**



Yangon Region government to sell land in three phases

By Nyein Nyein

PLOTS of land owned by the Yangon Region government will be sold in three phases for the purpose of setting up industrial businesses and public housing, said U Than, the Joint Secretary of the Yangon City Development

Committee (YCDC). “The land management committee will sell over 500 plots of land in Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha, and four Dagon townships in Phase 1; over 180 plots from Myaungtagar Industrial Zone will be sold in Phase 2; and, over 9,000 acres, which were previously

marked as agricultural zone, in East Dagon and Dagon Seikkan townships will be put on sale in Phase 3,” said U Than. “Over 500 land plots, which will be sold in Phase 1, are not newly developed or designated by the regional government. Instead, they are plots that remained undeveloped when

new townships were created in Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha, and four Dagon townships. Urban and housing projects have still not been implemented on the plots.

Therefore, the regional government has been authorized to manage those land plots, and it plans to sell them,” said U Than.

“Land-use applications for 500 land plots were sold on 7 October at the office complex of the General Administration Department (Eastern District), and the applications have to be submitted on 8 November,” he added.

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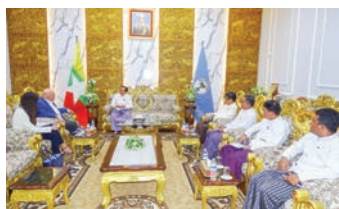
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Union Minister for Transport and Communications receives Netherlands Ambassador

Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung received Netherlands Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Wouter Jurgens at the minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning. At the meeting views were exchanged and discussed

on extending memorandum of understanding signed by the two countries on the management of the Integrated Water Resources, Management project and status of continuing the cooperation. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung meets with Netherlands Ambassador Mr Wouter Jurgens at the Transport and Communications Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister for NREC receives UNDP Res Rep

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (NREC) U Ohn Win received United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative (Res Rep) Mr Peter Batchelor yesterday morning at the ministry's guest hall. UNDP Resident Representative was concluding his tour of duty in Myanmar.

At the meeting past and ongoing cooperation with UNDP in environmental conservation and forestry sector and outcome

results, 10-year reforestation and rehabilitation project, implementation of mangrove forest preservation and rehabilitation works and status of obtaining funding, work processes to establish bio-diversity fund and natural environment maintenance fund and programmes to cooperate with related players, and attending climate change congress as a member country were discussed and views exchanged.— MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister U Ohn Win meeting with United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative Mr Peter Batchelor yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

LIP Minister discusses e-ID system with Austrian Commercial Counsellor



Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe hold talk with Mr Mag Gunther Sucher, Commercial Counsellor of Austrian Embassy in Bangkok of Thailand, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION MINISTER for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received Mr Mag Gunther Sucher, Commercial Counsellor of the Austrian Embassy in Bangkok of Thailand, and party in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The meeting focused on preparation for collecting Unique IDs under the e-ID system that is a prior step for e-Government to be implemented between Myanmar and Austria. The process will include preparing for detailed reports, MoU and collaboration with departmental officials for technical assistance. — MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Int'l Relations Committee Chairman holds talks with Vietnamese Amb

PYITHU Hluttaw's International Relations Committee Chairman U Zaw Thein received Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Luan Thuy Duong and party at Hluttaw Building (I-5) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

They discussed better relations between the parliaments of the two countries and people, cooperation in ASEAN and ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and goodwill exchange visits.— MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)



Pyithu Hluttaw's International Relations Committee Chairman U Zaw Thein meets with the delegation led by Vietnamese Ambassador Ms Luan Thuy Duong in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

MOALI holds 6th Annual MSR of National Community-Driven Development Project

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation organized the 6th Annual Union-Level Review (MSR) for Myanmar National Community-Driven Development Project (MNCDDP), implemented by the Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation in collaboration with the World Bank.

Union Minister Dr Aung Thu made an opening remark at the event held at M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Union Minister said the development of living standard and socioeconomics of people is related with the development of the country, while the MNCDDP is one of the opportunities for this development.

The project has entered the sixth year with the initial support of the World Bank to help the respective communities lead and implement development programmes in their areas.

He added the Department of Rural Development could

successfully introduce the project with rural communities and could accomplish the objective of ensuring social infrastructure development, an essential component of rural development, bringing about improved public services through a people-centered approach which creates resilient communities.

The review was annually held to share experiences and address challenges for better implementation of the project. As a result, a total of 7.1 million people from over 12,000 villages have enjoyed the benefits of this project.

Mr Gevorg Sargsyan, the Acting Country Director of World Bank, extended greetings, and Director General U Khant Zaw from the Department of Rural Development briefed on the project.

During the discussions, Director General of Department for Progress of Border Areas and National Races U Ye Nang, Deputy Director General of Department of Social Wel-



Union Minister Dr Aung Thu delivers the speech at meeting of the 6th Annual Union-Level Review for Myanmar National Community-Driven Development Project (MNCDDP) in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

fare U Aung Kyaw Moe, Project Manager and Director of the Department of Rural Development U Hla Khaing, Lead Social Development Specialist of the World Bank Mr Sean Bradley, Senior Consultant of Asia Foundation Mr Roger Shotton pre-

sented about the cooperation in regional development and its sustainability.

U Hla Khaing, the Project Manager, explained the works in the sixth-year term of the project, and the attendees made group discussions on the

implementation and technical challenges.

The MNCDDP has covered over 12,000 villages in 63 townships, and it will be expanded to 13 townships.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Myanmar, Dutch discuss integrated water resource management

MYANMAR and the Netherlands held a coordination meeting to implement the works in accordance with the MoU signed between the two countries and the cooperation in the field of Integrated Water Resources Management during the period 2019-2010.

The event took place at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with the opening remark by Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo, in his capacity as the Secretary of National Water Resources Committee (NWRC).

Mr Henk Ovink, the Netherlands' Special Envoy for International Water Affairs, discussed the existing cooperation and the future plan between the two countries.

The Joint Secretary of NWRC and the Acting Director General of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, U Win Hlaing, and the Netherlands' Special Envoy signed the agreed plans and the meeting minutes of Joint Steering Committee. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

MECA attending ASEAN Federation of Exhibition and Convention Association annual meeting

A Myanmar Exhibition & Convention Association (MECA) delegation led by MECA Chairman U Myo Thant left Yangon by air yesterday to attend the ASEAN Federation of Exhibition and Convention Association

annual meeting that will be held in Manila, the Philippines, from 11 to 12 October. MECA was established in 2016 and became a member of ASEAN Federation of Exhibition & Convention Association in 2018.—UMFCCI

UCSB discusses civil service reform plan with UNDP



UCSB Chairman U Win Thein meets with UNDP Resident Representative for Myanmar Mr Peter Batchelor in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Union Civil Service Board of Myanmar had a discussion with the United Nations Development Programme in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UCSB Chairman U Win Thein hosted UNDP Resident Representative for Myanmar

Mr Peter Batchelor in his office, and they held talks on the Civil Service Reform Strategic Action Plan (2017-2020) which is a joint project between UCSB and UNDP, its progress, the process under Leadership, Effectiveness, Adaptability and Profes-

sionalism in Myanmar's Civil Service (LEAP) programme, courses and curriculum reforms at the Central Institutes of Civil Service and the future plans. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe inspects gym fitness centre at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Gym fitness centre set up for civil service staff in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory

THE Ministry of Health and Sports has opened a free gym fitness centre for the civil service staff at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw.

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe inspected the centre, equipped with 26 kinds of sports equipment, in the building with 60-ft width and 120-ft length.

The cost of the building was about K624.5 million, and the equipment about K175.7 million.

He looked around the equipment conducted by Director General of the Department of

Sports and Physical Education U Myo Hlaing.

The Union Minister gave advice on good ventilation, systematic registration of civil service staff, opening hours and supplies of additional sports equipment based on the number of visitors to the centre.

He also inspected a restaurant for the visitors who will come to the gym which will start functioning on 16 October.

— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Yangon Region government to sell land in three phases

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The Land Management Committee will screen the applications and sell the plots to selected individuals and organizations for setting up businesses and housing projects.

“Some are competitive in applying for a particular land plot. We will systematically screen their applications. Some applications have been attached with the capital statements and project plans. The committee will screen the proposals, select the individuals and organizations, and forward their names to the regional government.

The land plots will be sold only with the approval of the regional government,” said U Than.

The lands on sale have the grant deed, said Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe.

“Their sale is not for profit. When we get the authorization to sell the lands, we would prefer to sell them to individuals and organizations for housing. As the land is being sold by the regional government, it will have full guarantee,” said U Maung Maung Soe.

The plots that are slated to be sold were previously seized by the government, and com-

pensation had not been awarded to their original owners.

Therefore, to compensate the original farmland owners, the lands are being sold again.

At present, there are over 3,000 cases with the Yangon Region government’s Committee for Scrutinizing Confiscated Farmlands and Other Lands. Compensation of K6.9 billion was given to farmers on 28 September. In the 2019-2020 fiscal year, compensation of K31 billion would be provided to the original farmland owners.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Bagan Archaeological Museum welcomes 295,284 travellers

A TOTAL of 295,284 local and foreign travellers visited the Bagan Archaeological Museum in NyaungU District of Mandalay Region in the 2018-2019 fiscal, said U Nyi Mon, the Deputy Director of the Archaeology and National Museum Department.

The Bagan Archaeological Museum is situated south of the Gawdawpalin temple in old Bagan, NyaungU Township. It is open daily from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, except on Mondays and public holidays. The entrance fee is K5,000 for foreigners and K500 for local travellers. Entry is free for students, children, and monks.

“The museum opened in 1904 near the northern entrance of the Ananda temple. Later, a modern museum was built and opened on 1 October, 1979. In early 1995, construction began on a new museum, along with international standards, near the site of the old museum. The new museum was

opened on 17 April, 1998,” said U Nyi Mon. The museum near Gawdawpalin temple was constructed on a plot of land measuring 10.97 acres. The museum houses 10 exhibition rooms, including a special display room, and rooms featuring Bagan architecture, Bagan arts and crafts, Bagan palace—city, Bagan literature, Bagan social life, Bagan Buddhist art, Bagan Buddha images, Bagan frescos, and Bagan paintings depicting pagodas and monuments.

In the 2018-2019 FY, 284,930 locals and 10,354 foreigners visited the museum. In 2017, a children’s museum was also opened near the Bagan Archaeological Museum. Children can read books at the children’s museum. The statues of Anawyahta, Bayintnaung, and Alaungpaya will be showcased at the children’s museum. — U Win Htein (Ngathayauk)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Project on to boost wheat flour production, quality

THE Korea Project on International Agriculture (KOPIA) is implementing a three-year project to improve wheat flour production and quality of wheat flour products in Myanmar, with the support of the Agricultural Research Department and the Agriculture Department.

“As part of quality control programs in Myanmar, seeds of only paddy have been identified. Seeds for crops such as wheat and chickpea also need to be selected. Therefore, KOPIA has been providing agricultural aids in cooperation with the Agricultural Research Department and the Agriculture Department to boost the wheat flour production

sector in Myanmar and obtain good quality yields,” said Dr Aung Myo Myo Tint, the deputy director of the Maize and Other Cereal Crops Research Section.

To build a strong research sector, the departments will provide the necessary aids and technical help to wheat research farms participating in the project, including Zalote, Pangon, Aungban, Kyaukme, and Nawngmun.

“A total of 150 baskets of quality seeds have been distributed to farmers in 10 townships — Sagaing, Wetlet, Myinmu, ChaungU, Lashio, Nwanghkio, PyinOoLwin, Kyaukme, Kalaw, and Pindaya,” said Dr Aung Myo

Myo Tint.

“With Myanmar experiencing erratic weather, farmers have been facing difficulties in planting crops. So, agriculturalists are required to stress on innovations in processes,” according to Dr Tun Shwe from the Oil Seed Crops and Food Legumes Division.

“We need to do extensive research for producing quality wheat crops and wheat flour, which can be used to make quality wheat products, such as bread, cakes, and cookies,” he added. — Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

(Translated by La Wonn)



Bagan Archaeological Museum has a fascinating collection of exhibits. **PHOTO: U WIN HTEIN (NGATHAYAUK)**

Seintalone mango growers in Bogale Township get good prices

SEINTALONE (Diamond Solitaire) mango growers said they are getting a better price for their mangoes this season due to a huge demand in the Bogale market of Ayeyawady Region.

“A box of 10 mangoes was priced at K3,750 during the first week of the 2018 harvest season (from September to October) in Bogale Township. Meanwhile, a box of mangoes was fetching up to K5,500 at the end of September this year,” said U Kyaw Soe, a mango trader from Bogale Township.

Markets in Yangon and Patheingyi towns are major purchasers of Seintalone mangoes from Bogale. At present, growers said they are cultivating Seintalone mangoes with the aim to get a stable local market.

“As Seintalone mangoes are fetching high prices in the mango market, traders need to build a stable market for them. Currently, Seintalone mangoes are sent mainly to Yangon and Patheingyi, and I have cultivated 800 mango trees, as the mangoes grow well in the season and they are highly demanded in the market,” said U Zin Min, a grower from Bogale Town-



Seintalone mangoes are harvested in Bogale Township. **PHOTO: KYAW KYAW (AYEYAWADDY)**

ship. Growers from Bogale Township usually cultivate from 100 to 1,500 Seintalone mango trees and a total of eight villages have Seintalone mango plantations in the township. —Kyaw Kyaw (Ayeyawady) *(Translated by La Wonn)*

Tomato growers reap profit in Mahlaing Tsp



Woman selling tomatoes at the street market. **PHOTO: KYAW KYAW (MAHLAING)**

TOMATO growers are pleased with the good prices they are getting during harvest time in Mahlaing Township.

Of the several varieties of tomatoes, Myanmar and Shan produce were mostly cultivated earlier, said growers. But now, most regions are cultivating tomatoes supported by sticks, they added. A viss (one viss equals 1.6 kg) is currently fetching over K1,000, and growers are pleased with the successful cultivation amid poor rainfall in the region, according to a tomato grower in Mahlaing Township.

Although tomato and tamarind are normally sent to the Yangon market, growers receive a small share of the profits due to the high transportation fees, said a tomato broker.

There are 247 villages in Mahlaing Township, and most of the residents are cultivating tomato. As Mahlaing Township in Meiktila District, Mandalay Region is located in the central region of Myanmar, crops often fail and the yields are low due to poor rainfall. Therefore, residents have taken up both farming and cattle breeding to earn a living. —Kyaw Kyaw (Mahlaing) *(Translated by La Wonn)*

MICE market, sports tourism to be implemented in Nay Pyi Taw

By Nyein Nyein

TOURISM focusing on the meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE) market and sports will be developed in Nay Pyi Taw in 2020, said U Naung Naung Han, the chair of the Union of Myanmar Travel Association.

Discussions are under way to launch MICE market and sports tourism in Nay Pyi Taw, he said.

“Nay Pyi Taw has potential to implement this plan. There are many hotels in the hotel zone. It is a good place for conferences and meetings, with city facilities. That is why we plan to develop a MICE market in Nay Pyi Taw. The next focus is sports tourism. Nay Pyi Taw has international swimming pool, stadium, and golf course. Motorcycle and auto racing are also available there,” said U Naung Naung Han.

This year, the plan for sports tourism was drawn, and sports tourism activities are likely to begin in 2020.

“Nay Pyi Taw has poor rainfall compared to Yangon. There are also indoor sports activities

that can be held in the city. We are making efforts to start sports tourism from 2020,” he added.

Additionally, there are plans to create tourist destinations and trips near Nay Pyi Taw, he said.

“Nay Pyi Taw has sufficient room occupancy. It also serves as the headquarters of Myanmar ministries. Some foreign countries have also scaled up tourists arrivals through the MICE market. Therefore, Myanmar hopes to expand tourism with this market,” according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Last month, the Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, U Ohn Maung, attended the meeting of the executive committee for Sports Tourism and Gastronomy Tourism at the Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon. He encouraged all stakeholders to work together to develop sports and gastronomy tourism. Cross-border motorcycle and bicycle races and marathons will be more successful if travel entrepreneurs and the related departments are working together, the minister had said.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

No tax stamps on receipts, mobile phone stores fined K60 mln

TAX fines of nearly K60 million were collected as of August from mobile phone and accessories businesses that failed to put tax stamps on receipts, according to the Internal Revenue Department (IRD) under the Ministry of Planning and Finance.

As of August, there were 596 cases where stores failed to put tax stamps on receipts, and the tax fines collected from them were estimated at K59.76 million. Thirty cases involved complaints from the public, and K1.48 million was awarded to people who filed complaints on the absence of tax stamps on receipts, said Daw Swe Swe Khaing, the Deputy Director of the IRD.

“Businesses will surely obey the rules if they are penalized. The tax fines are aimed at forcing businesses to follow the tax rules,” she added. Starting from 1 June, a 5-per cent commercial tax has been levied on mobile phones and accessories. The tax is collected from buyers, and tax stamps need to be affixed to receipts under the Union Tax Law, according to the IRD.

Tax fines are likely to increase under the 2019 Union Tax

Law, which came into effect on 1 October. The tax fines will rise to K500,000 for first-time offenders, K1 million for second-time offenders, K1.5 million for third-time offenders, and K2 million for those found flouting the tax rules four times or more, said Daw Swe Swe Khine.

Earlier, the fines were K200,000 at the first instance, K500,000 at the second instance, K700,000 at the third instance, and K1 million at the fourth instance or more. The IRD generated K5,841 billion in revenue from five taxes as of August, 2019, an increase from K5,279 billion in the corresponding period of last year. The revenue is up K562 billion this year. The tax collected includes income tax, commercial tax, special goods tax, state lottery tax, and stamp duty.

The revenue from stamp duty has been lower than in the year-ago period, while the income generated by the four other taxes is higher. The decline in stamp duty revenue has been attributed to a slowdown in real estate deals and the construction industry. —GNLM *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

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Thadingyut holidays: MR to run special trains between Yangon, Mandalay

THE Myanma Railways will operate two special trains between Yangon and Mandalay from 10 October for the convenience of people who wish to return to their hometowns for the Thadingyut holidays.

The special trains will leave the Yangon Central Railway Station at 4:30 pm and arrive in Mandalay at 10:40 am.

The train from Mandalay station will leave at 6 pm and arrives in Yangon at midnight. MR will run up and down special trains on the Yangon–Mandalay line under this schedule.

Upper-class tickets for the trains will be available at the railway station from 8 October, and ordinary-class tickets will be sold from 9 October.

The fare has been set at K9,300 for upper-class seat and K4,650 for ordinary class seat. The special trains will stop at Toekyaungkalay, Bago, Daik-U, Pyuntaza, Nyaunglebin, Peinzaloke, Kyaukta-



Railway engine pulling carriages into Yangon Central Railway Station. PHOTO: PWINT THITSAR

ga, Kanyutkwin, Phu, Toungoo, A lar, Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw, Tatkon, Yamethin, Pyawbwe, Nyaungyan, Thazi, Thaetaung, Myitthar, and Kyaukse stations.

The 11 up and 12 down, 5 up and 6 down, and 3 up and 4 down trains will be operated regularly, as part of Myanma Railways’ push to offer better

services to travelers.—Pwint Thisar ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

MR starts container train from MITT Port to Bago Yayni station

A train with container coaches started operating from 3 October between the Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa (MITT) Port in Thilawa, Thanlyin Township and Yayni station in Yedashe Township, Bago Region, according to Myanma Railways (MR).

The container train started operations under a contract between MR and Best Eternity Recycle Pulp and Paper Co Ltd. The distance between the MITT jetty and Yayni station

is 215.75 miles.

The container train has 27 coaches, and shipment from the MITT Port near Thilawa station is loaded directly onto the container coaches.

The train has a 200-horsepower engine. Each car can accommodate a load of 1,400 tons, according to MR.

Recently, two dry ports were opened on MR-owned land at Ywarthargi in Dagon East Township in order to transport containers by train

between Yangon and Mandalay.

The two dry ports were constructed on MR land by KM Terminal and Logistics Limited and Resource Group Logistics Co Ltd under a Build Operate Transfer (BOT) agreement.

Each dry port was constructed on a 40-acre plot of land. Construction began on October, 2017 and the ports were opened on 11 November, 2018.

The Thilawa Special Economic Zone opened in 2015, and 113 foreign companies have been permitted to invest in the zone as of 1 September, 2019. Of them, 76 companies have started operating with a total investment of US\$1.7 billion, according to data released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. —Aye Cho ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

MR to run Yangon-Bagan special trains during Thadingyut holidays

MYANMA Railways (MR) has announced it will operate special trains between Yangon and Bagan for the convenience of pilgrims travelling to Bagan.

Under the holiday schedule, the special train from Yangon will depart from the Yangon Central Railway Station at 2:15 pm on 11 October and it will reach Bagan at 9 am on 12 October.

The train from Bagan sta-

tion will leave at 5 pm on 14 October and arrive in Yangon at 12:20 pm on 15 October.

Officials from MR have arranged to sell tickets for the special trains at regular rates.

The MR will charge K4,500 per seat for ordinary-class tickets, K12,000 per seat for first-class, and K16,500 per seat for upper-class tickets.

The special trains, 61 and 62, will run between Yangon

and Bagan, and they will stop at Thayawady, Letpadan, Minhla, Okkpho, Gyobingauk, Zegone, Nattalin, Paungde, Pateegone, and other stations along the Yangon-Bagan rail route. The 61 and 62 Yangon-Bagan special trains will run daily.

Moreover, MR will run more passenger trains to facilitate transportation during the Thadingyut holidays be-

cause the Kyimyindine-Pyay mail trains and the Kyimyindine-Tharyaywa trains are normally filled with a large number of passengers during the Thadingyut public holidays.

Therefore, MR said it will increase the number of passenger coaches in those trains. —Pwint Thitsar ■

(Translated by La Wonn)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Press Release No 38/2019
9th Waxing of Thadingyut, 1381 ME
(7 October 2019)

Additional statistical bulletin on drug seizures, acting on information

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic drugs, the Office of the President has formed the **Drug Activity Special Complaint Department** on 26 June 2018 to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.
2. With orders from the Office of the President, the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department relayed information on reports on drug-related offenses up to 5 October 2019 to the Ministry of Home Affairs to take action, as displayed below:

Sr	Nature of report	Details on seizure and legal action taken
1	Information received of Daw Nilar Moe, who live in Tarlawgyi Village, Myitkyina Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 29 September 2019, police searched the house of Daw Nilar Moe, 42, daughter of U Htwe Maung, who lives in Tarlawgyi Village, Myitkyina Township, and arrested her together with heroin. Acting on a tip-off, police also searched the house of Daw Tin Nwe, 37, daughter of U Kyaw Thein, but police did not find narcotic drugs. A case has been opened them with NaMaSa(Tarlawgyi) MaYa(pa)65/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
2	Information received of Poe Nge, who live in Thayargon Village, Phakant Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 4 October 2019, police searched the house of Poe Nge (a) Koe Chaung (a) Myo Tint, 34, son of U Aung Thein, who lives in Thayargon Village, Phakant Township. Police seized heroin from the house of Poe Nge who absconded from there. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Phakant) MaPa(pa)204/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
3	Information received of Shanlay, who live in Chantha Ywarthit, Phakant Township, Kachin State, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 5 October 2019, police searched Shanlay’s hut which located in a ravine near the Saungchain-Ah-mitepon village road, west of Chantha Ywarthit, Phakant Township, and found Lataung, 40, son of U Ghan Hsaing, together with heroin. Shanlay absconded from there. A case has been opened them with NaMaSa(Lonkhin) MaYa (Pa)68/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
4	Information received of Kyi Khine who lives in Thabyaythar Village, Shwebo Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 29 September 2019, police inspected a motorcycle on the Shwebo-YeU road Oakshitkan Village, Shwebo Township. It was ridden by Kyaw Htet Aung, 22, son of U Kyaw Tint, who lives in No 10 Ward, Shwebo Township, and arrested him together with ‘88/1’ stimulant tablets. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Shwebo) MaYa(pa)19/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Kyi Khine (a) Zaw Lin Tun, 35, son of U Hla Baw, who lives in Thabyaythar Village. Police found him accompanied by Pyae Son, 35, son of U Wan Maung, who lives in Palaine Village, Zaw Lin, 44, son of U Shwe, who lives in Innpinpyant Village Kanbalu Township, and Maung Khine (a) Rakhine (a) Kyaw Moe Khine, 32, son of U Tin Shwe, and arrested them together with ‘WY’ and ‘88/1’ stimulant tablets. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa(Shwebo) MaYa(pa)20/2019 under Section 19(a), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
5	Information received of Phoe Khwar who lives in Nanttaw Village, Homalin Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 1 October 2019, police inspected a motorcycle driven by Than Zaw (a) Zaw Gyi, son of U Phan, who lives in Thatkataung Village, on the road of Nanttaw-Auktaungpaw, Homalin Township, and arrested him together with heroin. Acting on a tip-off, police searched the house of Phoe Khwar (a) Ne Win, 44, son of U Ye Thein, who lives in Nanttaw Village, but police did not find narcotic drugs. A case has been opened them with NaMaSa(Minekine) MaPa (pa)74/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
6	Information received of Kyaw Hlaing who lives in Shwehtigon Village, Pinlebu Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 2 October 2019, police searched the house of Kyaw Hlaing, 41, son of U Than Pe, who lives in Shwehtigon Village, Pinlebu Township, and arrested him together with ‘WY’ stimulant tablets and heroin. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Pinlebu) MaYa(pa)77/2019 under Section 19(a) and 20(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
7	Information received of Phoe Htoke and Ba Win who live in Kyunpin Village, Wuntho Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 3 October 2019, police searched the house of Phoe Htoke (a) Sein Win Kyaw, 31, son of U Ba Win, who lives in Kyunpin Village, Wuntho Township, and police found him accompanied by his father U Ba Win, 63, son of U Hla Maung, and arrested them together with heroin. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa(Wuntho) MaYa(pa)73/2019 under Section 19(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
8	Information received of Soe Naing who lives in Kyunpin Village, Wuntho Township, Sagaing Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 3 October 2019, police searched the house of Soe Naing, 47, son of U Poe Hlaing, who lives in Kyunpin Village, Wuntho Township, and found him accompanied by Than Linn, 44, son of U Tin Oo, who lives in Gyotaung Zaythit Ward and Chaw Aung, 28, son of U Chit Aung, who live in Kyaukkyi Village. Police seized heroin from them. A case has been opened them with MaMaSa(Wuntho) MaPa (pa)74/2019 under Section 19(a), 20(a) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
9	Information received of Sarkyin who live in Manwein Village and Tin Mya who lives in Naungpat Village, Bamauk Township, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 4 October 2019, police searched the house of Sarkyin, 30, son of U Tin Lay, who lives in Manwein Village, Bamauk Township, and arrested him together with heroin. A case has been opened him with NaMaSa(Mansigyi) MaYa(pa)34/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Similarly, police searched the house of Tin Mya, 55, son of U Phoe Maung, who lives in Naungpat Village, and found him accompanied by Eimaung, 51, son of U Than Pe, who lives in the same village. Police arrested them together with opium. A case has been opened them with NaMaSa(Mansigyi) MaYa(pa)35/2019 under Section 16(c) and 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
10	Information received of Pwarlay who lives in Gugyigon Village, Mingaladon Township, Yangon Region, distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 2 October 2019, police searched the house of Pwarlay (a) Letpwar (a) Aung Zaw Moe, 25, son of U Aye Lwin, who lives in Gugyigon Village, Mingaladon Township, and arrested him together with ‘WY’ stimulant tablets. A case has been opened him with NaMaSa(Htaukkyant) MaYa(pa)33/2019 under Section 16(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
11	Information received of Daw Khin Soe Kyi who lives in Shwezarli Village, Momeik Township, Shan State (north), distributing and selling illegal drugs.	On 2 October 2019, police searched the house of Daw Khin Soe Kyi, 50, son of U Kyaw Nyunt, who lives in Shwezarli Village, Momeik Township, and arrested her together with ‘88/1’ stimulant tablets. A case has been opened him with MaMaSa(Momeik) MaYa(pa)82/2019 under Section 19(a) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

3. Out of the information sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, so far a total of 782 cases have been opened files as of 5 October 2019. A total of 1221 people, including 1,032 men and 189 women had been arrested with 7,010.2794 g of heroin, 1,318.72 g of ICE, 39,816.95 g of opium, 329.6 g of low-quality opium, 19,809.27 g of speciosa powder, 7,833.19 g of speciosa, 2.5 liters of liquid speciosa, 344,685 stimulant tablets, 8,363.22 g of marijuana, 0.1 liters of opium tincture, 513.26 g of opium blocks, 60 g of poppy seeds, 29.15 g of crushed stimulant tablet powder, 0.001 g of crushed ecstasy powder, 18 firearms, different kinds of 257 cartridges and one grenade. Efforts for fighting the drug trafficking has been stepped up and the department will report on further exposed cases.

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

Contacts:

Landline No.	— 067-59020
Fax Phone No.	—067-590233
Email Address	— antinarcotics@presidentoffice.gov.mm

Modern technology can help electoral process

THE Union Government is committed to ensuring the 2020 general elections meet five standards: freedom of choice, fairness, transparency, accessibility, and compatibility between public desire and the election result.

To meet the standards, the election strategy for 2019-2022 is being implemented, in accordance with the timeline. The performance of the sub-commissions, and the participation of the people and responsible groups from different sectors in the electoral process is critical to making the strategy a success.

Facts and data from the previous general election are being used to draw a draft plan for holding the new election.

To make the electoral process smooth, the members of the sub-commissions and the UEC need to ensure they provide information and documents to the people from all sectors through the UEC website and social media.

and social media. This objective is included in Chapter 5 of the strategic plan for the 2019-2022 polls.

To release timely information about electoral processes, we should take advantage of social media, especially Facebook, which is current the most popular social networking site among Myanmar youths. Why? An estimated five million youths will be voting for the first time in the upcoming general elections.

The Facebook platform also needs to be used to promote youth participation in the election process, and to launch electoral education and awareness campaigns.

It is undeniable that social media plays an important role in the modern world, and its pages are popular platforms for sharing information.

But, there are advantages and disadvantages, or challenges, in using social media. The challenges include reporting of pessimistic news, false news, fake news, and unofficial and fake social media pages.

Therefore, the sub-commissions need to be well prepared to respond to fake news and rumors in a timely manner. The sub-commissions are urged to use modern technologies effectively to successfully implement the commissions' works and the 2020 general elections processes, in accordance with the five norms.



Rakhine and I

By Prof Dr Aung Tun Thet



I HAVE made frequent trips to Rakhine since 2016. I traveled there as part of the Maungtaw Investigation Commission led by Vice President U Myint Swe after the conflicts that occurred in Maungtaw Region in 2016. I have also visited the region for socioeconomic research programmes during my tenure at the Institute of Economics. I collected information at various villages and collaborated with the pearl and fishery associations as well. Then when the UEHRD was formed in 2017, I made more visits as its Chief Coordinator and also as part of the Independent Investigation Commission. Personally, I have also visited Sittway and MraukU with my family.

Meeting with businesses in Sittway

This was different from past visits as I was meeting with private businesses in Sittway. I had recently been acquainted with U Soe Paing, Chairman of a public company in Rakhine, during an investment forum in Bangkok.

Now, as I was both a researcher and lecturer on public companies, one established in Rakhine State intrigued me. I had gotten in contact with U Soe Paing last month and arranged for a seminar in Sittway. We chose a date I was available but U Soe Paing had to go abroad that day so my assistance, Ko Lu Aye, had to organize everything with the officials.

Joining me in that seminar were UMFCCL Secretary-General U Aung Kyi Soe, the leader of Rakhine Ethnic Myanmar Innovators Association U Tun Tun Naing, and U Zaw Min Thein, founder of the Rakhine State football team. We notified State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu of the meeting and seminar as well.

Exchanging perspectives

I flew to Sittway in the early morning to get more time. Ko Lu Aye was waiting for me at the airport with the Chairman of the Rakhine Chambers of Commerce, the Chairman of the Rakhine Ethnic Entrepreneurs Association and other officials.

We went to the SS Restaurant near the beach and had Rakhine mont-di (rice vermicelli mixed

with thin soup). I quite enjoyed the mont-di as it was very delicious as well. We held our meeting at the restaurant after we finished our meal.

We explained the motive behind our visit and urged them to honestly put up the actual facts. The attendees were experienced business people consisting of individual company owners, conglomerates and public companies who have practical experience.

We listened to them and exchanged opinions. We had the opportunity to learn what the actual people in the field were facing. I was happy with their honesty and trust. U Aung Kyi Soe and U Tun Tun Naing shared their views and assumptions with them too. When my turn to speak came up, I urged them to envision how they want

Rakhine State to look like in the next 20 to 25 years.

The Rakhine issue is currently the biggest difficulty challenging our nation. We are facing different forms of international pressure. Human rights issues, economic issues, social issues and political issues. The Union Government is working hard towards resolving these issues. The different ministries are taking action as well. And State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is leading the UERHD and has received the support from the business community.

As I was assigned to the task, I regulated negotiations with the business people. And I still am. We need to unveil objectives for

I want Maungtaw to become a border trade zone like Muse and Myawaddy. People only think of conflict when Maungtaw is mentioned but it is already engaging in trade with neighboring countries.

They talked about developing the private sector and implementing a good administration system in companies into different sections. The truth is Rakhine already has sound economic foundations. It is also geographically strategic. I urged for good corporate governance in public companies during the second part of my talk.

Good corporate governance

The Government during former President U Thein Sein's

I want Maungtaw to become a border trade zone like Muse and Myawaddy. People only think of conflict when Maungtaw is mentioned but it is already engaging in trade with neighboring countries.

the future when doing so.

The dream for Rakhine

An attendee shared a dream they had since the formation of the UEHRD. It was about realizing the Kanyinchauing Economic Zone. The State Government was trying its best to achieve it. They are planning to open it in the coming month of December.

term urged for establishment of public companies. They encouraged it greatly. That is why public companies were uncovered and established everywhere. They spread like wild mushrooms.

There are a total of 200 public companies now. But despite the large number, there wasn't any good corporate governance system. Only a few people were

well-trained in administration. Recently, a group was formed to provide training courses for director-level personnel. The basis of good administration is differentiating between assets and administration.

I had serious discussions with the State Chief Minister and officials on providing training courses to systematically develop the public companies formed or based in Rakhine State. We would also require the assistance of UMFCCL.

We must fix the zealot attitude in our nation with a more systematic approach. It's not enough for them to be many public companies. We must go from there to the stock exchange market. There are six registered companies in Yangon's stock exchange but more need to come in. Only then will an investment market form in Myanmar.

Rakhine's future depends on multi-sectoral development

I am pleased with this trip to Sittway. I want to help with Rakhine's issues from the experience of my full understanding. We especially need to gather the strength of the private sector.

The future of the entirety of Rakhine State depends on how far its political, economic and social development reaches. We need to nurture it to become a region filled with peace and prosperity. And I believe we can make it so.

(Translated by Pen Dali)



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 8th October, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 9 October, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Kachin and Mon States, scattered in Lower Sagaing, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Northern Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayin States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of continuation of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9 October, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9 October, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 9 October, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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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Writing for the Newspapers

By Lokethar

NEWSPAPERS are an important part of the "Media" for informing the public what is happening from day to day in the country and abroad. It is a print media that is accessible by most members of the public who are literate to the extent of being able to read the newspapers. It's in fact of far greater value than it's price which of course is affordable to most people. Even if one can't purchase a newspaper, one can "borrow" it from someone who has read it or failing that one can read newspapers in the community library.

Besides the news, the newspapers are a source of information on a great many matters which are of interest to the public, including Advertisements, Notifications, Market Information, Entertainment Information, Articles of Opinions of Citizens, Weather Forecasts, and of course Obituaries.

If I may, I'd like to point out some aspects of news items carried by the newspapers. Some news item often have repetitions in them. Some don't go straight to the point in giving factual information. Some news is generalizations and may even be just the opinion of the news provider

and/or the reporter. For example, stating that a motor vehicle accident happened was because "the driver was not able to control the vehicle" is an obvious generalization. The real cause of the accident would be known only after an accident investigation by the experts concerned. The same holds true for reporting "fires" as being due to electrical "shorts". Where adequate protections had been taken to prevent failures due to "short circuits", the real cause could be something else. If the real cause can be established at the place of the accident, then reporting it would be just fine.

Besides the news written

by the reporters of the newspaper, there are writers, notably columnists who write articles expressing their opinions about matters of interest to the public on a more or less regular basis. Many of the columnists are of course not trained in journalistic writing; they just write as a hobby. Retired Government servants, who have time on their hand, and who would wish good things to happen to the country, write articles mostly based on the knowledge and experience they had acquired throughout their life.

About the articles written for the newspapers, as a rule the

Editorial Board, if there is one, would go through the text and decide if it merits publication in their newspaper. I guess that if the article is too critical of an organization, or does not contain enough factual information, then perhaps they may decide not to publish it in their newspaper. In such a case it's the normal practice for the editor to pen a note (or in this age send an e-mail) to the regular writer expressing regret for not being able to publish his Article at this time around.

Another point about "Articles" published in the newspapers. They should preferably be in simple language which can be

understood by the layman. After all the newspapers cater to all the people in the country, the majority of who are not well educated. Hence complex thoughts and articles full of "Technical Jargon" and complex statistics should preferably be published in the professional journals and magazines instead of in the newspapers. The editors of the newspapers should decide whether the article submitted is way above the "head" of majority of the readers in deciding whether to publish it or not.



India hands over 10,000 vials of Anti-rabies Vaccines to Myanmar

On behalf of the Indian government, the Embassy of India in Yangon handed over 10,000 vials of Anti-Rabies Vaccines to Ministry of Health and Sports on 7th October in Yangon.

Deputy Chief of Mission Dr Sumit Seth presented the vaccines Dr Zaw Than Htun, Director General of the Department of Medical Research of the ministry.

The aim of the donation

was to provide support to the Government of Myanmar for its fight against Rabies and to showcase the strength of India's pharmaceutical industry in manufacturing high quality vaccines at a highly competitive price, according to the Indian Embassy.

The ceremony started with the opening remarks by Dr Sumit Seth, followed by the words of appreciation by

the director-general Dr Zaw Than Htun presented the certificates of honour to Dr Seth.— GNLM

Director-General Dr Zaw Than Htun presents the certificate of honour to Dr Seth. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**



Brazil highways drive Amazon development — and destruction



Workers pave the BR163 highway in Itaituba — President Jair Bolsonaro's government is eager to develop the Amazon to bolster Brazil's weak economy. **PHOTO: AFP**

RUROPOLIS — Trucker Erik Fransuer spends months at a time driving back and forth on highways that cut through the Amazon in northern Brazil, delivering soy or corn to river ports. Fransuer is one of thousands of truckers plying the BR230 and BR163, major transport routes that have played a key role in the development and destruction of the world's largest rainforest, now being ravaged by fires.

"I like the freedom of being on the road," Fransuer, 26, says as he and other drivers relax in hammocks strung up between trucks parked side by side at a gasoline station in the dust-blown town of Ruropolis.

Fransuer spends at least 12 hours a day sitting in his big rig listening to fast-paced music as he bounces along the highways constructed nearly 50 years ago — and somehow still not finished.

Meter-wide potholes, bone-jarring corrugations, rickety wooden bridges and billowing red dust that wipes out visibility along dirt sections of the mostly two-lane roads make them hazardous to navigate at the best of times.

"That way, there's no road," says Fransuer, gesturing in the direction of the BR163 connecting Ruropolis and Santarem, which until recently was a rough dirt track.

But it is changing.

Eager to develop the Amazon to bolster Brazil's weak economy, President Jair Bolsonaro's government this year plans to finish asphaltting the 1,770-kilometer (1,100-mile) BR163 stretching north from Cuiaba — the capital of the central-west state of Mato Grosso, Brazil's grain-growing powerhouse — to Santarem.

Road workers are also paving sections of the more than 4,000-kilometer BR230, known as the Trans-Amazonian highway, which cuts across the rainforest from the Atlantic coast city of Joao Pessoa to Labrea in the west.— **AFP** ■

Unilever to halve use of new plastic

THE HAGUE — Anglo-Dutch commercial giant Unilever said Monday it will cut its use of new plastic by half by 2025, admitting the move was partly to appeal to young, more environmentally-conscious customers. The firm, which owns brands including Dove soap, Ben and Jerry's ice cream and Marmite, would cut annual use from the current 700,000 tonnes of a year to no more than 350,000 tonnes.

The move comes as multinational firms face growing pressure to cut the use of plastics which are polluting both land and sea.

"Plastic has its place, but that place is not in the environment. We can only eliminate plastic waste by acting fast and taking radical action at all points in the plastic cycle," Unilever chief executive Alan Jope said in a statement.

But Jope told the BBC that the company — whose 400 brands also include Knorr,

Lipton tea and Magnum ice creams — was also trying to remain "relevant".

"We do believe in trying to remain relevant for younger groups of consumers, and we know that millennials and Gen-Zennials, the next wave, really care about purpose and sustainability, and the conduct of the companies and the brands that they're buying," he told the broadcaster.

Of the 350,000 tonnes of "virgin plastic" Unilever will cut, it said 100,000 tonnes will come from an outright reduction in the use of plastic packaging, for example by making reusable or refillable packs, using alternative packaging or "naked products" that use none at all.

The other 250,000 tonnes of the reduction will come from using recycled plastics.

The firm said it would also "help collect and process more plastic packaging than it sells". — **AFP** ■



Shampoo could be sold in bars, eliminating the need for plastic bottles. **PHOTO: AFP**

Scheer ups attacks on Trudeau in Canada election debate

GATINEAU (Canada) — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's main rival Andrew Scheer of the Conservatives came out swinging against the Liberal incumbent in a Canadian election debate Monday after a dismal week that saw him blow a previous matchup.

The televised grudge match brought together on stage a record six party leaders.

But the main focus stayed on the two frontrunners who are in a dead heat with only two weeks left before the 21 October ballot. Each is looking to sway a big block of undecided voters.

From the get-go, Scheer went on the attack, calling Trudeau "a phoney and a fraud."

He raised Trudeau's wearing of blackface makeup, his med-

dling in the criminal prosecution of engineering giant SNC-Lavalin and his firing of the nation's first indigenous attorney general "for not going along with his corruption."

"You do not deserve to govern this country," he said.

Trudeau shot back, criticizing Scheer for his underwhelming climate proposals at a time of global crisis, while defending his record over the past four years in office — including a strong economy, less poverty and low unemployment. He also accused Scheer and his Tories of fostering "politics of fear and division."

Scheer seeks to make impact

Scheer, who is untested and relatively unknown after only



Conservative leader Andrew Scheer (R) and Canadian Prime Minister and Liberal leader Justin Trudeau gesture to each other as they both respond during the Federal Leaders Debate at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Quebec on 7 October, 2019. Photo by Sean Kilpatrick. **PHOTO: AFP**

two years as leader of the Conservative Party, has struggled to

endear himself to voters in this campaign.—AFP ■

IS threat to spread if Turkey invades northern Syria

BEIRUT — A feared Turkish invasion of northeast Syria could spark a resurgence of the Islamic State group, analysts and Kurdish forces have warned, despite Ankara's pledge to prevent the jihadists' return.

Ankara has threatened an

offensive in Syria against Kurdish militias it considers terrorists and US forces on Monday pulled back from Turkish border areas, opening the way for an invasion President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said could come at any moment. An open assault would

reverse years of successful Kurdish-led operations to defeat IS and allow some of its surviving leaders to come out of hiding, said the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), the Kurdish militia that controls much of northeastern Syria. With little other leverage

left in the regional game, Sam Heller of the International Crisis Group think tank, told AFP the SDF has an "interest" in warning of an IS threat if open conflict breaks out with rival Turkey.

"But the fact is that ISIS is still a threat, one that seems likely to metastasise if the SDF is forced to divert attention and resources... to a defensive battle against Turkey," he said, using another acronym for IS.

While a Kurdish-led operation earlier this year saw the death of IS's territorial caliphate, the organisation isn't dead and sleeper cells have been active in SDF-held areas and in Syria's vast desert where they continue to hit regime forces with deadly attacks and ambushes.

Charles Lister, director of the US-based Middle East Institute, said US President Donald Trump was "granting IS the gift of re-birth".—AFP ■



Turkish-backed Syrian rebel fighters gather near the Syrian-Turkish border as Ankara threatened an offensive against Kurdish militias it considers terrorists. **PHOTO: AFP**

Stolen truck slams into cars in Germany, several injured: police

BERLIN — A stolen truck ploughed into cars in the centre of the German city of Limburg on Monday leaving several people injured, police said, adding that the driver had been detained.

"Based on what we have learned and several witness accounts, the man seized control of the truck at about 5:20 pm (1520 GMT)," police said in a statement.

Soon after, the truck slammed into cars waiting at a stoplight near the main railway

station of Limburg in Hesse state, "crushing them together".

"Several people are being treated in hospital" and the driver, who is in custody, was slightly injured, police added.

German news agency DPA quoting regional police put the number of people hurt at 16 including one person in a critical condition. Police said it was too soon to speculate about a motive.

"We currently do not have sufficient information about what was behind it," they said.—AFP



The articulated lorry slammed into around nine cars waiting at a traffic light. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS In BRIEF

UK debt burden to rocket under no-deal Brexit: think-tank

LONDON — Britain's debt burden would jump to its highest level in 50 years if it leaves the EU without a deal, a leading think-tank warned Tuesday.

The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) said that due to Prime Minister Boris Johnson's public spending plans, government borrowing was set to top £50 billion (\$61 billion, 56 billion euros), equal to 2.3 per cent of GDP, or total national economic output.

The figure is double what the Office for Budget Responsibility public body was forecasting in March, four months before Johnson took office pledging a public services spending boost.

It also breaks the government's self-imposed fiscal rule of keeping borrowing to below two percent of GDP in order to balance the books by the mid-2020s. The IFS economic research institute said that even a relatively benign no-deal Brexit would likely lead to borrowing approaching £100 billion or four percent of GDP.

As a result, accumulated national debt would climb to almost 90 per cent of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) for the first time since the mid-1960s, the IFS said.

Britain is due to leave the European Union on 31 October, with or without a Brexit deal, according to Johnson.—AFP ■

Over 8 mln illegal cigarettes seized in Bulgarian capital

SOFIA — Authorities in the Bulgarian capital have captured 8.03 million undeclared cigarettes, the Interior Ministry and the National Customs Agency said in a joint statement on Tuesday.

As much as 7.3 million cigarettes without labels were found on Friday when the authorities inspected a truck parked in front of a warehouse in the Sofia district of Iskar, the statement said.

A subsequent inspection at the warehouse in front of which the truck was parked found another 730,000 illegal cigarettes, it said. The damage to the state coffer amounted to 1.69 million US dollars, it said.—Xinhua ■

Macron vows 'unrelenting fight' against Islamist terror after police killings

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron vowed an “unrelenting fight” against Islamist extremists on Tuesday as he paid tribute to the four Paris police staff stabbed to death last week by a radicalised colleague.

Mickael Harpon, a 45-year-old computer expert in the police intelligence-gathering department, used a kitchen knife and an oyster shucker to kill three male and one female colleague in a 30-minute rampage that ended when an officer shot him in the head.

The attack in the police's inner sanctum caused shock in France, where the government is being pressed to answer how Harpon's radicalisation went unnoticed, despite him having high-level security clearance.

“We will wage an unrelenting fight in the face of Islamist



Macron spoke at a ceremony at the police headquarters where the attack took place. **PHOTO: AFP**

terrorism,” Macron vowed at a ceremony at the police headquarters near Notre-Dame cathedral where the attack took

place.

Macron said it was “inconceivable and unacceptable” that Harpon, who had worked for the

police since 2003, had managed to carry out an attack “in the very place where we pursue terrorists and criminals”.

He blamed the attack on “a distorted, deadly Islam” which he vowed to eradicate and vowed to build in France a “society in a state of vigilance”.

At the same time he warned against lapsing into a climate of permanent suspicion, assuring: “This is not a fight against a religion but against the distortion of it which leads to terrorism.”

Thursday's attack brought to 255 the number of people killed in attacks blamed on, or claimed by Islamist radicals since 2015.

Harpon, a father of two, had converted to Islam about 10 years ago and adopted increasingly radical beliefs.

He had been in close contact with a hardline Salafist imam in the months before his rampage last week, according to investigators.—AFP ■

Cosmology trio win Nobel Physics Prize

OSLO — Canadian-American cosmologist James Peebles and Swiss astronomers Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz on Tuesday won the Nobel Physics Prize for research increasing our understanding of our place in the universe, the jury said.

Peebles won one-half of the prize “for theoretical discoveries that have contributed to our understanding of how the universe evolved after the Big Bang,” professor Goran Hansson, secretary general of Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, told a press conference.

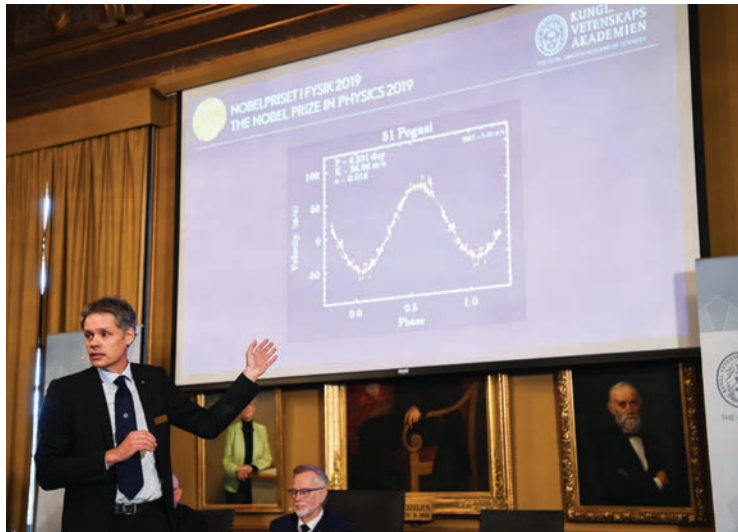
Mayor and Queloz shared the other half for the first discovery, in October 1995, of a planet outside our solar system — an exoplanet — orbiting a solar-type star in the Milky Way.

“Their discoveries have forever changed our conceptions of the world,” the jury said.

Peebles is Albert Einstein Professor of Science at Princeton University in the United States, while Mayor and Queloz are both professors at the University of Geneva. Queloz also works at the University of Cambridge in Britain. The Swiss pair hailed their win as “simply extraordinary”.

The prize consists of a gold medal, a diploma and the sum of nine million Swedish kronor (about \$914,000 or 833,000 euros).

The trio will receive the prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf at a formal ceremony in Stockholm on 10 December, the anniversary of



Member of the Nobel Committee for Physics Ulf Danielsson shows on a graphic as he speaks to the media during the announcement of the winners of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physics at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences on 8 October, 2019 in Stockholm. **PHOTO: AFP**

the 1896 death of scientist Alfred Nobel who created the prizes in his last will and testament.

In 2018, the honour went to Arthur Ashkin of the US, Gerard Mourou of France and Donna Strickland of the US for laser inventions used for advanced precision instruments in corrective eye surgery and in industry.

After Marie Curie in 1903 and German-American scientist Maria Goeppert-Mayer in 1963, Strickland became just the third woman to be awarded the Physics Prize since 1901.

This year's Nobel prize season kicked off on Monday with the Medicine Prize awarded to Americans William Kaelin and Gregg Semenza, and Britain's Peter Ratcliffe. They were honoured for research into how human cells

sense and adapt to changing oxygen levels, which opens up new strategies to fight such diseases as cancer and anaemia.

The winners of this year's Chemistry Prize will be announced on Wednesday.

The Literature Prize will follow on Thursday, with two laureates to be crowned after a sexual harassment scandal forced the Swedish Academy to postpone the 2018 award, for the first time in 70 years. On Friday the action moves to Norway where the Peace Prize is awarded, with bookies predicting a win for Swedish teen climate activist Greta Thunberg on betting sites such as Ladbrokes. The Economics Prize will wrap up the Nobel prize season on Monday, 14 October.—AFP ■

Turkey ready for Syria offensive despite mixed signals from Trump

ISTANBUL — Turkey said Tuesday it was ready for an offensive against Kurdish militants in northern Syria despite mixed signals from US President Donald Trump over whether he had approved the operation.

The United States pulled back 50 to 100 “special operators” from Syria's northern frontier on Monday, where they had served as a buffer preventing a long-planned assault by the Turkish military against Kurdish forces.

Trump's surprise move drew heavy criticism from top Republicans that he was abandoning the Kurds, who were crucial in the years-long campaign to defeat Islamic State.

But he later appeared to backpedal, warning Turkey that he would “obliterate” the country's economy if it went too far

— without explaining what that meant.

“I have told Turkey that if they do anything outside of what we would think is humane... they could suffer the wrath of an extremely decimated economy,” he said.

Ankara brushed aside the threat on Tuesday, with Vice-President Fuat Oktay saying: “Turkey is not a country that will act according to threats.”

Turkey has always pushed hard against Washington's support for Kurdish forces in Syria due to their links with the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) which has fought a bloody insurgency against the Turkish state since 1984. Its defence ministry tweeted that preparations for an offensive in northern Syria have been “completed”.—AFP ■



Turkey says it wants to establish a ‘safe zone’ on the Syrian side of the border. **PHOTO: AFP**

Vietnam’s internet economy growth second fastest in Southeast Asia: report



Vingroup chose 20 points in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City to officially launch the VinMart virtual store, as well as online shopping with QR codes, offering shipping within 2-4 hours. PHOTO:XINHUA

HANOI — Vietnam’s digital economy is the second fastest-growing market in Southeast Asia, according to a recent report by Google, Temasek and the US-based global management consultancy Bain.

The internet economy of Vietnam is estimated to reach a value of 12 billion US dollars in 2019, with an annual growth rate of 38 percent since 2015, and expected to total 43 billion US dollars by 2025, local online newspaper VnExpress cited the e-Conomy Southeast Asia 2019 report as reporting on Monday.

The annual report assesses the region’s six largest markets namely Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, across five sectors of online travel, online media, ride hailing, e-commerce

and digital financial services.

Indonesia led the region, which has grown at an average rate of 33 per cent a year since 2015, with an average growth rate of 49 per cent a year.

With the gross merchandise value traded over the internet in Vietnam set to account for over 5 percent of the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019, the country is emerging as the most digital of all economies of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), read the report.

E-commerce is a key driver behind the impressive numbers, where such homegrown marketplaces as Sendo and Tiki compete with regional players like Lazada and Shopee.— Xinhua ■

Brazil’s central bank drafts bill to modernize foreign exchange market

BRASILIA — Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro on Monday submitted to Congress a bill drafted by the Central Bank of Brazil to modernize the foreign exchange market.

“The objective of the bill is to establish a new, more modern, more concise and legally secure framework for the foreign exchange and capital markets in Brazil and Brazilians abroad,” said the bank in a press release.

According to the bank, the bill will reduce the red tape for companies needing foreign currencies for imports and exports, end restrictions on exporters’ use of their overseas revenues, and generally make foreign exchange transactions easier. The bank also said that “the bill should facilitate the participation of foreign investors in the financial and capital markets by making the central bank registration process more efficient.”— Xinhua ■

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

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

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



Phone No: 2301185

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Email:tin@sa-asia.com, Ph: +95 9 517 8075
Dated: 9th October 2019

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M.V UNI ANGEL VOY.NO. (0182-512W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI ANGEL VOY.NO. (0182-512W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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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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M.V KOTA HADIAH VOY.NO. (KHAD 0131N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HADIAH VOY.NO. (KHAD 0131N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Myanmar and World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index

By Aung Htoo

WORLD Bank consultant Mr Jose Ricardo Silva said on Friday 27 September 2019 that Myanmar was among the top 20 improvers list in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index 2020.

In a time when Myanmar was facing criticisms locally as well as internationally, it was a delight to hear this good news. It was to be expected that there still will be local criticism to this news too. World's Bank Ease of Doing Business Index was not widely known in Myanmar. There were many factors that complicated the business market in Myanmar. The list would be long and almost never ending with corruption, red tapes, authorized persons taking advantage of granted rights and power, not following the contract/agreement, not following rules and regulations, illegal trade, unauthorized collection of various fees etc.

The first thing to do in straightening and strengthening the market economy was to re-establish the private sector that was the foundation of a market economy. However, the majority of the private sector businesses were not in the mainstream or formal sector but rather in the informal market sector. Most private businesses in Myanmar exist as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that were weak in having proper accounts. Most don't have a proper business plan and have no way of raising capital or investment. When companies were permitted to be formed, capitals or investment from the people, the unregistered businesses and SMEs, were untaxed and thus could not be put up as capital or investment in a legal sense. Remittance of Myanmar nationals working overseas amounted to US\$ 2 to 4 billion but most were transferred back to Myanmar through the informal "Hundi" money transfer system rather than through the formal and legal banking system.

Raising the Ease of Doing Business Index ranking

To improve the situation the



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the 29th regular meeting between Private Sector Development Committee and Myanmar businesspersons in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

government had drawn up and was implementing Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan. Special economic zones were established. Efforts were made to attract foreign investment as well as to develop the travel and tour sector. Additional efforts were also made toward fulfilling the fundamental requirement for economic development like road, communication and infrastructure development, developing the private sector and SMEs, eradicating and preventing illegal trade, raising employment opportunities, developing electronic management and raising the ease of doing business ranking index.

Drawing up of transparent work procedures

Transparent work procedures for government services were drawn up. Hluttaw was also interested in ease of doing business by businesses and conducted discussion in the Hluttaw about it as well as including the matter in its reports as well. However, in their discussions, the Hluttaw representatives pointed out that Myanmar's Ease of Doing Business Index hadn't improved much.

Ten supporting groups formed

Myanmar participated in the calculation of this index starting from 2014. Due to the reforms

conducted after 2011, the index rises from 182 to 171. After 2016 Vice President U Myint Swe led the country's effort to raise the index ranking to below 100. Ten supporting groups led by Deputy Minister for Commerce, Directors General and Managing Directors were formed toward raising the index ranking.

Reducing steps in work processes

Ease of Doing Business Unit was formed with World Bank and local consultants and meetings were held once every two weeks to reduce the relevant ministries' time to conduct public service works, cost and work processes and to raise the quality of the services. Ease of Doing Business Index was calculated by the World Bank during the period October to May the next year and annual reports were published in 31 October. In 2018 Myanmar progressed in starting businesses, obtaining permit to construct buildings and for businesses to obtain power supply.

Three reforms per group

However in comparison internationally, during 2019 the index didn't decline but there were no progress either. In 2018-2019, support groups were urged to increase reform works and for each group to conduct at least three reforms. Due to this Directorate of Investment

and Company Registration conducted four reforms. Yangon City Development Committee conducted seven reforms. Ministry of Electricity and Energy conducted three reforms. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation conducted three reforms. Customs Department and Ministry of Commerce conducted three reforms and Union Supreme Court conducted two reforms.

Raising the index marks

In doing reforms, legal and law reform need and take time. An example would be the enactment of Insolvency Law and Secured Transaction Law. If such laws can be enacted more marks can be obtained for Ease of Doing Business index through progresses in ability to acquire loan index and resolving financials difficulty index. Private Sector Development Committee led by Vice President U Myint Swe was working toward reducing formalities and processes and had held 29 meetings with private business persons.

Resolutions and coordination conducted

Up to the 29th meeting, a total of 358 suggestions and recommendations were received, resolved and coordinated. Reforms conducted in 2018-2019 for Ease of Doing Business Index 2020 was sent to Doing Business

Unit of World Bank headquarters in Washington on 20 June 2019. Ease of Doing Business Index 2020 will be published on 31 October 2019. During the year 2018-2019 reforms conducted such as enactment of Myanmar Company Law and implementation of an online company registration system, cost reduction in company registration, more transparency in service works conducted by the government, reduction of documents required in applying for business permits and reduction of stages in work processes will result in achieving more points in the Ease of Doing Business Index 2020. This will result in rise in Ease of Doing Business Index 2020 ranking and more efforts will be made toward further progress in Myanmar e-government system.

Arrangements made for more reforms

The government will continue its effort toward increasing ease of doing business. Arrangements were made to conduct more reforms for 2021 Index and a total of 40 were earmarked. As the practice of an e-government system will support the progress in Ease of Doing Business Index, the government will continue its effort toward the progress and development of an e-government system.

(Translated by Handytips)



Total FDI inflow into Myanmar hits \$4.4 bln in 2018-2019 FY

By Kyaw Htike Soe

US\$ 4.4 billion of foreign direct investment has been channeled into Myanmar in the fiscal year 2018-2019 which ends on 30 September, according to a senior official from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration under the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. “We set a target to attract US\$ 5.8 billion of FDI in the financial year 2018-2019. But we have only received US\$ 4.4 billion of FDI. So we still need more than one billion US dollar to meet our target,” said Daw Tin Aye Han, Deputy Director-General of the DICA.

The deputy director-general made the remarks during a press conference held at the DICA office in Yangon on 17 September. The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) gave nod to 27 foreign investment projects in July this year. The new foreign investments are worth US\$ 366.474 million and can create 16,683 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens. The MIC also greenlighted 27 foreign investments valued at US\$ 349.747 million in August, creating 12,009 job prospects for Myanmar people. The MIC permitted 13 Myanmar citizen-invested projects in seven sectors during this period. The investment by Myanmar businesses are worth more than Ks. 228,920 million and can create up to nearly 1,700 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens. The MIC approved 262 foreign investment projects worth US\$ 395.64 million from 1 October 2018 to 14 September 2019. The investment volume including the promotion of investment which was permit-

ted under the Special Economic Zone during this period reached US\$ 362.28 million.

The FDI inflow into Myanmar from 1 October 2018 to 27 September 2019 totaled US\$ 4.4 billion, she added. The monthly meeting of the MIC was held at its office in Yangon on 14 September. The meeting gave the green light for eight projects in fishery and livestock, manufacturing, hotel, real estate, oil and gas, transport and communications sectors. The MIC also approved the investment projects worth more than US\$ 200 million and Ks. 25 billion during its monthly meeting held in Yangon on 31 August. The MIC

OK'd six projects in the livestock and fisheries, manufacturing, hotel and tourism, and mining sectors during its monthly meeting held on 27 September. The investment projects permitted by the MIC during the meeting were valued at US\$ 147.903 million and Ks. 2 billion, creating 1,083 job opportunities for Myanmar citizens. Italy invested US\$ 3.20 million in hotels and tourism sector in Myanmar for the first time, an official from the DICA said. Italy joined the list of countries which invest in Myanmar, the director from the DICA said.

“Company registration system in Myanmar has improved

as compared to previously introduced scheme. This is the reason why investment from Italy flowed to Myanmar,” he highlighted. The country set a target to woo US\$ 221 billion of FDI within 20 years from 2016-2017 FY to 2035-2036 FY under the short-term, mid-term and long-term Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan and to encourage the inflow of responsible investments into the country. In addition Myanmar is estimated to become a middle-income country by 2036. The MIPP is aimed to realize the responsible and quality investments necessary for Myanmar to become a middle-income country by 2030 and for pursuing

from Singapore came to oil and gas sector. Around 1,780 foreign enterprises from 50 countries around the world were permitted to invest in 12 sectors, with the total amount of US\$ 81,597.743 million during the period from 1988 to the end of August 2019. Myanmar received US\$ 9.4 billion of foreign direct investment in 2015-2016 FY, US\$ 6.6 billion of FDI in 2016-2017 and US\$ 5.7 billion of FDI in 2017-2018 FY. Singapore and China were the largest foreign investors in Myanmar, with both countries channeling more than US\$ 1.3 billion and around US\$ 350 million into the projects in the Southeast Asia country. The



A container ship docking at Botahtaung Jetty in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH



The huge production plant of Yakult is located at Thilawa Special Economic Zone. Yakult Myanmar Company Limited is a \$47 million investment by a Japanese company. PHOTO: YE HTUT TIN (NLM)

subsequent further growth until 2035, through fundamental improvement of the business environment. It will be assessed and reviewed once in five years due to changing political and economic situations globally. The DICA has been cooperating with NGOs and INGOs so as to attract foreign direct investments to the country by organizing seminars, investment and business forums.

Singapore is the largest foreign investor in Myanmar, pouring more than US\$ 22 billion into 312 projects of the Asia's last frontier market between 1988 to date. Most of the investments

majority of foreign investment in the fiscal year 2018-2019 flowed to electricity generation and manufacturing sectors.

China's investment in Myanmar during the period from 1988 to date was valued at US\$ 20 billion which is equivalent to about 26 per cent of total FDI in the country. The largest sector of FDI came to oil and gas sector, accounting for 27.48 per cent of the total foreign investments, followed by the power sector with 25.95 per cent and the manufacturing sector with 14.01 per cent.



Team Myanmar in Bishkek for World Cup Qualifier against Kyrgyzstan



Myanmar midfielder Hlaing Bo Bo during a training session yesterday in Bishkek city, Kyrgyzstan. **PHOTO: MFF**

PLAYERS and members of the coaching team of the Myanmar national football team are in Bishkek City, Kyrgyzstan, and the team is undergoing special training in the city ahead of the 2022 World Cup Qualifier against the host team, Kyrgyzstan, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The match between Myanmar and Kyrgyzstan will be held on 10 October at the Dolen Omurzakov Stadium in Bishkek.

Team Myanmar left for Bishkek City on 6 October from

Yangon International Airport, and currently, the team is training and making strategic preparations at the training center at Bishkek city. The team is being trained by members of the coaching team, led by head coach Miodrag Radulovic.

There are 23 outstanding players on the squad, but two Myanmar football stars — midfielder Maung Maung Lwin and striker Kyaw Ko Ko — have been left behind in Yangon as both of them are suffering from knee problems and need to rest for about two weeks, according

to the Myanmar Football Federation.

Team Myanmar has met Kyrgyzstan twice at the group stage of the 2017 and 2018 qualifiers for the AFC Asian Cup. In their first meeting in 2017, Myanmar played to a 2-2 draw against Kyrgyzstan, but in their second match in 2018, Myanmar suffered a 5-1 loss to Kyrgyzstan.

The upcoming match will be decisive for team Myanmar's hopes of realizing its World Cup dream. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Struggling Lyon plan to dismiss coach Sylvinho

LYON — Lyon have decided to sack Brazilian coach Sylvinho just 11 matches into the season after a dreadful run of form, the Ligue 1 club said on Monday.

The former Arsenal and Barcelona full-back only took over at the Groupama Stadium in May to replace Bruno Genesio.

“OL have decided to implement a procedure which can lead to the termination of the contract of Sylvio Mendes Campo Junior (Sylvinho),” read a Lyon statement.

It was the 45-year-old's first role as a head coach, having previously been assistant to Tite for the Brazil national

team.

Despite losing several key players, including Ferland Mendy, Tanguy Ndombele and Nabil Fekir, in the close-season, Sylvinho made a dream start as Lyon won 3-0 at Monaco and thrashed Angers 6-0 in their first two games.

But they have not won a league match since and have slipped to within a single point of the bottom two.

Sylvinho's surprise exit comes even though Lyon have claimed four points from their first two Champions League group-stage outings, after a draw with Zenit Saint Petersburg and a 2-0 win at RB Leipzig last week.

He was hand-picked by Juninho, a former Lyon star midfielder, who took over as sporting director in May.

Asked at the end of September if his future was linked to his compatriot's, Juninho said: “Not 100 percent but I chose the coach. I'm taking responsibility.”

Juninho also said that when it comes to firing staff on a struggling team, “the coach is first because it's the law of football. He's on the bench and he has the last word”.

The club said that Gerald Baticle, who was an assistant coach under Genesio, will take training on Tuesday under Juninho's direction. —AFP

2022 World Cup Qualifiers: Myanmar, Kyrgyzstan match to be shown live on MRTV

THE match between Myanmar and Kyrgyzstan in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in the 2022 World Cup qualifiers, which is scheduled to take place on 10 October, will be broadcast live on MRTV and MRTV Sport free-to-air channels.

The match will also be aired live at 8:45 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on Myanma Radio. —MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Yangon United signs U Tin Maung Tun as head coach



Yangon United president Pyae Phyo Tay Za (R) hands over the contract to the new head coach U Tin Maung Tun (L) during the signing event yesterday. **PHOTO: YUFC**

YANGON UNITED, the defending champions of the 2019 General Aung San Shield, have formally signed U Tin Maung Tun as head coach on a two-year contract, according to a statement issued yesterday by the football club.

Speaking about signing up with the team, U Tin Maung Tun said: “I am very proud to be the head coach at Yangon United. I am overwhelmed by the trust invested in me by the club owner and officials, and I would like to thank them.”

U Tin Maung Tun has been with Yangon United since 2009 as an assistant coach.

He also served as the acting head coach and led the team to victory in the 2015 edition of the Myanmar National League and the 2019 General Aung San Shield, according to the Yangon

United.

Taking over the mantle of the head coach, U Tin Maung Tun shared his vision for the team.

“I am pleased about our team recently signing new players, including Kyi Lin and Maung Maung Win from Zwegapin United. With my talented players, I dream of winning every championship. And I believe we could do that with all of our courage,” he said.

“As the head coach here, I would do my best in the AFC Cup. Winning the AFC Cup is what I want most for my team,” he added.

The head coach also said he would like to express his heartfelt thanks to fans for their support, which has been a source of real strength for him and the team. —Lynn Thit (Tgi)