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President U Win Myint welcomes Nepali President in Presidential Palace



President U Win Myint and President of Nepal Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari inspect the Guard of Honour in the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

HER EXCELLENCY Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, who was on a State Visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the invitation of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Win Myint was welcomed with a ceremony held in front of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari was cordially greeted by President U Win Myint upon arrival at the Presidential Palace.

Next President U Win Myint and President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari took the salute of the guard of honor before they inspected it and introduce the members of their respective dele-

gations.

After the welcoming ceremony Nepal President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari signed the visitors' book and then the two presidents posed for documentary photos

Afterwards the two presidents met in the Credentials Hall. During the meeting of the two presidents, they cordially discussed and exchanged views on increasing and strengthening bilateral friendship and cooperation, increasing trade and investment sectors, commemorating 60th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relation between Myanmar and Nepal, promoting travel sector, holding culture exchange events,

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Myanmar, Nepal sign MoUs to promote culture and tourism cooperation



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with President of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari in the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they discussed about promotion of friendly ties between the peoples of the two countries, promoting cooperation in the tourism and culture sectors, cooperation between the two countries in the international arena, establishment of the communications sector, cooperation in the exchange of information, participation of Myanmar senior officials in the Climate Change conference to be held in Nepal in 2020, organization of events in Nepal next year to celebrate the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations be-

tween the two countries.

The meeting was also attended by Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Min Thu, Thura U Aung Ko and U Kyaw Tin; Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal Thirip-yanchi U Tun Nay Lin, members of the Nepali presidential delegation, the Nepali Ambassador Mr Bhim Krishna Udas and senior officials.

After the call, the State Counsellor and the Nepali President witnessed the signing of MoUs by the Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko and the Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal Mr Pradeep Kumar Gyawali for cooperation in culture and tourism sectors.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

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VP U Henry Van Thio promotes inclusive education for intellectually disabled children



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the 2nd National Education Conference for Children with Intellectual Disabilities in Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 2nd National Education Conference for Children with Intellectual Disabilities in Myanmar was held at the Myanmar International Convention Center II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The conference was aimed to promote inclusive education and special education programme for the intellectually disabled children, to co-ordinate the works and future plans based on education law and principles for persons with disabilities and to encourage their intelligence, knowledge and skills.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio made an opening speech at the ceremony. He said that the 2010 World Report on Disability of World Health Organization on Disabilities has shown that there are 1 billion people with disabilities worldwide, every tenth person of them are children, and 80 per cent of these children are living in developing countries. The disabled people are facing many deficiencies in physical, social, economic and mental spheres, hindering them from joining with communities. They have difficult access to education, employment, healthcare, social and legal protections. They are also experiencing the highest death rate while a large number of these people are living in the poorest global communities.

Moreover, as their participations were neglected by different communities, the UN General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) on 13 December 2016 to ensure

equal opportunities for all persons with disabilities, to protect their human rights and to promote their rights and dignity.

Myanmar's 2008 State Constitution has mentioned in the paragraph 32 (a) that 'The Union shall care for mothers and children, orphans, fallen Defence Services personnel's children, the aged and the disabled.'

For fully protection and promotion of rights for the disabled persons, Myanmar signed UNCPRD on 7 December 2011, and observing the

opportunities including Early Childhood Education and Life Long Learning'.

According to the 2014 Population and Housing Census, 4.6 per cent of the country's population, with over 2.3 million people, were the persons with disabilities, and an estimated 830,000 persons were intellectually disabled persons. Among them, over 90,000 were children.

The number of children with intellectual disabilities is increasing across the world, and that early childcare pro-

of schools and departments to generate training teachers for these children, lesser number of teachers compared with the students at these schools, the lack of parents' knowledge, inappropriate view and treatment of societies to these children.

He also said the children have different intelligence and intellectual capacities. While some children need special cares and some developmental delays, they also have feelings like other children. They love others, and in return expect love and kindness which are important for their development.

The Vice President also said skillful teachers are required for developing such needy children to identify their capacities.

In addition to individual or a certain organization, the adults who have close relations with these children should also have knowledge on special education for these children. Especially their parents need to understand and participate in caring them. Such approach would make mutual understanding between the children and the parents. Moreover, teachers from the schools with disabled children need to know special methods to nurture such children.

To build a modern, developing, democratic federal union, all relevant ministries, social communities, experts, and people must create education opportunities for these children, so that no one gets left behind and everyone enjoys human rights without any discrimination, said Vice President U Henry Van Thio.

Then, development and re-

habilitation of disabled children were presented by a documentary video the Early Childhood Intervention and the Myanmar Special Education.

Next, the children with intellectual disabilities performed with the song 'Forever Myanmar'.

The Vice President and officials presented awards to the Dayu Basich Education High School (Sub) in Bamauk Township of Sagaing Region and the eight outstanding intellectually disabled children.

Then, the Vice President and the attendees have the documentary photo taken. He also looked around the displays of photos on development assessment in early childcare, nurturing and rehabilitating the intellectually disabled children.

The ceremony was also attended by the Vice President's wife Dr Anna Shwe Hluan, the Union Ministers and wives, the Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council and wife, the Chairman of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the Deputy Ministers, the Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Social Affairs Ministers from States/Regions, Permanent Secretaries, diplomats from foreign missions in Myanmar, representatives from UN agencies, departmental officials, social organizations, organizations of disabled persons, children of disabilities and disabled persons.

The first National Education Conference for Children with Intellectual Disabilities was organized in November 2016.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

To build a modern, developing, democratic federal union, all relevant ministries, social communities, experts, and people must create education opportunities for these children, so that no one gets left behind and everyone enjoys human rights without any discrimination.

VP U Henry Van Thio

Incheon Strategy for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities(2013-2022), the Bali Declaration of ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020), and the Sustainable Development Goals (2016-2030).

Myanmar has enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law on 5 June 2015 and the bylaws on 27 December 2017. The law includes a paragraph that 'every child with disabilities shall have the right to education

programmes and development assessments in children become crucial. The Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is operating a pilot project of the Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) in Ayeyawady and Mon, and it will be expanded to the other areas.

The Vice President also remarked children with intellectual disabilities have less access to the schools due to some hindrances such as fewer numbers

President U Win Myint, First Lady host state banquet for Nepali President

PRESIDENT U Win Myint, First Lady host state banquet for Nepalese President.

President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho hosted a state banquet for the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari, and her delegation at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was also present at the banquet together with Vice President U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Vice President U Henry Van Thio and wife Dr Shwe Luan, union ministers and other officials.

President U Win Myint and President Mrs Bhandari both delivered speeches at the beginning of the banquet.

President U Win Myint's speech

In his speech, President U Win Myint first said that it gave him great pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to the visiting Nepalese President and her delegation to Myanmar. He said that since this was her very first visit to Myanmar, arrangements have been made for visit to places of significance and for the convenience and success of the trip. He said he was convinced that this historic visit would elevate the bilateral relations to a new height and expand cooperation between Myanmar and Nepal.



President U Win Myint extends greetings at the banquet at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO:MNA

President U Win Myint recalled with delight his first State Visit to Nepal in August 2018 with much appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation. The opportunity to pay homage at Lumbini, the Sacred Birthplace of the Lord Buddha, during this visit, and the warmth and friendliness of the people made the visit to Nepal a memorable one, said the President. He said he was honoured to be the host during the Nepalese President's State Visit to Myanmar and happy to have the opportunity to reciprocate the exceptional hospitality accorded to him during his visit to her beautiful country.

The President said that

based on the close historical background of Myanmar and Nepal, cultural affinities and mutual understanding, the two countries have enjoyed traditional bonds of friendship since the establishment of diplomatic ties. The many similarities that the two countries share constitute strong bonds between the two peoples and countries, he said.

The President said he was happy to see that over the years, exchanges of visits at various levels between Myanmar and Nepal have further consolidated existing friendly relations and intensified cooperation in various sectors. He said he had the opportunity to exchange views with the Nepalese President earlier to-

day on matters pertaining to the fostering of bilateral ties and the deepening of their cooperation to best serve the interests of the two peoples and countries. He said it was his firm conviction that through joint efforts, they would be able to realize their full potential for cooperation in areas such as trade and investment, tourism, transport, industry and culture.

He continued to say that they were also happy to witness the growing closer coordination and cooperation between the two countries, in both regional and multilateral frameworks, such as the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), the Asia Cooperation Dialogue

(ACD) and the United Nations. He assured the Nepalese President that Myanmar would continue to collaborate closely with Nepal both at the regional and international fora and strengthen mutual support in the interests of their two peoples.

He said he was delighted to know that the Right Honourable President and the Nepali delegation would also be meeting the Nepalese community in Pyin Oo Lwin tomorrow since people of Nepali origin have been living harmoniously with other local communities and also contributing to the socio-economic development of Myanmar, said the President.

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President U Win Myint welcomes Nepali President in Presidential Palace

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developing travel sector in 2020 that was designated as Visit Nepal Year, raising contact and understanding between the peoples of the two countries, continuing cooperation in the regional and international arena and reducing the effect of climate change.

At the meeting President U Win Myint was accompanied by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw

Swe, U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Min Thu, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr Than Myint, U Thauung Tun and U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal Thiri Pyanchi U Tun Nay Lin and officials while Nepali President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari and party was accompanied by Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bhim Krishna Udas. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



President U Win Myint receives President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO:MNA



President U Win Myint, First Lady Daw Cho Cho, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Nepali President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari and attendees pose for a group photo at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

President U Win Myint, First Lady host state banquet for Nepali President

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He said he sincerely hoped the Nepali President would enjoy the visit to Bagan, which has been recently recognized as a world heritage site by UNESCO. He said he was confident that the visits to the ancient temples of Bagan and the magnificent Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon would provide her and the Nepali delegation with new ideas for linking Buddhist pilgrimage sites between Myanmar and Nepal, particularly Bagan and the Sacred Lumbini, so that the shared heritage and cultural affinity between the two peoples would be enhanced.

U Win Myint said he was looking forward to celebrating the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which was just around the corner in the year 2020. He said it also coincided with the “Visit Nepal Year”. In this regard, he took the opportunity to wish the Nepali Government every success in its “Visit Nepal Year” ventures and that the national objective of “Prosperous Nepal, Happy Nepali” would materialize.

Nepali President's speech

Next, President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari delivered a speech. She said she was happy to pay this state visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the invitation of His Excellency President U Win Myint. She said it was her pleasure to express earnest thanks and deep appreciation to President U Win Myint and the Myanmar government for extending a warm welcome and excellent hospitality to her

and her delegation. She said she brought best wishes and love for everyone from the land of Buddha, pioneer of world peace.

President Mrs Bhandari said there have been frequent exchanges of high level visits between Myanmar and Nepal recently. On this occasion, she fondly recalled the Myanmar President's visit to Nepal in 2018, where they had fruitful discussions on the issues of mutual interest at bilateral, regional and multilateral level in a friendly and cordial environment. She believed such exchanges of high-level visits would further contribute to deepen the relations between the two countries and people and would also widen and enhance the bilateral relations.

She said Nepal and Myanmar have been enjoying excellent relations which was based on mutual trust and understanding. She added that the relationship went far beyond formal bilateral ties as the rich culture, traditions and similar values have equally contributed in strengthening people to people relations.

She said Lumbini, gifted with historical and cultural heritage, was not only the birthplace of Siddhartha Gautam but also the fountain of Buddhism. She said she was confident that the Government of Nepal would get continued support and goodwill from the Government of Myanmar in its pursuit to develop Lumbini as a center of world peace.

Buddha's eternal messages have guided lifestyles of the people of the two countries, said the Nepali President, adding that global values of non-violence, peace, love, compassion, goodwill

and coexistence were Buddha's gifts to humanity.

She said that to promote the eternal messages of Buddha and to contribute to human welfare, the Government of Nepal has proposed to organize United Nations International Day of Vesak in 2021 in Lumbini. She shared her confidence that the proposal of the Government of Nepal would be materialized.

She also took the opportunity to praise former United Nations Secretary General and Myanmar national U Thant for his immense contribution to the development of Lumbini.

The Nepali President also congratulated President U Win Myint on the recent decision of the UNESCO enlisting Bagan as a World Heritage Site. She said she was extremely delighted to know that an arrangement had been made for her and her delegation to visit Bagan.

She said that Nepal and Myanmar shared similar development aspirations and challenges. She added that she reiterated the sharing of good practices between the two countries to achieve the development goals.

She said Nepal was moving forward with the aim of sustainable socio-economic transformation of the society especially in the backdrop of historical political transformation and stability that has been achieved. She said these development efforts were motivated by the national aspiration of “Prosperous Nepal, Happy Nepali.” Towards that end, the Government of Nepal was progressing in a planned way. She said Nepal had concentrated her efforts to graduate from LDC

status as early as possible and become a middle income country by 2030 and achieve sustainable development goals by that time.

The Nepali President said she was happy to observe the remarkable progress made by Myanmar, a friendly country in various sectors. She said she appreciated the efforts made to uplift the living standards of people and to make Myanmar prosperous, and also extended best wishes for the continued progress of Myanmar.

She said she looked forward to working closely with the Government of Myanmar in various sectors in the days ahead for the benefit of both peoples. She believed both our countries could gain important achievements by cooperating in areas of trade, tourism, investment and cultural exchanges. She added, similarly, regional cooperation through BIMSTEC could be an important platform for deeper engagements in the areas of common interest between the two countries.

She said she believed that both countries could contribute to regional peace, stability, development and aspiration for prosperity through effective regional cooperation.

She stressed the fact that, while moving forward towards prosperity through infrastructure development, industrialization and agriculture modernization, enough measures should be taken not to disturb the ecology. Nepal and Myanmar were both mountainous countries affected disproportionately by the harmful effects of climate change. To gather international cooperation regarding minimization and mit-

igation of harmful effects of climate change, Nepal planned to organize “Sagarmatha Dialogue” in Kathmandu in April 2020. She hoped there would be participation at a higher level from Myanmar for the dialogue, said President Mrs Bhandari.

She commended the contributions made by Myanmar nationals of Nepali origin in strengthening the people to people relations. She thanked the Government of Myanmar for the continued cooperation and protection accorded to them. She also thanked President U Win Myint again for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for her visit.

She said the Government and the people of Nepal extend best wishes to the Government and people of Myanmar, for lasting peace, prosperity and economic development.

State banquet

Next, President U Win Myint and the First Lady, the Nepali President and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi joined in on the banquet with invited guests. After dinner, the Nepali President and her delegation were entertained with performances by artists from the Department of Fine Arts at Thabin Hall of the Presidential Palace.

The Nepali President, President U Win Myint and the First Lady then presented flower baskets to the performing artists and took a documentary photograph.

Afterwards, President U Win Myint handed over a travel photo album to the Nepali President. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Senior General calls on Nepali President



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal President Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

TATMADAW Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing called on Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal President Mrs Bidya Devi

Bhandari at M Gallery by Sofitel Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. At the meeting the Nepali, President spoke of her happiness to meet again with Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief, appreciation of the warm welcome accorded in the visit to Myanmar, development of friendship and

cooperation between Nepal and the Tatmadaw, the important role played by the Tatmadaw in the development of Myanmar, maintaining peace and security in addition to her expectation of increased cooperation between the two military in development matters.

In return, the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief spoke of his happiness to meet again with the President, leaders of the two countries exchanging visits after his visit to Nepal in 2017 being a sign of establishing bilateral friendship and positive signs seen in the present status of cooperation between the two countries and the two military. Also in the meeting exchanging personnel from the two military to training courses; co-operating in sports and medical matters; status of exchanging friendly visits; opportunities to

increase economy, trade and travel through friendly relation and engagement between the people of the two countries; the two military protecting the sovereignty and the people and becoming the pride of the respective country; both military raising the role and participation of women; Tatmadaw participating in democracy reform and strengthening the political system; status of bilateral cooperation on increasing friendship between the two military; Nepal President respecting and being proud Nepal military while considering Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief and Tatmadaw personnel as family members; and the visit to Myanmar being a success were discussed, according to news released by Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Office.—MNA
(Translated by Zaw Min)

UEC Chairman separately meets DRI rep, ROK Amb

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein held two separate meetings with Ms Eva Gil, Resident Representative for Democracy Reporting International (DRI), and the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Mr Lee Sang-hwa, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. At the meeting with Ms Eva Gil at 10 am, both sides discussed implementation of a mobile application for disseminating electoral knowledge, compiling an election monitoring guide and conducting trainings, and matters related to civic education and voter education. The UEC Chairman then met with the ROK Ambassador at 2 pm where they discussed preparations to make the 2020 General Elections free, fair, trans-

parent, publicly trustworthy and in line with the people's wishes. They also discussed preparations for domestic migrant workers, people fleeing from conflict zones and citizens who will be abroad to be able to exercise their voting rights, invitations to domestic and foreign election monitoring groups, organizing ICT utilization and electoral management trainings, civic and voter education, protection mechanisms against hate speech, fake and incorrect news on social media during the election period, and possible cooperation on preparing for the upcoming general elections. UEC members and officials from its office were also present at both meetings.—MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein meets with Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Sang-hwa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

DY Border Affairs Minister plans YGN tech training school with JPN assistance

DEPUTY Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut discussed about opening a techni-

cal institute for youths at border regions with professors from the Nippon Foundation, the Interna-

tional University of Japan and Kosan Technical Institute during a meeting at the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College, Yangon, yesterday. During the meeting, the Deputy Minister said they have opened seven technical training schools for national youths in border areas who have only received limited education. These schools teach courses in construction, electronics, welding, auto mechanics, and mobile phone repairing and help with securing

employment later on. The Deputy Minister said they have also opened a technical training school in Hpa-an with help from Bridge Asia Japan and similar ones in Laukkai, Kutkai, Dawei, Labutta, Ponnagyun and Kyaukpyu. He said 2,057 trainees were able to secure jobs after the courses, making it a 38.80% success rate from the 5,304 total. The Deputy Minister said they aim to open a technical institute in Yangon that offers three-year courses. He said this will bring forth a large number of

skilled labour which will increase living standards and support effective implementation of technical and vocational education training (TVET). The experts from Japan have recently visited Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon), the technical training school in Hpa-an, Hpa-an Technological University, Yangon Technological University, and the Government Technical High School Ywarma in Yangon.—MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)





Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Vice Admiral G Ashok Kumar, AVSM, VSM, VCNS of the India Navy in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

Senior General meets Indian Vice Admiral

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Vice Admiral G Ashok Kumar, AVSM, VSM, VCNS of the India Navy and his delegation at Zeya Thiri Beikman Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

According to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, during the meeting both sides discussed how the navy forces

of both countries exchange information for maritime security as they share a common maritime border. They also discussed how the Tatmadaw emphasizes border cooperation in the hopes of strengthening relations with Myanmar's five neighboring countries. They then talked about exchanging trainees, conducting Goodwill visits, and sharing technical know-how.—MNA ■
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

41st AMAF: Union Minister Dr Aung Thu attends agricultural meetings in Brunei Darussalam

BRUNEI Darussalam hosted the 41st Meeting of The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (41st AMAF), the 19th AMAF Plus Three and the 5th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (5th AIMMAF) in its capital Bandar Seri Begawan on 15 and 16 October.

Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu attended these meetings which took place at the Empire Hotel in the capital. The opening ceremonies of the meetings on 15 October were attended by the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah Ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, for the welcoming speech.

The 41st AMAF reviewed the completions on the priority projects for ASEAN Economic Community, which were adopted in

the 34th ASEAN Summit and the 51st ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting, the progress made in implementing food security, agriculture and forestry of ASEAN countries, and preparations for the 19th AMAF Plus Three and the 5th AIMMAF.

The 41st AMAF also approved the 31 targeted plans in 2019, including norms for food safety, agriculture and forestry, guidelines for good manufacturing practices in agriculture and livestock, and the rules for organic agriculture in ASEAN countries.

The Union Minister also signed the MoU on ASEAN Cooperation in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme (2019-2024) that aims to promote twelve-products in the international markets.

The Union Minister and party also separately met with the Director General of the



Union Minister Dr Aung Thu signs the MoU on ASEAN Cooperation in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme (2019-2024) in Bandar Seri Begawan. **PHOTO: MNA**

Philippines-based International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the Vice Chairman of the US-ASEAN Business Council.

On 16 October, Union Minister Dr Aung Thu attended the 19th AMAF Plus Three to discuss its Cooperation Strategy (APCS) 2016-2025, and approved its joint statement.

In the afternoon, the Union

Minister and the ministers from participant countries called in on the Sultan of Brunei at his presidential palace.

In that afternoon, the Union Minister attended 5th AIMMAF and discussed the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2016-2020), priority projects for 2019-2020, and approved the meeting's

joint statement.

Thy also enjoyed dinner hosted by the Minister for Primary Resources and Tourism Dato Ali bin Apong in the evening.

The Union Minister and party arrived back to Yangon yesterday afternoon.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Conference discusses social inclusion of children with learning disabilities



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye accepts the Myanmar Special Education Association logo from its Chairman of Myanmar Special Education Association U Htar Oak in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 2nd National Education Conference for Children with Intellectual Disabilities in Myanmar was jointly organized by the National Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Myanmar Special Education Association at Myanmar International Convention Center II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In the afternoon session of this conference, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye said to identify and promote the capacities of disabled persons and to ensure their rights. The 2019 Child Law has granted the rights and opportunities for the intellectually disabled children,

and their parents or guardians could represent them for promoting their welfares. He also suggested the conference should discuss inclusiveness of intellectually disabled persons, ways for future coordination, equal rights for them, their participation in the communities and no discrimination against diversities.

Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi also said the National Education Law has clearly mentioned the special need education and the inclusive education to prevent any discrimination in learning and to reduce dropout rates. He also said teaching for disabled children is included in the basic

education level, and teachers should be trained for this special education, while the Ministry of Education is providing stipend for the disabled children at schools.

Then, Chairman of Myanmar Special Education Association U Htar Oak explained their activities.

During the discussion, officials from Department of Labour, Department of Basic Education, Department of Public Health, Department of Social Welfare and Myanmar Special Education Association held talks on 'Possible Inclusiveness of Children with Disabilities in Social Community'.—MNA ■

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Preliminary Coord meeting to hold Youth All-Round Development Festival (Magway)



Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun speaks at the coordination meeting for organizing a youth development festival in Magway. **PHOTO: MNA**

A preliminary coordination meeting to successfully conduct Youth All-Round Development Festival (Magway) was held at the meeting hall of Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting Youth All-Round Development Festival (Magway) Organizing Work Committee Chairman Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun said the youth all-round development festivals were held with the noble aims for youth to promote the values of knowledge, skill and ethics, develop their five strengths and to construct a future human society with good ideas of youth.

Youth All-Round Development Festivals were held in Yangon University from 1 to 3 December 2017 and Mandalay University from 11 to 13 August 2018. This

year it was planned to be held in Magway University. In Yangon University, the State Counsellor conducted a round table literary talk with 22 students from universities in Yangon. Similarly the State Counsellor led a round table literary talk with 20 students from universities in Mandalay during the opening ceremony of Youth All-Round Development Festival. It was due to the ideas, arrangements and financial support as well as overall cooperation of the Ministry of Information, related ministerial departments and local government.

With preparatory works for the soon-to-be Youth All-Round Development Festival in Magway University, arrangements were made to conduct a round table literary talk and all are urged to cooperate and come up with good

ideas and recommendations, said the Deputy Minister.

Next, work committee secretary Information and Public Relations Department Director General U Ye Naing explained about arrangements made to successfully hold Youth All-Round Development Festival (Magway).

Afterwards, meeting attendees explained about sector wise work processes and work committee chairman Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun coordinated on the explanations made. The meeting came to a close after the Deputy Minister delivered a concluding speech.

Youth All-Round Development Festival (Magway) will be held in December at Magway University it is learnt.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Deputy Commerce Minister visits JETRO headquarters in Tokyo

DEPUTY Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo visited Executive Vice President of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Mr Ichiro Sone in Tokyo, Japan, on 16 October morning.

The meeting focused on opening of intellectual property office in Myanmar; assistance of JETRO in this regard and training programmes for trademark inspection staff and IT assistance.

The Deputy Minister also gave interview to the Japanese media.

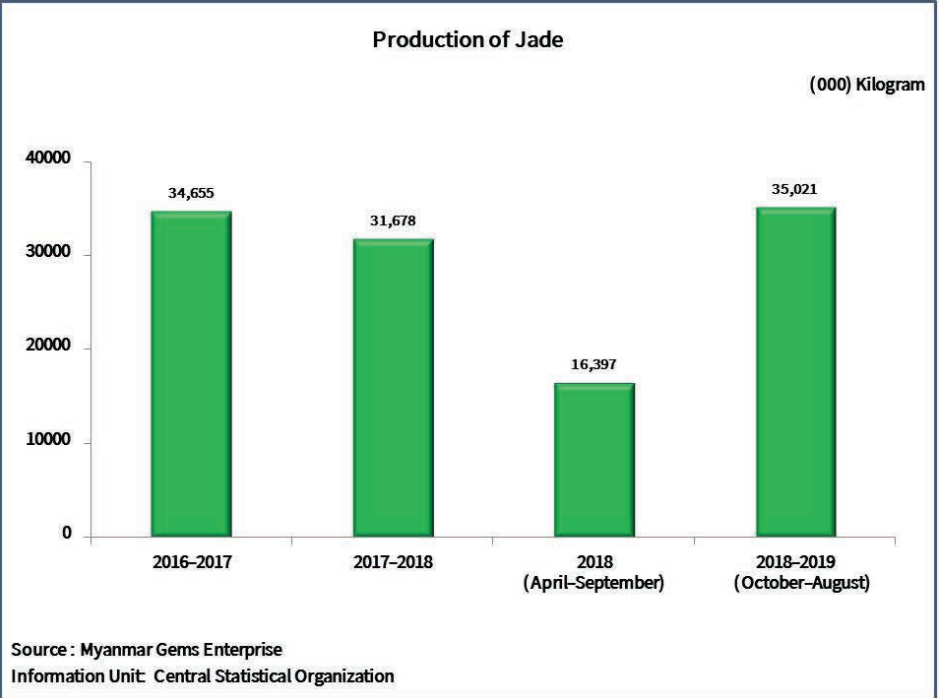
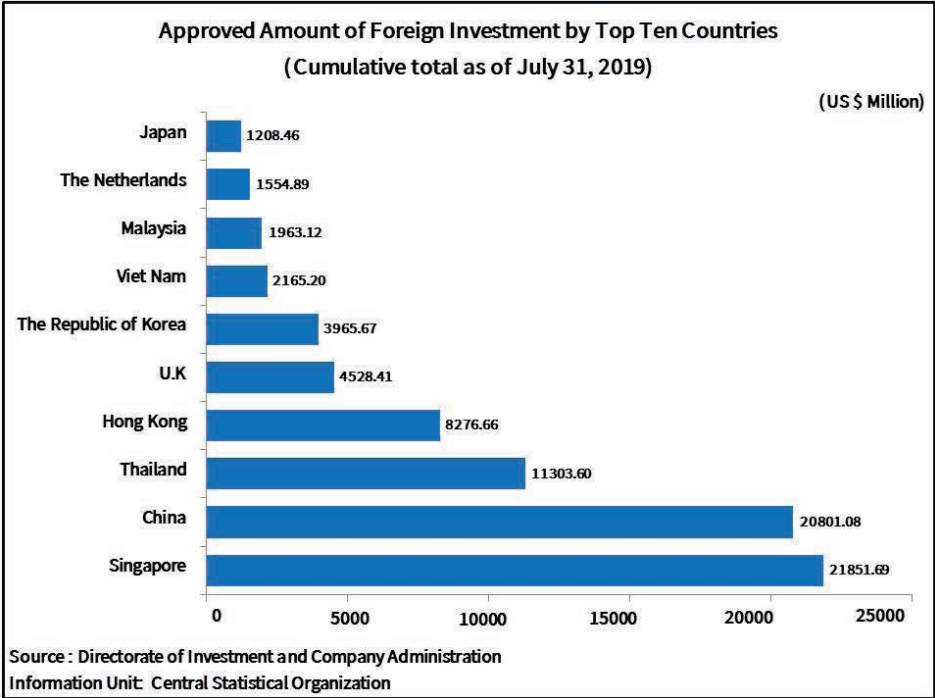
In the afternoon, he also met with Deputy Director General Mr Murakami Hironobu from Japan International Cooperation Agency and discussed their



Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo addresses the Myanmar Intellectual Property Seminar at JETRO headquarters, Tokyo. **PHOTO: MNA**

technical assistance for opening IP office.

The Deputy Minister also made a speech at the opening ceremony of Myanmar Intellectual Property Seminar held at the headquarters of JETRO.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)



Land management and rule of law

TO put an end to illegal squatting, including settlement in forest reserves and construction of infrastructure on farmlands, three stakeholders — those who make the laws, those who enforce them, and those who are obliged to follow the laws — need to cooperate with each other.

It has been found that in some countries with no land disputes, the prescribed laws are effective and the people observe them.

In our country, there is a need for harmonization between laws related to land management. The laws also need to be consistent with the National Land Use Policy, or NLUP.

Those departmental officials who have the authority to resolve land disputes are obliged to have a clear understanding of the law and settle cases without bias as they play a role in implementing the rule of law.

It is encouraging to see that the existing laws related to land management are being amended as part of efforts for drafting the National Land Law, which would guarantee sustainable land management, land rights, protect the rights of ethnic minority groups, settle land disputes, and encourage responsibility and accountability among investors.

To ensure sustainable livelihoods and the development of the country, our land resources need to be managed and utilized properly. Only systematic utilization and management of land resources can improve the socio-economic condition of the people.

Section-35 of the Farmland Law prohibits squatting on farmlands, and those who violate the law face imprisonment of six months to two years, or a fine of K300,000 to K500,000.

Besides, farmland cannot be sold, pawned, or leased to foreigners without the permission of the State.

However, the Central Farmland Management Committee, at the recommendation of the relevant township land management committee, can permit use

of farmland for other purposes, in accordance with Section 30 of the Farmland Law.

The farmland can be used for other purposes for development of urban or sub-urban areas, in accordance with the rules of the Farmland Law. This means, in order to use farmland for the development of urban or sub-urban areas, a town or village plan needs to be drawn first before applying for permission, and this needs to be coordinated with Nay Pyi Taw or the concerned region or state.

We would like to add a word of caution here — carving out plots for housing on farmlands and their sale is in contravention of the Farmland Law, and the situation on the ground today demands effective action against such practices.

■ ■ ■

Need and Opportunity to Invest in Disaster and Climate Resilient Infrastructure in Myanmar

International Day for Disaster Reduction 2019: “Build to Last”

By Shashank Mishra

SOME of the deadliest disasters in the Asia Pacific Region in the last 5 years such as the Nepal Earthquake (2015), Myanmar Floods (2015), the Indonesia Earthquake in Sulawesi (2018), Kerala Floods in India (2018), etc. have resulted in extensive damage to housing and critical infrastructure exceeding economic cost of hundreds of millions in USD, consequently draining a significant proportion of a country's/state GDP needed to rebuild the same.

While earthquakes are unpredictable and are among most damaging of disasters, climate change has increased the uncertainty, frequency and intensity in hydrological disasters such as flood, cyclone, storm etc. Climate change is considered to be the most existential threat of the 21st century with the world already witnessing the impact of climate change across all sectors. As per global reinsurance firm “Swiss Re”, in the year 2017, total global economic losses from natural hazards and man-made catastrophes were \$337 billion, a record high in the last few decades and a major proportion was related to cost of housing and critical infrastructure. With more economic growth and urbanization, infrastructures are more exposed to disasters and are vulnerable to disaster in the lack of risk sensitive approach. In the absence of a risk informed approach to building infrastructure, years of investment in a country could be wiped out in a single deadly disaster thereby pushing back countries from achieving the targets of the Sendai Framework and SDGs.

Myanmar is exposed to all kinds of hazard such as earthquake, flood, cyclone, windstorm, landslide, tsunami etc. As per INFORM index, Myanmar is the 12th most risk-prone country to natural disasters in the world. Myanmar also takes third place in the list of countries impacted by climate extreme events in the last 2 decades (Global Climate Risk Index 2018).

Cyclone Nargis (2008), one of the deadliest disasters in the history of Myanmar, caused havoc to the country killing an estimated

140,000 people and damaging more than 800,000 houses, 75% of health facilities and almost 4000 schools in the affected townships (Post Nargis Joint Assessment, 2008). The cyclone also left more than 1.8 million people with damaged roads, uprooted electricity supply network, damaged communication system etc. which also impacted the capacity to provide timely response to the affected communities. Total economic loss was estimated at over USD 4 billion, equivalent to 21% of national GDP in 2007.

Every year 13 October is celebrated as “International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR)” as designated by the United Nations General Assembly, with an objective to promote a global culture of disaster risk reduction/management and to review the progress made in reducing life loss and economic damage due to disasters.

The IDDR day theme for 2019 is “Build to Last”, emphasizing on building disaster and climate resilient infrastructure to reduce damage to critical infrastructures and disruption of basic services such as health and education facilities etc. Myanmar has actively celebrated IDDR day both at national and regional level. An ADB report estimates Myanmar will need more than USD 120 billion to invest in developing critical infrastructure (transportation, energy and telecom sector) by 2030. This year's theme provides a unique

opportunity to advocate the government and private sector in Myanmar to build infrastructure with a risk informed approach in order to avoid creation of new risks and future losses. Adopting a “Build Back Better” approach after any disaster can help to improve resilience of housing and infrastructure to protect them from future disasters. A holistic and multi-sectoral approach to develop a resilient infrastructure system is needed as energy, water and sanitation, communication, transportation etc. are interdependent and thus can have cascading effects with just the failure of one infrastructure.

Hospitals are one such example of complex infrastructure systems where resiliency is not only related to safety of hospitals in disaster but also functionality of hospitals to provide the emergency services when they are most needed. Sizable public hospitals such as YGH and MGH are also hope for the poor during mega disasters such as earthquake. For a hospital to be functional after disaster, it is important that it receives adequate supplies of electricity, water and gas etc. Collapse or damage of bridges, flyovers, buildings etc. can have impacts on people to reach hospitals in time. UN-Habitat is currently working with the Ministry of Health and Sports to

support Yangon and Mandalay General Hospitals to analyze the interdependency of various systems (electrical, water, gas supply etc.) in order to keep them operational during disasters. As Urban infrastructure are more complex, building resilient infrastructure is necessary to avoid systems failure which may have both direct and indirect losses such as closing of businesses, loss of jobs, less productivity etc. Minimizing disruptions to infrastructure is the key to enhance disaster resilience of communities.

UN-Habitat has been technically supporting the government of Myanmar in developing key policy instruments such as Myanmar Housing Policy, National Urban Policy, Myanmar Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Master Plan etc. Building disaster and resilient infrastructure is assuming a priority in all these key policies. However mainstreaming of disaster and climate change is not fully embraced in all the sectors thus requiring great efforts and inter-ministerial coordination to ensure that all critical infrastructures across various sectors such as energy, health, education, telecom, road, bridges, housing etc. are built with a risk informed approach.

UN-Habitat has also supported the Ministry of Construction (MOC) in developing the Myanmar National Building Code (MNBC) in 2012. Enforcing building code is a key to ensure disaster

resilient infrastructure. The government is working to develop the legal framework to enforce the MNBC in near future.

As per “National Housing Policy White Paper” developed in 2014 by the MOC in cooperation with UN-Habitat, Myanmar will need more than 2 million housing units to fill the housing gap in the next 10 years. The Department of Urban and Housing Development (DUHD) started implementing the “One Million Housing Units Plan” in 2011 to fill the gap of housing need by targeting to provide 1 million houses by 2030. This is an opportunity for the government to enforce building codes and ensure that housing units are disaster resilient to avoid creating future risk which is costly to mitigate. Myanmar has also been implementing the ASEAN school safety program through support of development partners to make sure that education is not disrupted after disasters and life of students is not put at risk. Myanmar has developed “Safe and Child Friendly School Construction Guidelines” to make school safer from disasters but efforts are needed to strengthen the existing education facilities and to make sure all new schools are disaster resilient.

As per the ADB report, Myanmar will need USD 45-60 billion investment in next 15 years in transportation sector as currently only 20 percent road network is paved in Myanmar. Millions of household need to be connected by quality grid electricity by 2030 thus energy sector is expected to see investment. Climate change has brought unpredictability and increased severity of extreme events thus drainage and irrigation infrastructure need risk informed investment. Urbanization rate is still low in Myanmar in comparison to ASEAN countries but expected increase in urbanization will attract significant investment in infrastructure sector. Tourism sector has been growing significantly in Myanmar in the last few years and there is need to invest in developing quality infrastructure in disaster prone coastal areas and other inland areas to attract tourists. The Asia Pacific Disaster

Report 2019 states that Myanmar is one of the 16 countries out of 26 countries in the region where average annual loss is more than average additional investment required per year between 2016-2030 to meet the international norm. It is important to note that a lot more new housing and infrastructure will be built over the next 2-3 decades in Myanmar and some of the existing ones will be replaced. This provides an opportunity to reduce disaster risk in a most cost effective way as cost of retrofitting of infrastructure is usually very high.

While the private sector will play a key role in developing the much needed housing and critical infrastructure in the country, the role of government is pivotal in regulating the private sector to build resilient infrastructure through risk informed approach (including building codes, land use planning etc.). With the new Myanmar Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction (MAPDRR) adopted in 2017, major challenge in the implementation of MAPDRR lies ahead in the integration of risk informed approach in the planning, design, construction and maintenance of housing and critical infrastructure across all the sectors. It will require improving the data base in terms of mapping critical infrastructure over hazard maps, conducting vulnerability and risk assessment, enforcement of building code and regulations to have risk informed public investment in the coming years. Myanmar has opportunity and potential to build a future it wants if risk sensitive approach can be taken urgently in development planning, resulting in development of resilient critical infrastructures to serve societies even after disasters. This approach will also reduce the economic burden on the country to rebuild it again after any disaster and help to meet the targets set in Sendai Framework and SDGs.

(Shashank Mishra is the Disaster Risk Management Programme Manager of UN-Habitat, Myanmar)

■ ■ ■

Union Minister for Defence left for People's Republic of China

UNION Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win left Yangon by air yesterday morning for People's Republic of China to attend the opening ceremony of People's Liberation Army 7th World Military Games and 9th Beijing Xiangshan Forum. Union Minister for Defence was accompanied by Ministry of Defence International and Internal Affairs Department Deputy Director General U Zaw Naing Win and officials.—MNA



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Thursday 17th October, 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is a few cloud over the North Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 18 October, 2019: Weather will be partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, Kayin and Mon States, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region and (Southern and Eastern)Shan State, scattered in Ayeyawady Region, KSouthern Shan and Chin States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in (Southern and Eastern) Shan State. 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 light rain or thundershowers in Taninthayi Region.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18 October, 2019: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18 October, 2019: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18 October, 2019: Partly cloudy.

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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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Five-day trade show held in Myitkyina

A five-day trade show was opened on 17 October in the City Hall of Myitkyina Township in Kachin State by the Smart Business Group.

Chief Justice of Kachin State High Court U Tu Jar, State Transport, Communications and Electricity Minister U Win Nyunt, State Development Affairs Minister U Naw Li, also known as U Zat Khaung Kam Ree, and the event organizing committee chairman formally cut a ribbon to open the ceremony. Then, they visited the booths.

The trade show was held for the second time in Myitkyina Township.

"We convene trade shows mostly in Yangon, Mandalay, and other regions. But, we've found people here are interested in trade shows, and so, we convened one for the first time here in Myitkyina last April. The companies are also happy to exhibit their products at the trade show here. So, we are holding the trade show for the second



Officials from Kachin State and the event organizing committee chairman cut a ribbon to open the Myitkyina Trade Fair in Myitkyina Township. **PHOTO: MYO MYINT SOE (IPRD)**

time here in Myitkyina. We are showcasing products which are more suitable for this region. It took us at least one-and-a-half months' preparation for holding this show," said Daw Shwe Zin Win, a member of the event organizing committee from the

Smart Business Group.

The five-day trade show is being held from 17 to 21 October, from 9 am to 9 pm.

At the expo, more than 100 shops will showcase products, including electrical apparatuses, personal goods, food, warm

clothes, and medicines. Moreover, visitors will have a chance to win about 30 items through the lucky draw, including gold and jewellery, according to the event organizing committee. —Myo Myint Soe (State IPRD)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Myanmar receives 84 migrant workers through Kawthoung border gate



Migrant workers arriving back home from Thailand in Kawthoung on the Thai-Myanmar border. **PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)**

A TOTAL of 84 migrant workers including 68 men, 12 women and 4 children were repatriated by the officials from the Ranong Immigration Department through Kawthoung border gate on Wednesday evening.

The Thai government handed over those workers to Myanmar after taking some penalties and actions against those workers under the Thailand law due to the expired visa and lack of proper documents.

The officials from the General Administration Department, Labour, Immigration and Population Department, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Police Force, Labour Department and Disaster Management Department received the workers and provided the necessary health care services. The officials from the related department sent back those migrant workers to their native towns. —Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Micro hydropower generated in Sanpya village, Naga Self-Administered Zone

A micro hydropower project was implemented at Sanpya Village in Lahe Township, Naga Self-Administered Zone, Sagaing Region in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The project was implemented to supply electricity to households in Sanpya Village. For the project, K7.56 lakh was spent from the Rural Development Department funds.

The 5KV micro hydropower generators can supply 24-hour electricity to 23 households in Sanpya village. Although 3KV micro hydro-

power generators were installed earlier on a self-help basis, not all households in the village had access to electricity.

"We want to express our heartfelt thanks to the government department for providing the funds to implement the hydropower project to enable 24-hour access to electricity to each household in Sanpya Village," said U Bar Man, the head of Sanpya Village. —Sa Nay Maung (Khamti)

(Translated by Hay Mar)



A micro hydropower generator is implemented to supply electricity at Sanpya Village in Lahe Township. **PHOTO: SA NAY MAUNG (KHAMTI)**

Conical hat makers flourishing in Wuntho Township

AS traditional conical hat (Khamauk) businesses are flourishing in Wuntho Township, Sagaing Region, the hat makers conducting the business on a manageable scale are earning well.

Earlier, conical hat businesses were only seen in Khetcho Village. Nowadays, residents in Taungbola, Kinn, and Chaung-zone villages have taken up conical hat businesses due to high demand from farmers across the country. "Hat makers need to trim the bamboos for raw drawing. After that, the raw bamboos pass various stages, such as shaping and painting flowers on it. Conical hats fetch between

K500 and K900, depending on the design and quality. Moreover, conical hats are selling well in Kachin, Sagaing, and Mandalay markets because the hats are sewed into two layers with raffia, thread, plastic string, and plastic sheets," according to Ma Nan May Oo, a conical hat maker from Taungbola Village. These days, farmers are likely to wear traditional conical hats to protect against the sun and rainfall. Apart from the farming and harvesting season, residents in Wuntho Township are conducting this business on a manageable scale to earn additional income for their family.—Myint Tun Min (IPRD) (Translated by La Wonn)



Traditional conical hats on display in market booth in Wuntho Township. PHOTO: MYINT TUN MIN (IPRD)

Muse gate sees high influx of onions as demand from China rises



A truck full of sacks with onion seen at 105-mile trade zone Muse, northern Shan State. PHOTO: THANT ZIN

WITH demand for onions surging in China, about 20-40 trucks loaded with onions are entering the Muse 105 mile trade zone daily, and 500 trucks have entered Muse gate between 1 and 17 October, according to the Trade Department.

Myanmar exports live cattle, eel, crab, rubber, finished jade, frozen meat, long beans, watermelons, muskmelons, mangoes, and agro products, including beans and pulses and onions to China, while it imports capital goods, machinery, iron and steel, fertilizers, and consumer goods from China.

Muse gate is receiving 10-, 12-, and 22-wheeled trucks carrying onions from the regions and states and then, they are being sent to the Chinese market.

With demand from China increasing from September, the entry of onion trucks to Muse gate has been rising.

At present, only old stocks of onions from the depots are being cleared, as it is not harvest season yet.

A grower from Chauk Township, Magway Region, said some farmers have started to grow onions in early October. The market has been cool due to erratic weather conditions, he said. Currently, only old onions are being sold in the market. Onions are fetching K100,000 per 100 viss (a viss equals to 1.6 kg).

"The growers make a profit depending on the market demand. It is better if the government can provide loans for fertilizers," said the grower.

Input costs, including seeds, wages, and general costs are estimated at K150,000-200,000 per 0.2 acres. Onions are priced at K700-1,000 per viss in the domestic market.

Myanmar's onions are shipped to China and Bangla-

desh markets.

"As demand from China is soaring, all stakeholders in the supply chain, including growers, merchants, and truck drivers, are doing well financially. The number of onion growers is likely to increase next year due to high demand. If the demand remains strong, more trucks will enter the Muse market," said Ko Ye Nyunt, a truck driver.

Myanmar exported 19,417 tons of onions worth US\$7.797 million in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, 28,659 tons worth \$8.468 million in the mini-budget period (April to September, 2018), over 69,180 tons worth \$15 million in the 2018-2019 FY, and 3,889 tons worth \$1.53 million between 1 and 14 October in the current 2019-2020 FY, as per data released by the Trade Department at the Muse 105th mile trade zone.

—Thant Zin
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Livestock export exceeds \$360 mln in last fiscal

LIVESTOCK export from 1 October to 30 September in the last fiscal year 2018-2019 touched a high of US\$366 million which is a sharp rise compared to corresponding period of last year.

Earlier, the livestock sector witnessed only \$4-13 million valued trading. Following up the trading permit of livestock in late 2017, livestock export has been rising. Myanmar is exploring new export market for cattle.

This sector is mainly driven by private sector while income from public sector is even less than \$1 million.

The livestock sector has potential for foreign investment, according to the Commerce Ministry's statement.

The export of cattle is officially allowed from Myanmar. Myanmar's government is planning to enter into a Government to Government pact with China in order to get a legitimate trade channel.

In a bid to encourage legal trade routes, increase income and create more jobs for local residents, livestock trade was allowed in Myanmar in late 2017, along with decentralized cattle exports from the respective region and state governments. But, the power was transferred from regional governments to the Ministry of Agriculture,

as they faced certain difficulties in the movement of cattle, according to an announcement from the Ministry on 22 May.

Cattle in Myanmar are mainly exported to China through the Muse border gate, as well as to Thailand.

Normally, a large cow is valued at over K1.6-2.3 million, but the suspension of trade has led to Chinese traders resorting to manipulating prices by offering a lower price of around K1 million in early 2019.

As of 28 March in the last FY, over 464,000 heads of cattle were authorized for export. More than 400,000 heads of cattle were sent out of the country so far.

At present, cattle that are above five years old are being exported, along with the required vaccination certificates, health certificates, and farming registration certificates. According to the 2018 cattle census, there are 11.5 million heads of cattle in the country.

The authorities have issued cattle export licenses to more than 300 companies in Magway region. There are some 5,000 companies holding cattle export licenses across the country.—Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade Mark Ads

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(From l to r) Kojin Nakakita, chairman of Hitachi Asia Ltd., Hitachi Ltd. President Toshiaki Higashihara, Frasers Property Ltd. Chairman Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi and Frasers Property Group CEO Panote Sirivadhanabhakdi pose after a smart reality signing ceremony in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13 October, 2019. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Hitachi, Singapore's Frasers to work on smart realty in Asia-Pacific

SINGAPORE — Japanese electronics giant Hitachi Ltd. is teaming up with a major Singaporean realtor in a bid to digitalize the real estate business in the Asia-Pacific region.

Its Singapore-based regional arm, Hitachi Asia Ltd., and Frasers Property Ltd. jointly announced Wednesday that they have signed a deal to invest up to S\$50 million (\$36 million)

each in the next five years in the campaign.

The two partners said they will start researching potential opportunities to develop new services initially in Singapore, Thailand and Australia.

"We plan to concentrate our efforts in enterprises in the Asia-Pacific region, where urban development is underway" by combining Hitachi's

technological expertise and Frasers' know-how in the smart city sector, a Hitachi spokesman told NNA on Wednesday.

The deal comes after years of collaboration between Hitachi Asia and Frasers to develop information technology infrastructure in the real estate field, backed by Japanese financial institutions. — Kyodo News ■

BYD delivers over 50,000 electric buses globally

XI'AN — China's leading new energy vehicle (NEV) maker BYD has so far delivered more than 50,000 electric buses to global clients, a manager of the company said in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

According to Liu Zhenyu, general manager in

charge of BYD's Xi'an business, said the electric buses of BYD have entered dozens of countries and regions including the United States, Britain, Japan, India and Chile.

BYD has provided pure electric buses to more than 90 cities in Europe, grabbing around 20

percent of the local electric bus market share. In the Asia-Pacific region, the NEV maker's electric buses have been put into use in Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and India, Liu said.

In India, for example, over half of electric buses on the street were made by BYD, he added.

BYD Xi'an new energy industrial base was put into production in September 2014. With an annual output of more than 300,000 passenger cars, it has become BYD's biggest vehicle production base in China.

BYD has set up electric bus plants and research centers in foreign countries such as the Netherlands, the US and Brazil. — Xinhua ■



BYD has provided pure electric buses to more than 90 cities in Europe, grabbing around 20 per cent of the local electric bus market share. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

S Korea top court upholds Lotte chairman's suspended prison sentence

SEOUL — South Korea's Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a suspended prison sentence against the chairman of South Korea's Lotte Group over a bribery scandal that led to the ousting in 2017 of the country's then president.

In October 2018, the Seoul High Court overturned a lower court ruling that sentenced Shin Dong Bin to 30 months in prison, by suspending the sentence for four years.

The original Seoul Central District Court ruling in February 2018 found Shin guilty of giving

7 billion won (\$5.9 million) in bribes to Choi Soon Sil, a close friend of then President Park Geun Hye, to secure favors including a license for duty-free shops.

Shin was imprisoned immediately after the district court ruling. But in October the same year, the Seoul High Court reduced his sentence and released him from prison.

The appeals court said at the time that it took into account the possibility that Shin felt he had to offer bribes to Park for fear not doing so would affect the overall running of the



File photo shows Lotte Group Chairman Shin Dong Bin. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

conglomerate.

Shin did not appear for Thursday's ruling. Lotte issued a statement later apologizing over the case. — Kyodo News ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO TAI VOY.NO. (138 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (138 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of 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: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V TAIKLI VOY.NO. (EAL 32)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TAIKLI VOY. NO. (EAL 32) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 E.A.L PTE LTD.

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China says efforts 'accelerated' on US trade deal

BEIJING — China said Thursday that its negotiators have "accelerated efforts" to hammer out the details of a partial deal with the United States, as the two sides edge towards an agreement in a lingering trade war.
The initial deal was announced on Friday by US President Donald Trump and included promises to increase purchases of US farm products and protections for intellectual property -- but lacked specific details.
"At present, the economic and trade teams of the two sides have accelerated efforts and consultations on arriving at a specific text for the first phase of the agreement," Chinese commerce ministry spokesman Gao Feng said at a regular briefing in Beijing.
The two sides were also working towards an "early agreement", he said, without offering details.
Trump said Wednesday that he hopes to sign the agreement with his Chinese counterpart President Xi Jinping at the APEC summit in Chile next month.
But Gao declined to say whether the text of the partial deal, or a full agreement, would be ready before the mid-November deadline.
"The two sides have also had substantive discussions on the work arrangement for the next stage," he said.
Trump -- who heralded the partial deal on Friday as a major breakthrough in the long-running trade spat -- had toned down his enthusiasm by Wednesday, saying the specifics were still being worked out.
--AFP ■

Fashion statement: Trump to inaugurate new Louis Vuitton US site



Bernard Arnault, chief executive of French luxury behemoth LVMH, met with Donald Trump in New York in January 2017, just weeks after he was elected president. PHOTO: AFP

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will attend Thursday the opening of a new production site in Texas for the posh handbag maker Louis Vuitton, drawing the French luxury powerhouse into the US leader's job-creation pitch as he gears up for next year's re-election campaign.
Bernard Arnault, head of the LVMH conglomerate that owns the leathergoods brand, will also attend the event at the "Rochambeau Ranch" near Dallas, named for the general who led French troops alongside the 13 colonies in the American Revolution.
"Thanks to the Trump Admin's economic policies LVMH will open Louis Vuitton Rochambeau in Texas. Along with this investment, LVMH CEO Bernard Arnault Pledged for 1,000 NEW opportunities for local artisans & leather craftsmen," Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump tweeted on Wednesday.
Arnault was one of the first high-profile French business leaders to meet with Trump in January 2017, just weeks after his election, when he suggested he would consider expanding Louis Vuitton in the United States.
The American market is the second-largest for LVMH overall, and it already has two US production sites in California for Louis Vuitton, whose handbags can cost thousands of dollars.
It says half the Louis Vuitton workers it hires have no previous experience in leathercraft, and receive intensive in-house training before being allowed to cut or sew. Trump is likely to seize on the new site later Thursday at what media commentators are billing as a major campaign rally in Dallas, seeking to rally supporters as he fends off an impeachment inquiry.
--AFP ■

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(11 / 2019-2020)
1. Open tenders for 2019-2020 fiscal year are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.
Sr No. Tender No. Description Remarks
(a) DMP/L-095(19-20) Spares for K 700 A Rig Pump Ex Nat 55 Series Rig (5) Items Ks
(b) DMP/L-096(19-20) Spares for ZW-Type CNG Compressor (47) Items Ks
(c) DMP/L-097(19-20) Spares for Intermech Dispenser / Aspro Dispenser (2) Groups Ks
(d) DMP/L-098(19-20) Spares for CAT G 3516 C Engine (116) Items Ks
(e) DMP/L-099(19-20) Spare Parts for Caterpillar G 3412 Generator & G 3508 Generator (2) Groups Ks
(f) DMP/L-100(19-20) Spares for CAT D 379 Rig Engine (65) Items Ks
(g) DMP/L-101(19-20) Spares for 4th Stage Safe CNG Compressor (LP) (18) Items Ks
(h) DMP/L-102(19-20) Spares for Kobelco Excavator (53) Items Ks
(i) DMP/L-103(19-20) Spares for L-Type CNG Compressor (33) Items Ks
(j) DMP/L-104(19-20) Spares for CAT G 3512 L/Set Engine (32) Items Ks
(k) DMP/L-105(19-20) Spares for Kwangshin CNG Compressor (46) Items Ks
(l) DMP/L-106(19-20) Spares for XCMG Crane (88) Items Ks
(m) DMP/L-107(19-20) Spares for Aspro CNG Compressor (13) Items Ks
(n) DMP/L-108(19-20) Spares for Intermech CNG Compressor (3 Stages) (32) Items Ks
(o) DMP/L-109(19-20) Electrical Spares for Nay Pyi Taw Office (2) Groups Ks
(p) DMP/L-110(19-20) Electrical Spare Parts for ZJ 50 D SR I & II (14) Items Ks
(q) DMP/L-111(19-20) Electrical Spare Parts for ZJ 70 L SR I & II (20) Items Ks
(r) DMP/L-112(19-20) Casing and Tubing Swab Cups (4) Items Ks
(s) DMP/L-113(19-20) Magna Dewax PT-2066 Paraffin Solvent / Greenzyme / Wildcat 441 (3) Items Ks
(t) DMP/L-114(19-20) Spare Parts for Retest Factory (134) Items Ks
(u) DMP/L-115(19-20) Spares for CAT 3512B Rig Engine (67) Items Ks
(v) DMP/L-116(19-20) 2 7/8" and 2 3/8" Seamless EU Tubing (3) Items Ks
(w) DMP/L-117(19-20) 3" Flow Line Pipe (20,000) Meter Ks
(x) DMP/L-118(19-20) Non Destructive Testing (NDT) Services for Assorted Size Domestic Natural Gas Pipeline Replacement Works (1) Lot Ks
(y) DMP/L-119(19-20) CP System Installation for 4" CNG Pipeline 11.99 Miles At Yangon Area (1) Lot Ks
(z) DMP/L-120(19-20) CP System Installation for Pinn Chaung-Nyaung Hla 10" Crude Oil Pipeline 5.85 Miles Ks
(aa) DMP/L-121(2019-2020) Assorted Sizes of Steel Ball Valves (1) Lot Ks
(ab) DMP/L-122(19-20) Pipe Fittings / Heat Shrinkable Sleeves & Closure Patches / Welding Electrode / Bolts & Nuts (4) Groups Ks
(ac) DMP/L-123(19-20) Data Acquisition / Data Processing / Interpretation Section (1) Lot Ks
2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from 18 October 2019 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
3. The interested Bidders should submit the Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than 14:00 pm on 18 November 2019.
4. Tender Closing Date & Time 18-11-2019, 14:00 pm
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. + 95 67 - 411206

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(b) COMMODITIES & VOLUME - TEAK LOGS ABOUT (1129) TONS THIRD QUALITY & UP TEAK CONVERSION ABOUT (200) TONS (EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT) - PADAUK, PYINKADO, IN, KANYIN, THITYAR, INGYIN, THINWIN, SAGAWA, YEMANE, THADI, HTAUK KYANT, THABYE ABOUT (22530) TONS - HARDWOOD LOGS (INCLUDING 2018-2019 EXTRACTION YEAR) - TAW WIN HALL, GYOGONE, INSEIN TOWNSHIP, YANGON.
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MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE

Gov't plans to postpone Emperor Naruhito's enthronement parade to 10 November

TOKYO — The Japanese government is planning to postpone Tuesday's scheduled enthronement parade in Tokyo for Emperor Naruhito to 10 November in consideration of the hardships people are suffering in the wake of last weekend's powerful typhoon, a government source said.

Earlier on Thursday, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, while in the town of Marumori, Miyagi Prefecture, hit hard by the disaster, said, "We're are planning to postpone it in view of the damage" caused by Typhoon Hagibis.

26 October had been earlier set as an alternative date for the parade in the event of inclement weather but circumstances have apparently required it to be re-scheduled later.

The enthronement ceremony and a banquet are expected to be held Tuesday as planned, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said.

Dignitaries from over 190 countries and international organizations will attend the rite for Emperor Naruhito, who ascended the throne on 1 May following the abdication of his father former Emperor Akihito the previous day. The powerful



Japan's Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako during their first public appearance after ascending to the throne in May, 2019. An imperial parade to celebrate their ascension is likely to be postponed as a result of deadly typhoon Hagibis. **PHOTO: AFP**

typhoon left 77 people dead and more than a dozen people missing after it lashed Tokyo and other areas in central, eastern and northeastern regions Saturday and Sunday.

More than 1,700 houses were fully or partially destroyed, while over 33,000 houses were flooded. "The damage from the typhoon was significant and there are people who are still evacuated," a government source said. In the typhoon-hit Fukushima Pre-

fecture, Mikiko Sugawara, 71, who was cleaning her flooded house in Koriyama, said, "(The postponement) is disappointing, but I feel (the imperial couple) think about people and are considerate."

The emperor and empress have released a statement to express sympathy to the disaster victims. "I want the parade to be held after things settle down," Sugawara said.

In the parade, the emperor

and Empress Masako will ride a convertible sedan, traveling along the approximately 5-kilometer route from the Imperial Palace to the Akasaka Imperial Residence in around 30 minutes.

The agency's Vice Grand Steward Yasuhiko Nishimura told a press conference Tuesday that it is up to the government to decide whether to hold the parade, which will be held as a state occasion.

—Kyodo News ■

Indonesia, S Korea conclude talks on bilateral trade deal

JAKARTA — Indonesia and South Korea announced here on Wednesday the conclusion of talks on a bilateral trade deal between the two countries.

It was announced by Indonesian Trade Minister Enggartias Lukita and his South Korean counterpart Yoo Myung-Hee.

The two signed a document marking the conclusion of the talks "Should this agreement takes into effect next year, Indonesia may see a 20 per cent trade growth with South Korea next year compared with last year," Lukita said on the sidelines of the document signing, which was witnessed by Indonesian Vice President Jusuf Kalla.

The two-way trade between Indonesia and South Korea after the implementation of the trade deal may reach 30 billion US dollars by 2022, significantly higher than 18.62 billion dollars recorded in 2018, Lukita said. The trade deal will be officially announced by Indonesia and South Korea leaders in the ASEAN-South Korea commemorative summit in November in South Korean city of Busan, Lukita said.—Xinhua

Hong Kong pro-democracy march organizer brutally attacked

HONG KONG — A prominent member of a pro-democracy group that has organized mass marches in Hong Kong's months-long anti-government protests was brutally attacked late Wednesday, his group said.

Jimmy Sham, 32, was attacked by four to five people with hammers in the Mong Kok area of Kowloon before he was found lying on the ground and bleeding from his head, according to the Civil Human Rights Front.

Sham is conscious and in stable condition but needs to remain in hospital for a while for head injuries that required stitches, according to the group.

Police are investigating the attack, while police officers will be assigned to protect him.

Figo Chan, a senior member of the group, said the mastermind behind the attack may have wanted to use the incident to deter people from taking part in the march planned Sunday, as Sham

was also attacked 29 August, before a major march. "This is not an isolated case. Even the police have said the attack was possibly premeditated," Chan said. The police, citing eyewitnesses, said the perpetrators in Wednesday's attack bludgeoned Sham for over 10 seconds and left swiftly in a large van. They were wearing same-colored outfits, with face masks on, they said. The police are investigating whether the two attacks are related. "It's a shame that even the convener of the Civil Human Rights Front, a group that supports only peaceful and rational protests, would be targeted," pro-democracy opposition legislator Tanya Chan said.

"Could it be possible that someone wants to stir up more chaos in Hong Kong and use that as an excuse to suspend or cancel the district council election?" Sham is slated to stand in a district council election on 24 November.—Kyodo News ■

Malaysia looks to strengthen navy as sea tensions grow

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia must strengthen its navy to better defend the country's waters, a minister said Thursday, as tensions mount over Beijing's growing assertiveness in the contested South China Sea.

China has laid claim to nearly all of the sea and has built numerous military outposts on small islands and atolls, angering other countries with competing claims to the waters, including Malaysia.

Tensions have also flared between China and the US, which has sent warships through the South China Sea to assert international rights to freedom of navigation.

In a speech to parliament, Malaysian Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah said the government wanted to "control the presence" of warships in the sea, in part by boosting the strength of its navy.

"We need to improve our asset capabilities to control the waters, especially in the context of facing superpowers in the South China Sea," he said.

"Even Malaysian warships in the navy are much smaller than coastguard boats from China."

Saifuddin added that Malaysia, or regional bloc the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), could ask the US and China to "reduce or not increase the presence of their ships".

Other claimants in the sea include Vietnam, the Philippines, Brunei and Taiwan.—AFP ■



Last month a US Navy destroyer sailed close to Chinese-controlled islands in the South China Sea, to assert freedom of navigation rights. **PHOTO: AFP**

UK's Johnson says 'great new deal' reached on Brexit

LONDON — Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Thursday announced what he said was a “great new deal” for Britain to leave the European Union, as leaders gathered in Brussels for talks.

“We’ve got a great new deal that takes back control,” he wrote on Twitter, calling on lawmakers in London to approve the agreement at a rare Saturday sitting of parliament.

A previous deal brokered by Johnson’s predecessor, Theresa May, was rejected three times by parliament, where the governing Conservative Party does not have a majority.

All eyes in London will now turn to whether Johnson, who has vowed to take Britain out of the EU by the end of the month, has enough support to push through

the agreement in parliament.

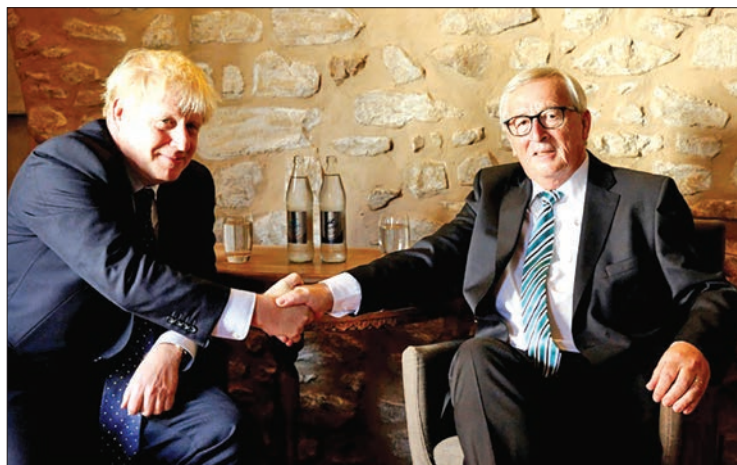
Northern Ireland’s Democratic Unionist Party earlier said it could not support what was being proposed on customs and consent issues for the border with Ireland post-Brexit.

It also said there was a “lack of clarity” on sales tax. A DUP source said after Johnson’s announcement that the party’s position had not changed.

But Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the main opposition Labour Party, said the new deal should be rejected by MPs.

“It seems the prime minister has negotiated an even worse deal than Theresa May,” he said in a statement, referring to a previous accord thrown out by MPs in November last year.

The proposals were “putting food safety at risk” and would



Johnson and Juncker’s meeting in Luxembourg had ended without a breakthrough in September. **PHOTO: AFP**

open up Britain’s cherished free state healthcare system to “take-over by private US corporations”, he added.

“This sell-out deal won’t bring the country together and should be rejected,” the veteran

socialist said.

There was also opposition from the smaller opposition Liberal Democrats, which has said it would not honour the 2016 referendum result to leave the EU if it came to power.—AFP ■

French FM holds Iraq talks on IS prisoners in Syria



Members of the Syrian Democratic Forces stand guard over veiled women in al-Hol camp in northeastern Syria, which houses relatives of Islamic State group members. **PHOTO: AFP**

BAGHDAD — France’s top diplomat held talks in Baghdad on Thursday about transferring foreign jihadists from northern Syria, where a Turkish offensive has triggered fears of mass jailbreaks, to be tried in Iraq.

European governments are worried that the Turkish operation will allow the escape of some of the 12,000 suspected Islamic State (IS) group fighters — including thousands of foreigners — held by Syrian Kurds.

The issue was top of the agenda for French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian in his talks with his Iraqi counterpart

Mohammed Ali al-Hakim, President Barham Saleh and Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi.

Le Drian said he had discussed with Iraqi leaders “the way to implement an appropriate judicial mechanism” to try French and other fighters “in the best conditions”.

The aim is for foreign jihadists to be tried in Iraqi courts while upholding certain principles of justice and respect for human rights, a French diplomatic source said. One issue will be Iraq’s use of the death penalty, which is outlawed throughout the EU.—AFP ■

Right-wing extremist threat rising in Australia: Spy agency

SYDNEY — Right-wing terrorists pose a growing threat in Australia, the country’s spy agency has warned, describing the extremist networks as “more cohesive and organised” than ever.

The Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation’s (Asio) annual report released Wednesday said extreme right-wing networks are not only better organised now, but “more sophisticated” than in the past.

“The threat from the extreme right wing in Australia has increased in recent years,” it said.

“Extreme right-wing groups in Australia are more cohesive and organised than they have

been over previous years, and will remain an enduring threat.”

The Christchurch mosque attacks that claimed the lives

of 50 people “brought the right-wing extremist threat back into focus,” Asio said.

Suspected white supremacist Brenton Tarrant, an Australian citizen, is accused of carrying out the rampage in neighbouring New Zealand in March.

The spy agency predicted that any future right-wing attack in Australia would likely be “low capability” and carried out by a lone wolf or small group, though it did not rule out the possibility of a “sophisticated weapons attack”.

Australia’s strict gun laws have been widely credited with helping to avoid mass shootings such as the Christchurch massacre.—AFP ■



Illustrative: Australian police at a crime scene in Melbourne on 9 November, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS In BRIEF

Protester flees Russia to avoid jail after opposition rallies

MOSCOW — A Russian protester who faces up to five years in prison for throwing a plastic bottle at police said Thursday he fled the country amid an unrelenting crackdown on the opposition.

Aidar Gubaidulin, a 26-year-old programmer, was among more than a dozen people who were arrested following anti-government protests demanding fair elections this summer.

He fled the country this week after realising he could soon be given a lengthy jail term, his lawyer Maxim Pashkov told AFP. “This decision did not come easy to me but the events of the last few days left me no choice,” Gubaidulin said on Facebook. “I’ve left the country and will not return anytime soon.” Gubaidulin, who tossed an empty plastic bottle towards police at a July rally but did not hit anyone, was arrested and charged with mass unrest.—AFP ■

US House passes resolution opposing Trump’s Syria decision

WASHINGTON — The US House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly on Wednesday to pass a resolution rebuking President Donald Trump’s decision to pull US troops out of northern Syria amid ongoing Turkish offensive.

The vote was 354 to 60 for the resolution, winning bipartisan support. The resolution “opposes the decision to end certain United States efforts to prevent Turkish military operations against Syrian Kurdish forces in Northeast Syria.”

The resolution, which is largely symbolic, was sponsored by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Eliot Engel, a Democrat, and the committee’s top Republican Michael McCaul. A companion measure in the Senate was introduced on Tuesday. The resolution came as US Vice President Mike Pence and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo are heading to Turkey later in the day campaigning for a cease-fire for Turkey’s offensive in Syria, which has already been denied by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.—Xinhua ■



Myanma Lethwei event to be held in Taiwan on 20 Oct

AN event titled 'Lethwei in Taiwan' will be held in Taipei City, Taiwan, on 20 October to showcase Myanma Lethwei, according to the Myanmar Lethwei World Championship.

The lethwei event will be the first for Taiwan, according to event's organizers.

There will be a variety of bouts at the event pitting Myanma Lethwei fighters with martial artists from the United States, Japan, and Taiwan using the fighting style of Myanma traditional lethwei, including its range of clinching techniques.

All the matches will be fought bare-knuckled, without gloves, with only tape and gauze allowed on the hands of fighters.

In the 62-kg event of the tourney, Boy Kar (Myanmar) will fight against Nishizawa Takuya (Japan).

In the 71-kg event, Phyo Thiha (Myanmar) will take on Deng Ding Yuan (Taiwan).

In the 77-kg event, Will Chope (USA) will meet with Chen Ching Shun (Taiwan).

In the 90-kg event, Phoe Thar Gyi (Myanmar) will take on Wu Dong Xin (Taiwan).

In the 56-kg women's event, Shwe Ko Lay (Myanmar) will fight with Nann A Mwe Hom (Myanmar).

The lethwei event will feature an entertainment program by Myanma Orchestra (Saing Waing), according to the event's organizers.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

MFF meet focuses on preparedness of teams for international tourneys

WITH the aim of improving Myanmar football standards, the Myanmar Football Federation held a coordination meeting on 16 October at the MFF headquarters in Yangon.

The meeting was aimed at charting a strategy for Myanmar national football teams to achieve victories in upcoming international tourneys.

The meeting was attended by veteran Myanmar footballers, former goalkeeper U Tin Aung and players U Ye Nyunt, U Bunny Tin Aung, U Aye Maung Gyi, U Soe Min, U Than Toe Aung, U Kyi Lwin, U Tin Myint Aung,

U Kyaw Min Htoo, and U Aung Naing; the current head coach of the Myanmar national women's football team, U Win Thu Moe; and, officials from the MFF led by the secretary general of the MFF, U Ko Ko Thein, and technical director Dr Alex.

At the meeting, the attendees discussed and reviewed the recent matches of the Myanmar national men's football team in the World Cup Qualifiers, and focused on gaining victories in the next matches of the qualifiers.

Next, officials discussed preparations to ensure Myanmar national football teams get wins

in upcoming men's and women's football events in the 2019 South East Asian Games, scheduled to be held next month in the Philippines.

Also, officials discussed the Myanmar U-19 women's football team's preparation for the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U-19 women's championship, which will start on 28 October in Chonburi, Thailand. The officials also focused on the Myanmar U-19 men's team's preparation for the 2020 AFC U-19 Championship qualification, which will begin from 6 November in Yangon.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Man Utd lose Pogba, De Gea for Liverpool clash

LONDON — Manchester United's hopes of upsetting the odds against Premier League leaders Liverpool on Sunday suffered a fresh blow as manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer confirmed both Paul Pogba and David de Gea will miss the clash at Old Trafford through injury.

De Gea pulled up with a muscle problem during Spain's 1-1 draw away to Sweden in qualifying for Euro 2020 on Tuesday and is expected to be sidelined for a few weeks.

"David needs a scan," Solskjaer told Sky Sports. "I think he'll be out."

Pogba was absent for France during the international break due to the recurrence of an ankle problem that has seen him start just once in the Premier League since August.

The World Cup winner played 90 minutes against Rochdale in the League Cup and Arsenal last month, but missed United's latest defeat at Newcastle just before the international break.

"He came back and played a couple of games, maybe played through the pain barrier," added Solskjaer.

"He had a scan after the Arsenal game and maybe

needed a few weeks' rest in a boot, so hopefully he won't be too long, but he won't make this game, no."

Solskjaer is, though, hopeful that Aaron Wan-Bissaka and Anthony Martial will make their return from injury against Liverpool, even if they are not yet fit enough to play 90 minutes.

"Hopefully Aaron and Anthony will last through the training this week and be available for selection. If it's for half a game or 30 minutes, I don't know, but let's see where they're at," said Solskjaer.—AFP

US boxer Day dies from brain injuries: promoter

LOS ANGELES — American boxer Patrick Day died Wednesday after suffering a serious brain injury during his knockout defeat to Charles Conwell last weekend, promoter Lou DiBella said in a statement.

The 27-year-old super welterweight had undergone emergency surgery after being knocked out by Conwell on Saturday at Chicago's Wintrust Arena.

"On behalf of Patrick's family, team, and those closest to him, we are grateful for the prayers, expressions of support and outpouring of love for Pat that have

been so obvious since his injury," DiBella said.

Day, who had been in a coma following surgery at Northwestern Memorial hospital, died surrounded by family and friends.

The American fighter had been carried unconscious from the ring on a stretcher on Saturday following his 10th round knockout.

Conwell, a 2016 American Olympian, dropped Day in the fourth and eighth rounds and then landed a right hand in the 10th which caused Day to stumble.

Seconds later Conwell

rocked Day with a massive left hook that resulted in Day falling backwards and his head bouncing off the canvas. Referee Celestino Ruiz called off the fight at one minute, 46 seconds of the round.

Day lay on the canvas for several minutes receiving medical treatment before being removed from the ring.

Day is at least the third boxer to die from injuries sustained in the ring this year.

Argentine boxer Hugo Santillan died in July following a bout in San Nicolas, just north of Buenos Aires.—AFP



The 27-year-old super welterweight had undergone emergency surgery after being knocked out by Conwell on Saturday at Chicago's Wintrust Arena. PHOTO: AFP