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Tuesday, 22 October 2019

State Counsellor meets with Japanese PM, attends 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the State Guest House in Tokyo yesterday morning during her visit to Japan to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Naruhito.

At the meeting, they discussed promoting cooperation between Myanmar and Japan, fostering economic relations between the two countries including the Thilawa Industrial Zone, continuing Japanese assistance to the peace process in Myanmar and the Rakhine issue, and collaboration in the regional and international arenas.

The State Counsellor also received, Mr Kazushige Nobutani, President of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and party at the Meiji Kinenkan Hall in Tokyo.

The meeting focused on possible investments of Japanese companies and businesspersons in Myanmar, especially in agriculture, livestock and manufacturing sectors. They also discussed JETRO's projects in Myanmar.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Deputy Minister U Set Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu and officials.

In the afternoon, the State Counsellor delivered an opening speech at the 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference held in the Meiji Kinenkan Hall.

The following is the keynote



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Prime Minister of Japan Mr Shinzo Abe at the State Guest House in Tokyo, Japan yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

speech of State Counsellor:
Secure investment opportunities in Myanmar

I am delighted to be with you once again here in Japan and I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Government of Japan and JETRO for organizing this important event.

I see a room filled with investors and business people, policy makers and professionals who share a common goal, that is to secure investment opportunities in Myanmar and to help us build a favorable investment climate through which a prosperous, peaceful and democratic Myanmar can emerge.

Please be assured your presence here today, and your presence in Myanmar, are most welcome. Please also be assured of our strong commitment to create a favorable, facilitative and friendly investment climate that will open up more investment opportunities for you.

Our friends from Japan have been generous with their support to Myanmar throughout past decades and this support endures to this day, as we chart a course through a challenging period in our nation's democratic transition.

Growth rate will maintain an impressive 6.8 per cent

Myanmar today, having emerged from self-imposed isolation, having opened our economy, having embraced liberal economic principles,

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Vice President U Henry Van Thio meets with Indonesian President, Vice President in Jakarta

VICE President U Henry Van Thio called on Indonesian President Joko Widodo at the Presidential Palace in Jakarta at 7:45 pm local time on 20 October.

Then, U Henry Van Thio visited the palace of Vice President Mr Ma'ruf Amin.

During the meetings, they discussed promotion of friendly ties and cooperation between the two countries, continued humanitarian assistance to be provided by the ASEAN community and cooperation in the areas of bilat-

eral trade, economy, investment and education sector.

The meetings were also attended by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia Daw Ei Ei Khin Aye, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to ASEAN Ambassador U Min Lwin, Indonesian ministers, deputy ministers and senior officials.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Vice President U Henry Van Thio meets with Indonesian Vice President Mr Ma'ruf Amin in Jakarta yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President U Henry Van Thio shakes hands with Indonesian President Joko Widodo at the Presidential Palace in Jakarta yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 21st October, 2019)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 22nd October, 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions, Kachin State and isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Magway regions, Southern Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayah states. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states.

VP U Henry Van Thio returns from Indonesia

A Myanmar delegation led by Vice President U Henry Van Thio arrived back in Yangon yesterday after attending the inauguration ceremony of Indonesia's new government.

At the Soekarno-Hatta International Airport, they were seen off by Mr Teuk Faizasyah, the Special Advisor to the Coordinating Minister of Political, Legal and Security Affairs, and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia Daw Ei Ei Khin Aye, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to ASEAN Ambassador U Min Lwin and wife, Myanmar Military Attaché Brigadier General Phyo Zaw Soe and wife, and diplomats from the Myanmar Embassy, the Myanmar Permanent Mission and the office of the Myanmar military attaché in Indonesia.

The Vice President and party arrived at Yangon International Airport at 5:15 pm. They were welcomed back by Yangon Re-



Vice President U Henry Van Thio welcomed back by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and officials at the Yangon International Airport, yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

gion Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Mayor U Maung Maung Soe, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Iza Fadri and officials.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

State Counsellor addresses 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference

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and having sought to become a responsible and engaged member of the international community, must also manage a delicate balance between economic growth and stability.

Figures recently released by the Asian Development Bank forecasts that Myanmar's growth rate will maintain an impressive 6.8 per cent in 2019 making us the 3rd fastest growing economy in ASEAN and we will be the fastest growing economy in the region by 2020. (The average growth for South East Asia next year is expected to be just 4.6 per cent.)

Strong and prolonged growth has enabled an unprecedented structural shift in Myanmar's economy. Importantly, this structural shift occurs just as the global centre of economic gravity is tilting back toward a rising Asia – an Asia which today accounts for almost 50 per cent of global investment and is expected to exceed 50 per cent of global GDP by the year 2040.

The impact of these geo-political tectonic shifts can already be seen in some places in the form of rising economic and trade tensions felt throughout both the developed and developing world. Indeed, Myanmar is not by any means insulated from these global events. However, we have so far managed to weather the storm.

Yet, as we continue to open up our economy, and to integrate better into the global community, we find that globalization itself is being challenged. Likewise, we continue to grapple with multiple, historical legacy issues — remnants of past grievances which were allowed to accumulate unaddressed over five decades.

Thus, the challenge for Myanmar's planners and policymakers, and for our country more broadly, is to ensure that we take full advantage of this period of dynamic change and tremendous opportunity, without losing sight of the importance of stability.

We in Myanmar believe that quality investment, one that is responsible and sustainable, can and must play a role, and it is for this reason that I value forums such as this. We can offer participants a chance to capitalize on Myanmar's new found economic vibrancy. At the same time, it gives us an opportunity to



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers the speech at the 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference in Tokyo, Japan yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

highlight sectors where the right mix of reform, ambition and political will can unlock additional opportunities.

MSDP will shape development for decades to come

Myanmar is today pursuing abroad-based, equitable, responsible, sustainable and inclusive growth strategy. To guide these efforts, we launched last year our new Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan which puts into place the essential building blocks that will shape Myanmar's development for decades to come.

In line with our MSDP, we have introduced a range of ambitious, holistic and inclusive policies and regulations, each carefully crafted to promote best business practices as well as to incorporate good governance. In addition, procedures are being streamlined to remove bottlenecks and accelerate reform implementation.

We have been both aggressive and strategic in liberalizing various key economic sectors. Our insurance sector, for example, has recently been liberalized, allowing for 100 per cent foreign owned life insurance companies to operate in Myanmar. Japan's Dai-ichi Life is one of the first of those.

We have done away with unnecessary regulations, launched a new online business regis-

tration portal, formed a new investment and development finance-focused Ministry and issued a new Investment Promotion Plan.

In our banking sector, in addition to the 13 existing 100 per cent foreign bank branches currently operating in Myanmar, we are looking to allow more foreign banks to operate, either as branches or subsidiaries.

Other recent developments include but are not limited to the realization of our Project Bank which aims to create more transparent, predictable and competitive project identification and procurement, and a new Land and Property Bank that will expedite processes that involve the lease of state-owned land and properties through centralized electronic means. These are ambitious projects that will no doubt mark a significant and very positive change in our investment landscape.

Single Window System in operation at Thilawa SEZ

With a view to providing the type of timely support that our investors require, we are planning to convert the existing One-Stop-Service-Centre housed within the Myanmar Investment Commission into a single window system where all permits and license required by investors can be applied for, and granted, without the need to visit

additional government agencies.

The efficacy of this approach has been proven within our Thilawa Special Economic Zone and we are confident that it will be successful when introduced at the MIC, and in other economic zones in due course.

Japanese investors will be familiar with the Single Window System currently in operation at Thilawa SEZ, which is attracting an ever-increasing number of Japanese and other firms to the outskirts of Yangon. This has resulted in investments amounting to some US\$ 1.86 billion as of 30th September 2019. The well known Japanese automobile manufacturer, Toyota, recently announced its intention to invest several billion Yen in an assembly plant within the Thilawa SEZ, an investment likely to bring with it a range of related industries.

Investments made by Toyota, Suzuki, Yakult and other major Japanese firms, I believe, demonstrate investor confidence in what we are doing in Thilawa and in Myanmar.

Myanmar is ready to welcome all investors

Myanmar is in the process of transforming an opaque, non-competitive, connections-based economy into a larger, more transparent, more competitive, rules-based economy. This transformation is not easy, but all must seek to go beyond

their comfort zone if we are to succeed.

The Government of Myanmar is ready to welcome all investors, both foreign and local, as we make our way through this transformation together, hand-in-hand.

We welcome you and your presence in Myanmar. And please be assured that you are not alone. You have partners and friends who are willing and able to lend youth at essential helping hand, and who are committed to providing you with every possible support to assist you in your business ventures.

We welcome Responsible investment

Despite recent progress, we recognize that challenges remain – challenges which we can and must overcome. Responsible investment can play an important role in this regard.

We seek the type of responsible investment that creates jobs, provides new opportunities, sustains growth, and spreads prosperity for all. We welcome your investments with enthusiasm and confidence.

We sincerely hope that we will continue to receive the support and understanding of our friends around the world, including Japan, on our journey toward peace and prosperity.

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State Counsellor addresses 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference

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I invite you to become part of our very positive future. I wish you all good health, happiness and prosperity. Thank you very much.

After the speech, the State Counsellor posed for documentary photos with participants and guests attending the conference.

The second part of the meeting was then continued where Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe explained about Myanmar's economic and investment policy reforms, and advantages for investors included in the Myanmar Investment Law and Myanmar Companies Law.

This was followed by JETRO Managing Director Mr Ka-

zufumi Tanaka explaining about Japanese companies investing in Myanmar and investment opportunities.

A discussion entitled "How Japanese companies investing in Myanmar view the investment and economic environment in Myanmar" was then held.

Deputy Minister U Set Aung, Union of Myanmar Federation

of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Zaw Min Win, officials of Japanese companies investing in Myanmar and the JETRO Managing Director participated in the discussion.

A total of more than 700 persons including business persons from Japan and Myanmar and invited guests attended the discussion.

Later in the evening the State Counsellor went to the Myanmar embassy in Tokyo and cordially met with staff and family members of Myanmar embassy and military attaché's officed by Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu. Afterwards, the State Counsellor attended a dinner hosted by the Myanmar embassy.— MNA

ILO Centenary organized in conjunction with National Tripartite Dialogue Forum

The 100th anniversary of International Labour Organization was jointly organized by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population and the ILO at the Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday morning. The ILO was first established in 1919, while the world was emerging from four years of 1914 –1918 First World War.

Union Minister U Thein Swe delivered an opening remark at the event, saying that Myanmar organized a contest for article writing in accordance with the motto of ILO centenary 'Advancing social justice, promoting decent work'.

He also confirmed that Myanmar is preparing for practicing ILO Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age, and the country signed a joint statement on Future of Work at ASEAN labour ministers conference in Singapore from 29 to 30 April this year.



Union Minister U Thein Swe delivers the opening speech at the event to mark the 100th anniversary of International Labour Organization in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA



Then, ILO Deputy Director-General Mr Greg Vines, and representatives of employers and labours made remarks on the event, followed by presenting the Centenary documentary video, and ILO Centenary Statement

on Future of Work. Group discussions were also held and awards were also given to the winners in article writing contests.

The Union Minister and party also looked around the photo exhibition of ILO Centenary.

In the afternoon, the National Tripartite Dialogue Forum was held with discussions on the Decent Work Country Programme (2018-2021), the government's efforts on eradication of forced labours, designing complaint

mechanism and interim dealing process with the complaints.

The second day of forum on 22 October will discuss the ongoing and continuing processes in law reform. — MNA
(Translated by Aung Khin)

MOI, KAS conduct training programme for civil service staff



Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun addresses the opening ceremony of training programme for civil service personnel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE Ministry of Information and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS Myanmar) is jointly organizing the 'Research Methodology, Public Relations and Information Management Training Programme' for civil service

personnel at the ministry's headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun yesterday. In his welcoming remark, the Deputy Minister

highlighted the importance of these lively subjects which are very crucial for both public and private firms.

He also said the momentum of technology development has large impacts on many sectors

while mobile phones have significantly weakened mainstream media and the number of online library users has increased.

He also suggested all the trainees to share knowledge and experiences from the updated courses of the training programme with the colleagues of relevant departments.

Then, Dr Thomas Stuart Knirsch, the Representative of KAS Myanmar said that public service and the role of civil service staff are important for any political system, particularly in the democratic reform process in Myanmar, and all the topics under public relations and information management meet civil service reform process of the country. He added that the KAS Myanmar is pleased to foster capacity of civil service staff with the supports in organizing trainings and workshops.

Dr. Tin Maung Maung Than,

the Academic Advisor of Panna Institute, explained the training programme, which is participated by 50 civil service officers from the ministries, Office of Attorney General, the Office of Union Auditor General and the Union Civil Service Board. The first training programme was conducted in June this year, and the third one is scheduled in December.—MNA
(Translated by Aung Khin)



Dr Thomas Stuart Knirsch.

MIC approves eight projects; to create 33,000 jobs

THE Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) yesterday approved eight projects, worth US\$279.88 million and over K156,930 million, which are expected to create 33,279 job opportunities.

The decision was reached at a meeting (17/2019) of the MIC yesterday in Yangon. The meeting was attended by MIC chairman U Thaung Tun and 10 members. The eight projects are in the real estate, education services, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors, according to a press release issued by the MIC.

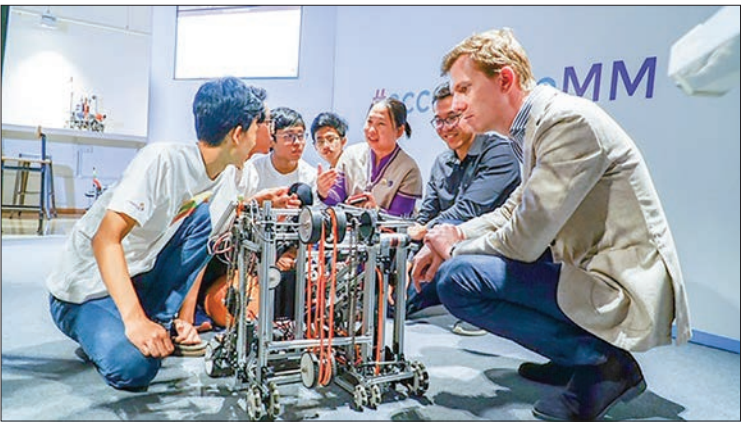
Between 1988 and September-end, 2019, a total of 1,837 foreign enterprises from 50 countries have been permitted to invest in 12 sectors, with a total pledged amount of \$81,874.265 million. Among them, Singapore, the People's Republic of China, and Thailand are the leading investor countries.

The top investment sector is oil and gas, which accounts for 27.38 per cent of the total permitted foreign investment, followed by the power sector (25.87 per cent), and the manufacturing sector (14.08 per cent).—MNA



MIC Chairman U Thaung Tun and members discuss the approval of eight projects worth over hundreds of million of US dollars during a meeting at their office in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar Team to partake in global robotics olympics for the third year



The Myanmar robotics team explains the mechanisms of their creation at a meet and greet with the media in Phandeeyar's office. **PHOTO: MNA**

PHANDEEYAR yesterday introduced the media to the team of six university students, who won Myanmar RoboLeague 2019, and who will be representing the nation at the FIRST Global Robotics Olympics 2019 held in Dubai, UAE from October 23rd to 27th.

Led by the coach from Phandeeyar, Team Myanmar will leave from Yangon on the 23rd of October at 11:30 a.m. to go against teams from over 200 nations.

Organized by Phandeeyar, supported by USAID and Ministry of Education: Rector's Committee, Team Myanmar is founded through a rigorous selection process that involved applications screening, technical interviews from an applicant pool of 737 candidates and a national level robotics competition called Myanmar RoboLeague 2019 which was held on 1st June 2019 at Thein Phyu Stadium in Yangon.

FIRST Global Challenge is an annual "Olympics-style" in-

ternational Robotics Challenge that brings together students from very different backgrounds, languages, religions, and customs through collaborative competition that highlights the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education. This year's theme, Ocean Opportunities, aims to bring attention to marine pollution and real-world challenges related to cleaning up the world's oceans.

Khant Kyaw Khaung, Captain of the team also said "We are so happy to be able to use theoretical knowledge taught at schools. We are so excited to see friends with the same hobby and passion from all over the world and travel around in Dubai. In a civilization, STEM affects workspaces, businesses and living standards. Our country has a lot of young people who have the potential to make an improvement in our standards. It's just a matter of belief and support from their surroundings."—GNLM

Swiss film crew tapes telecommunication progress in Myanmar

A film crew from Swiss-based Seventy Agency filmed scenes of Yangon's Hlinethaya Industrial Zone and its development, including the factories of Season One Co Ltd and UPG Co Ltd, yesterday.

Earlier in the week, the same film crew travelled to Dala Township and filmed farmers tending to the field in Tapyaygon Village, the Maha Tatbaynyuta Aungtau-mu Pagoda and its environment, and Wave Money services being used by the locals.

On October 18 and 19, the film crew shot scenes at Shwedagon and Sule pagodas, people going about in Bogyoke Market and Myanmar Plaza, and how Ericsson Myanmar and Telenor Myanmar operate communication activities in their offices. They will be filming students studying in Yangon Technological University in Insein Township today. Sweden's Ericsson and Telenor are teaming up successfully in Myanmar's telecommunication arena. Their progress, Myanmar's natural en-



A Swiss cameraman films a working truck at Hlinethaya Industrial Zone. **PHOTO: MNA**

vironment and the daily lives of its people will be shown at the Artificial Intelligence Summit in Italy on 5 and 6 November. In addition,

it will also be shown on Ericsson and Telenor's websites. — Ni Ni Win (FDC)
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Swiss-based Seventy Agency films farmers in Dala Township. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Yangon Region issues licences to over 340 hotels, over 100 guesthouses

WITH Yangon Region welcoming a large number of tourists, 346 hotels and 101 guesthouses have been issued licences in the region, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

The Hotels and Tourism Ministry and the regional tourism committee have granted licenses to a total of 346 hotels with 21,142 rooms, and 101 guesthouses with 2,014 rooms.

“Yangon, the commercial hub of the country, is attracting tourists due to its cultural significance and heritage. To ensure sufficient rooms, the ministry has been issuing licences to hotels and guesthouses,” said U Maung Maung Kyaw, the director-general of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Yangon’s most famous landmark is the Shwedagon pagoda, and the city boasts several gilded pagodas besides British colonial buildings, heritage sites, and business complexes. The Inya Lake and Kandawgyi Park are among other tourist destinations in the city.

Additionally, a Community-Based Tourism (CBT) site was created in Kyaikthale Village in Twantay Township, Yangon Region in February, 2017. More than 2,000 local and foreign trav-



Lotte Hotel located near the scenic Inya Lake in Yangon. **PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG**

ellers have visited the village as of 30 September this year.

As of the last week of September, the regional tourism committee has issued licences to 37 hotels, one temporary hotel, and nine guesthouses, with a total of 2,360 rooms; and construction permits have been granted for 19 hotels and 3 guesthouses.

Meanwhile, the committee has issued licences to 315 inbound tours, 121 outbound tours, and 218 tour guides. The total capital for hotels and guesthouses is estimated at K130.16 billion and US\$238.29 million, with K5.94 billion and

\$25.22 million invested by foreign companies, \$213.07 million by joint ventures, and K124.22 billion by domestic companies. The projects have created over 2,900 jobs.

Earlier, the hotels and tourism sector was regulated by the Union government. With the implementation of the Myanmar Tourism Law 2018, the sector has been decentralized and more power accorded to the region and state governments, said Naw Pan Thinzar Myo, the Yangon Region Minister for Kayin Ethnic Affairs.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein is the

chairman of the regional tourism committee, while Naw Pan Thinzar Myo is the deputy chairman. The committee includes officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Union of Myanmar Travel Association, and civil society organizations (CSOs) as members.— Myint Maung/ Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar Motocross Competition 2019 to be held in Mandalay

THE first Myanmar Motocross Competition will kick off at 9 a.m. on 26 October at the 11 Mile MX Bike Park in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay. The event has been organized to draw motocross lovers, according to the Mandalay Free Rider Group (MFR).

The competition will be held from 26 to 27 October. Participants will compete at the Motocross Championship

2019 under three categories — pros, masters, and beginners. The competitors will also be divided into senior and junior categories.

In the contest for pros, motorcycles with above 230 CC power engines will need to complete 10 rounds. In the masters’ competition, motorbikes with 125-230CC engines will compete in seven rounds. While the five-round contest for

beginners will feature motorcycles with 110-125 CC engines.

The MX bike park is a mile long and it has been constructed in line with international standards, according to the event’s organizer. Competitors will have to wear helmets, socks, and other necessary paraphernalia, he added. The winners will be awarded prizes by the MFR.

The fee for the competition

has been set at K20,000. A lunch box and juice will be provided to participants. Registrations will be open until 25 October at the 501 Fahsion Shop between 32x33 streets and 7 street, 7 Mile Mini Beach, and 11 Mile MX Bike Park. So far, 60 people have registered for the competition. —Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Candle sparks fire in Paung Township; six houses gutted

A candle sparked a fire at a home in Paung Township of Mon State on Sunday, spread to five more houses, and rendered 27 persons homeless.

The house owner has been identified as U Chit Hlaing. Around 11 pm on 20 October, U Chit Hlaing’s daughter lit a

candle in their house, which was made of inflammable materials such as bamboo thatch. A spark from the candle fell on a bamboo thatch, starting a blaze that quickly engulfed five more house, according to an official from the Township Fire Services Department.

The fire was completely extinguished within 30 minutes by the department and local people. A total of six houses were destroyed and seven goats were killed in the fire. The total loss has been estimated at K866,000. The blaze left 27 persons from 7 house-

holds homeless, and they are currently sheltering in the houses of relatives.

A case has been filed against U Chit Hlaing under Section 285 of the Penal Code. —Ko Hein (Paung)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title. 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.

Automobile manufacturing body seeks tax cuts for SKD truck, bus producers

THE Myanma Automobile Manufacturer and Distributor Association (MAMDA) has asked the authorities to slash the tax levied on manufacturers of Semi-Knocked Down (SKD) and Completely Knocked Down (CKD) trucks and buses. It has also asked the government to give priority to locally produced SKD, CKD cars in government bids.

MAMDA Vice President U Zaw Htike Aye and Joint Secretary Dr Kyaw Kyaw Aung made the request at the 30th regular meeting of Vice President U Myint Swe with entrepreneurs, held on Saturday at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

“Although foreign investors have entered Myanmar’s automobile manufacturing industry, most of them are producing only family cars. Fewer trucks and buses are being manufactured. There is no difference in the tax levied on imported CBU (Completely



Workers assembling a mini bus at Daewoo Bus Myanmar Factory in Mingaladon Township, Yangon. **PHOTO: KYAW ZEYA**

Built Up) cars and SKD vehicles,” according to the association.

Therefore, the MAMDA has asked the government to reduce commercial and customs tariffs on locally produced SKD and CKD trucks and buses.

The association has also sought the establishment of industrial zones for SKD and CKD vehicle production.

While brand new cars that can be purchased on installment plans are popular among buyers, cars with right-hand drive are registering a strong trade and fetching high prices.

The Yangon Vehicle Quota Certificate (YVQC) system has been discussed by the vehicle import supervisory committee, and it has been forwarded to the authorities. Car dealers are hoping for a possible return of the YVQC in the market.

Right-hand drive cars are still garnering more trade amid news of the YVQC, with prices ranging between K20-68 million,

depending on the model year. Vehicles assembled locally under the SKD system and which can be purchased under installment plans rank second in terms of trade, according to a car dealer.

At present, the new auto market is also booming, and some buyers have shown interest in buying locally assembled CKD and SKD vehicles. Eighteen companies have been permitted to produce cars under the CKD and SKD systems so far.

The Myanmar Customs Department has been collecting a lower customs tariff on double cabs by changing their HS code and considering them as commercial vehicles, while the Road Transportation Administration Department has categorized them as family cars for tax purposes. Therefore, the association has asked that a specific tax be set for them under the commercial vehicle category. —Ko Khant

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

ARIC endorses two manufacturing projects worth \$2.06 mln, K1.78 bln

THE Ayeyawady Region Investment Committee (ARIC) has given the green light to one foreign and one local project in the manufacturing sector, with an estimated capital of US\$2.068 million and K1.78 billion. The decision was taken during a meeting held on 18 October.

The projects are expected to create over 1,127 jobs, according to a press release issued by the Directorate of

Investment and Company Administration.

Since its establishment, the ARIC has endorsed more than 25 domestic, foreign, and joint venture projects in the manufacturing, hotel services, construction, transportation services, and other sectors.

Among the regions and states, Yangon Region absorbs 60 per cent of investments, while Mandalay attracts 30 per cent. The other regions and

states get only a small share of investments, according to statistics released by the DICA.

To simplify the verification process of investment projects, the Myanmar Investment Law allows the region and state Investment Committees to approve local and foreign proposals, where the initial investment does not exceed K6 billion, or \$5 million. —Mon Mon

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

IFC to invest \$800 mln in swine production; project to start in 17 months

By Nyein Nyein

THE International Finance Corporation (IFC) will plough in US\$800 million into swine production, and the project is slated to commence in 17 months, said U Zaw Min Win, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The project will be jointly conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Myanmar Livestock

Federation (MLF), the IFC, and the UMFCCI, he said.

“Regarding the investment project, the UMFCCI has met with the IFC. They will set up a pig slaughtering house and pig farming businesses. They will bring in \$800 million in 17 months,” said U Zaw Min Win.

A workshop entitled ‘Modernizing Myanmar’s Pork Industry After ASF’ was jointly organized by the MLF and the UMFCCI’s agriculture, livestock breeding and fishery development work committee in early

October at the Hilton Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. At the workshop, the regulatory framework to support swine production was discussed. Yangon Region produces about 1,500 pigs daily, and there are two slaughter houses in the region: Ywathagyi and Insein (Ywama). About 450-500 pigs are slaughtered at the Ywathagyi house per day, while the Insein Ywama facility processes 900-1,000 pigs every day, according to the Yangon City Development Committee.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar-India border trade up \$50 mln in 2018-2019 fiscal

BORDER trade between Myanmar and India for the period between 1 October and 30 September in the previous financial year was valued at US\$200.95 million, an increase of \$50 million from the same period in the 2017-2018 FY, according to data from the Commerce Ministry.

During the 2018-2019 FY, Myanmar’s exports to India were valued at \$177 million, while imports stood at \$23.45 million.

Myanmar exports areca nuts, ginger, saffron, turmeric, bay leaves, and other fruits and vegetables, fishery products, and forest products to India, and it primarily imports medicines, oil cakes, electronic products, motorbikes, cotton yarn, non-alloy steel, and other construction materials from India.

The two countries conduct border trade mainly through the Tamu and Reed checkpoints.

Green betel nuts produced in Kalay town, Sagaing Region and areas along the Chindwin River are being sent to the border areas. The green betel nuts are supplied every year to the Myanmar-India border markets. It has been about two months since India restricted the importation of Myanmar betel nuts, which has hampered the entire supply chain, including traders and truck drivers.

Earlier, India’s tax hike on betel nut importation also posed difficulties for merchants, coupled with transportation problems.

Thirty-one Indian-listed enterprises have been permitted to invest in the country so far, with an estimated capital of \$768.56 million.

The two countries are also working to open more border markets. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade Mark

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Self-confidence – invaluable heritage for posterity

LIKE any developing country, Myanmar has its own unique set of challenges, and tackling them is not often a simple task. But, we are confident that with the united strength of the people and the spirit of unity, we can overcome any social, economic, or political problem.

The people of the Union have, with the spirit of unity, lent their support where required. Myanmar established the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State in 2017 to show that we are united when the need arises.

The UEHRD is not only for Rakhine State, but for the entire Union, and the Union Government has put all its efforts and energy into addressing the conflicts and problems in Rakhine State.

Myanmar is still experiencing the consequences of conflicts that have occurred in Rakhine since 2017. We have determined self-confidence is the best way to resolving our challenges.

To put an end to conflicts in Rakhine State, development has been given priority there by the UEHRD. In fact, creating jobs for locals is a must for ensuring sustainable stability there. The inner force or strength of the Union's people is sine qua non for socio-economic development, social cohesion, and ensuring the rule of law in Rakhine State.

"If the ongoing problems in Rakhine State could be resolved with the collaborative efforts of the people, the result would be a very valuable heritage for posterity," said State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the second anniversary of UEHRD in Nay Pyi Taw.

"What kind of heritage would it be? It is self-confidence. Collaborative strength could encounter and overcome these challenges, although Myanmar has not yet become a wealthy or powerful country. This self-confidence needs to be relayed to posterity," she said.

Myanmar is still experiencing the consequences of conflicts that have occurred in Rakhine since 2017. We have determined self-confidence is the best way to resolving our challenges. With that self-confidence, we can overcome any obstacle.

If this confidence and strength is relayed to the younger generation, Myanmar could surely overcome any challenge.

■ ■ ■

A little patch of heaven in Tee Mit Plains

By Myint Naing Soe (Htee Hlaing Myay)

Chin State's travel industry

Chin State is located in the western and south westernmost part of Myanmar. Located at an altitude of 40,000 to 70,000 feet above sea level, Chin State is dotted with steep and secretive mountain ranges, the beautiful rhododendron and cherry trees and breathtaking natural sceneries.

In addition, the simple and honest people living there and their

unique customs and traditional festivals draw in more and more domestic and foreign travelers from far and wide every year.

Of the numerous places to visit in Chin State, there is one accessible all year round that offers a serene picturesque environment; the Tee Mit Plains where the Tee Mit Creek flows through.

Tee Mit Plains

The plains are located about 7

miles to the south of Haka and 15 miles to the northwest of Thantlang. It is accessible by the Haka-Thantlang Road that passes through it and one can witness the Tee Mit Creek winding through the plains.

Agricultural practices

Local residents use water that flows down Tee Mit Creek to irrigate their monsoon crops. They also make steppe plantations and



People who visited the Tee Mit Plain.



The Tee Mit Plains and Tee Mit Creek amid mountains.

grow grapes and strawberries. There are 140 plantation acres in Tee Mit Plains and it provides enough rice for the whole area.

The months of June, July and August are the best time to see the beautiful interplay between the downflowing Tee Mit Creek and the steppe plantations.

Thingyan in the plains

Tee Mit Creek is usually filled

with people bathing or playing with the water in the summer. During the Thingyan period in April, residents and civil servants from Haka and Thantlang townships visit Tee Mit Plains in groups.

They celebrate Thingyan there with musical festivals, collective cooking, and commemorative photography, all the while

bringing life into the normally quiet plains.

Local Chin youths usually take their prewedding photos in Tee Mit Plains and visitors are equally compelled by its natural beauty to snap some pictures regardless of the season they are visiting in. Surely it is a place to visit at least once in your lifetime.

(Translated by Pen Dali)

Driving the growth of Yangon's SMEs

By Arkar Hein

Anation needs to have strategic plans to increase domestic and foreign investments, as well as set the groundwork for homegrown small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to grow so that nationwide development will take effect. With that in mind, the Yangon Region Government is working to drive up SME growth in tandem with performances from its economic zones, including Thilawa SEZ.

"We are compiling a list of SMEs in the Yangon Region so that we can better assist them, and we will begin collecting data from South Dagon Township, after which we will arrange for them to be able to take out loans," said Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein at a meeting with the business community on 23 September

this year.

Supplying loans to 40 businesses

There are currently more than 40,000 SMEs operating in Yangon Region and the regional government is planning to provide a hundred of these small businesses with loans as the first batch of a credit plan. They have already given out loans to 40 SMEs and are arranging to provide loans to the remaining 60.

The local government will provide training so that the SMEs can use their loans effectively and record their accounts systematically. The training courses to assist the development of SMEs were conducted in line with requests from the regional small businesses.

So far, the regional General Administration Department has selected 300 SMEs and the Department of SME Development

has selected 122 SMEs in the Yangon Region and all of them have received loans.

Arranging the loans

Authorities are continuing to select 100 SMEs from the Yangon Region to provide them with loans. They are compiling a list of SMEs with high potential at the same time. The main aim is on small businesses in the travel, fishery, sculpture and lacquerware sectors.

The compilation of the SME list will begin from South Dagon and will use a pilot project to achieve the desired results and will begin from the industrial sector and industrial zone, according to U Phyo Min Thein. He said they will employ technical components to ensure the list is accurate and organized.

Systematic review

The regional government

will be including small businesses opened or operating from households into the SME list, which means they will be eligible for acquiring loans. This is done because the SMEs play a vital role in the national economy and developing them means the same as developing the nation.

The Yangon Region Government will strive to provide systematic loans to the SMEs in its jurisdiction. SMEs make up 97 per cent of the national production. There are 120,000 registered businesses in Myanmar and 98 per cent of them are SMEs, according to statistics from the Directorate of Industrial Supervision & Inspection and the SME Development Department.

Domestic banks provide loans too

"The Yangon Region Gov-



Workers making rattan wares at an industry in Thanlyin, Yangon Region. PHOTO: KYAW ZEYA

ernment is working hard to provide loans to the SMEs in the

region," Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein reiterated to media

professionals after a meeting with the Investment Commit-

tee on 29 August earlier this year. The actual process will involve the regional government backing the SMEs for domestic banks who will be actually providing the loans.

Generally, SMEs can acquire a loan between K20-K50 million without the need to provide collateral and SMEs with larger projects can provide collateral to acquire loans in the hundred million kyats range. It will be the banks' decision to decide which type of loans an SME is applicable for after a deep scrutinization process.

The multisectoral and balanced development of Yangon depends strongly on the well-being of the SMEs in Yangon Region. Thus, support given to SMEs are a boost to Yangon's development as well.

(Translated by Pen Dali)

■ ■ ■

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

THE Office of the President issued Press Release No. 39/2019 yesterday, publicly announcing the Ministry of Home Affairs' arrests and seizures in the fight against illicit drug trafficking up till 19 October.

The ministry made the arrests, acting on information, sent to the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department of the Office of the President as of 19 October.

The full text of the press release will be reported in the 23 October issue of *The Global New Light of Myanmar*—GNLM

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 gnl@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

Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko to attend 2019 Special AMCA Plus ROK Meeting

A MYANMAR delegation led by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko left Yangon by air for Gwangju, the Republic of Korea, yesterday afternoon to attend the 2019 Special ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Culture and Arts (2019 Special AMCA Plus ROK Meeting) from 23 to 24 October. The Myanmar delegation was seen off at Yangon International

Airport by officials. — MNA
(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko seen at Yangon International Airport before flying to the Republic of Korea to attend 2019 Special AMCA Plus ROK Meeting.

PHOTO: MNA



SWRR Deputy Minister meets displaced person in Kachin State

U Soe Aung, the Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and head of Working Group on Resettling IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons) in Kachin State, met with internally displaced persons at Year 2000 Baptist IDP camp in Bhamo

Town yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the Deputy Minister explained about the government's arrangement to resettle displaced persons with dignity and safety, short term and long term works and discussed about requirements and difficulties.

Next, the Deputy Minister and officials presented cash support for displaced persons and new born child in Lisu, Year 2000, Robert, Htwe San, Baptist (original) and Phan Kha Kon IDP camps. A total of K 6,082,200 for 6,758 persons from 1,172 house-

holds and K 30,000 each totaling K 1,020,000 for 34 new born children were presented by the Deputy Minister and officials.

Afterwards the Deputy Minister went to meet with displaced persons in Momauk Town RC Camp and discussed their requirements, resettling to the places of origin according to their wishes and with dignity. Later the camp leaders from RC Baptist and Mandalay Monastery were presented with cash support for the displaced persons, including new born child, expecting mothers and elderlies. A total of K 2,904,300 for 667 households with 3,227 persons, K 30,000 each totaling K 1,080,000 for 16 new born children, 9 expecting mothers and 11 elderlies were presented.

In the afternoon a work coordination meeting of Working Group on Resettling IDPs in Kachin State was held at Kachin State Government meeting hall in Myitkyina. At the meeting Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung said priority was

given toward resettling conflict displaced persons in the State to a safe and secure place. Basic requirements such as constructing homes, providing education and health, clearing of land mines, re-establishing farmlands and providing livelihood works will also be fulfilled said the Chief Minister.

Working Group Head Deputy Minister U Soe Aung then said conflict displaced persons were met in IDP camps to hear of their wishes toward returning to their places of origin safely. Their requirements will be fulfilled and works coordinated with UN/INGO and Red Cross Movement said the Deputy Minister.

This was followed with discussions by officials and representatives of Kachin Humanitarian Concern Committee (KHCC), Myanmar Red Cross Society, UNOCHA, UNHCR and ICRC. State Chief Minister and Deputy Minister responded to the discussions. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung meeting with displaced persons at Year 2000 Baptist IDP camp in Bhamo yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Lebanon cabinet fast-tracks reforms but protests rage on

BEIRUT (Lebanon)—Lebanon's teetering government approved an economic rescue plan Monday but the last-ditch move was met with deep distrust from a swelling protest movement seeking the removal of the entire political class.

A proposed tax on mobile messaging applications last week sparked a spontaneous, cross-sectarian mobilisation that has brought Lebanon to a standstill and united the people against its hereditary, ruling elite.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri seemed aware that the measures

he announced — which include a deal on the 2020 budget and significant reforms that seemed unlikely only a week ago — would not quench the people's thirst for change.

"These decisions are not designed as a trade-off. They are not to ask you to stop expressing your anger. That is your decision to make," Hariri, himself a prime minister's son, said in a televised press conference.

Euphoric crowds had parted deep into the night Sunday, leaving all political and sectarian

paraphernalia at home to gather under the national cedar flag, dance to impromptu concerts and chant often hilarious anti-establishment slogans.

They were back in front the houses of government and on the main Martyrs' Square on Monday to listen to Hariri's announcement, which was broadcast on loudspeakers.

The crowd erupted into shouts of "revolution, revolution" when Hariri finished his address.

"We want the fall of the regime," they went on.—AFP



Hundreds of thousands of people have joined protests demanding a sweeping overhaul of Lebanon's political system. **PHOTO: AFP**

Japanese consulting firm Nippon Koei to upgrade ancient Laos town

BANGKOK — Japanese engineering consulting firm Nippon Koei Co will transform an ancient town of LuangPrabang in Laos into a smart city by introducing a new-generation transportation system.

The firm signed an agreement with the World Heritage town earlier this month to build a sustainable mobility system by connecting several means of transport with information technologies, according to a statement it released last Friday.

The details are slated to be set by 2020 with an eye to using private or Japanese government funds, the firm said.

Through a project with the Japan International Cooperation Agency to enhance capacity for maintenance and preservation of the ancient capital

from 2018, the firm learned of the need for a new transportation system as well as new infrastructure, such as road construction, it said.

The agreement is in line with pledges made during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Japan Smart Cities Network High-level Meeting held in Japan earlier this month, according to the firm. In the meeting, Japan shared its information on high-end infrastructure with ASEAN countries to promote smart city projects across the region.

LuangPrabang is among 26 pilot cities in the ASEAN smart city program. Nippon Koei also agreed with another pilot city, Makassar on Sulawesi Island in Indonesia, to cooperate in the program.— Kyodo News ■



An undated photo shows a street in the ancient town of LuangPrabang in Laos. Nippon Koei Co. will cooperate in the town's smart city project with details slated to be set by 2020. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Five killed, ten injured from adverse weather in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO — Five people were killed and 10 others injured after strong winds and heavy rains lashed out across Sri Lanka over the weekend, the Disaster Management Center (DMC) said on Monday.

The deaths were reported from the NuweraEliya district in the central highlands, one of the worst affected by the adverse weather conditions.

Overall 5,600 people were also affected by the rains and winds, while over 500 people were relocated to safer locations.

Some 26 houses were fully damaged while 671 were partially damaged. The DMC said the armed forces were on standby for possible flood situations if heavy rains continue within the

next 24 hours. The Meteorology Department said in its latest weather update that more rains were expected in the coming days as heavy falls were expected over many parts of the island.

"Fairly heavy falls about 75 millimeters can be expected at some places in Western, Sabaragamuwa and North-western provinces," the Meteorology Department said. Misty conditions can be expected at some places in Sabaragamuwa, Central, Uva and North Central provinces during the morning, the Department added. "General public is kindly requested to take adequate precautions to minimize damages caused by temporary localized strong winds and lightning during thundershowers."— Xinhua ■

Jokowi's rival in presidential election Prabowo joins Cabinet



Indonesian presidential candidate PrabowoSubianto waves upon arrival at a polling station near Jakarta on 17 April 2019, during the country's presidential and parliamentary elections. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

JAKARTA — A former Indonesian army general with a checkered past who was defeated by President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo in April's election accepted the president's offer Monday to join his new Cabinet.

PrabowoSubianto told reporters after meeting the Jokowi that he "had been asked by the president to support his Cabi-

net" and he was willing "to help in defense affairs." He did not answer when asked whether that meant he would become defense minister.

Prabowo's statement is expected to disappoint Jokowi's supporters and political parties that backed him during the election campaign.

The former general once

headed the army's special force command Kopassus that kidnapped and tortured political opponents and student activists in the late 1990s under then President Suharto.

Also on Monday, Jokowi, who took the oath for his second term on Sunday, interviewed some potential ministerial candidates who will be introduced to the public and sworn in Wednesday morning. Others will be interviewed Tuesday.

All of them later told reporters they had accepted offers to join the Cabinet, without being told what posts they will hold.

Among those being interviewed by Jokowi are former Constitutional Court judge and academician Mohammad Mahfud MD, GoJek ride-hailing founder NadiemMakarim, Wishnutama, creative director of the 2018 Asian Games ceremonies, and businessman Erick Thohir.

The latter is the owner of Italian soccer club Inter Milan, American soccer club D C United and basketball club Philadelphia 76ers and was the chairman of the 2018 Asian Games Organizing Committee.— Kyodo News ■

India to build solar, wind farms along Pakistan border

MUMBAI (India) — India plans to build a string of renewable energy projects along its sun-baked, wind-whipped western border, officials said Monday, as New Delhi continues an ambitious programme to reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels.

Mired in an economic slowdown, the government has tripled spending over the last three years as part of its push to cut down the use of oil and coal.

"We are studying land feasibility and have identified projects worth 30 gigawatt capacity for Gujarat and 25 gigawatt capacity for Rajasthan," Anand Kumar, new and renewable energy secretary, told AFP.

The government had zeroed in on barren desert areas in a bid

to avoid using agricultural land, he said, adding the sunny and windy region was ideally suited to renewable energy facilities.

Work on the projects would begin roughly 18 months after approval from the defence ministry and following land feasibility studies, he said.

"These projects will help reduce India's carbon footprint and adhere to promises made at the 2015 Paris agreement," Kumar said. India currently harnesses 23 percent of its total power from renewable sources, including solar and wind. R.K. Singh, minister for power and renewable energy, told parliament in July that India's capacity had crossed 80 gigawatts and was on track to reach 175 gigawatts in three years' time,

as pledged by Prime Minister NarendraModi.

However, private investment in the renewable sector remains low, and the government has found securing land for projects difficult. Renewable energy projects are not feasible in agricultural or forest lands, said AmitBhandari of Mumbai-based think tank Gateway House.

"Since most of these western border areas are wastelands or semi-desert, they are perfect for setting up these projects," he told AFP. Meanwhile, investment in fossil fuel-based energy sources continues to rise in the South Asian nation, with both French energy giant Total and Saudi Arabia's Aramco buying stakes in Indian companies.—AFP ■

British PM Johnson prepares fresh Brexit push

LONDON (United Kingdom) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson prepared to Monday make a second attempt to ram his EU divorce deal through parliament and avoid the political damage of delaying Brexit next week.

Another momentous week in the tortuous saga could end with Johnson engineering a divorce from Brussels that breaks many of the island nation's economic relations with Europe after 46 years of EU membership.

British lawmakers dealt a dramatic blow to Johnson's Brexit plan at the weekend by refusing to give their backing to his revised withdrawal agreement until the legislation needed to ratify it has passed.

His foes are now forging new alliances and trying to attach amendments that could either force Johnson to accept closer trade ties — or abandon the deal and accept a third delay this year.

The option of extending Brexit past the latest 31 October deadline is now in the hands of the 27 remaining EU member states.

Britain has been struggling to agree on how to leave the EU, three-and-a-half years since a referendum on Brexit that has left the country deeply divided.

Johnson has built his entire Brexit strategy on the premise of using the pressures of time to force everyone to stop bickering and agree an exit plan by the end of the month.

"This is the chance to leave the EU with a deal on October 31," Brexit minister Stephen Barclay said Monday.

But Johnson was mandated by UK lawmakers Saturday to send a letter to Brussels asking for more time.

The British leader ended up sending three letters on Saturday.

The only one he actually signed said an "extension would damage the interests of the UK and our EU partners" and that he was firmly against a delay.

The manoeuvre is designed to minimise the political damage of Johnson going back on his word and seeking an extension ahead of an early general election most expect in the coming months.

The top civil court in Scotland will hear a challenge Monday on whether Johnson's half-hearted request broke the law.

But officials in Brussels said Johnson's request was valid.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said he "would not rule out a short technical extension" if one was needed to get all the UK legislation approved.

—AFP ■



Johnson's foes are forging new alliances and trying to attach amendments.
PHOTO: AFP

Morales narrowly wins first round in Bolivia election, faces run-off



Bolivian President and presidential candidate for the Movimiento al Socialismo (MAS) Evo Morales speaks next to his Vice-President Alvaro Garcia Linera during a press conference after knowing the partial results of the general elections at Quemado presidential palace in La Paz on 20 October 2019. PHOTO: AFP

LA PAZ (Bolivia) — Evo Morales, seeking a controversial fourth term, led Bolivia's presidential election race Sunday but faces a historic second round run-off against opposition rival Carlos Mesa, partial results showed.

Morales had 45 per cent of the vote to Mesa's 38 per cent, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal announced, with most of the votes counted.

Elected Bolivia's first indigenous president in 2005, Morales has won his previous elections in the first round, never having to contest a run-off. The former coca farmer and leftist union leader has led the poor but resource-rich Latin American country for the past 13 years, though his popularity has waned amid allegations of corruption and authoritarianism.

He will face a stiff challenge from Mesa, a 66-year-old former president who led Bolivia from 2001-2005.

Mesa celebrated "an unquestionable triumph" in getting to the second round, amid cheers from his supporters at his La Paz headquarters. Morales welcomed his first-round win, telling cheering crowds "we have won again, really, it is something historical, unforgettable".

South Korean-born evangelical pastor, Chi Hyun Chung, was the surprise package of the election, polling strongly to finish in third place with 8.7 per cent.

His support is likely to be influential during campaigning for the second round on December 15.

Controversial fourth term

Morales obtained Constitutional Court permission in 2017 to run again for president even though the constitution allows only two consecutive terms. A new mandate would keep him in power until 2025.

"Any party, no matter how good it is, if it stays in place for too long, it is corrupt, that's what we're going through," said 22-year-old student Tania Villaroel Lopez as she joined a line of voters near the presidential palace in La Paz.

Roberto Fernandez, 32, came with his wife Denise and their two-year-old daughter to vote at the same place. They said they feared the result of the elections would be manipulated.—AFP ■

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA N° of the financing agreement is N° 56870. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contract for the following packages. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Reference No.	Lot	Description	Unit	Quantity
G 130	1	Maintenance and Repair Service for the NCDDP Fleet of HONDA 125 cc, total number 417 motorcycles in use over the country	Service point	50
	2	Maintenance and Repair Service for the NCDDP Fleet of TVS NEO 110 cc, total number 2888 motorcycles in use over the country	Service point	75
G-146	1	Life Jackets for replacement	Nos	300
G-147	1	Supply of Medical Kits (small size)	sets	3,478
	2	Supply of Medical Kits (Larger size)	sets	2,523

Expressions of Interest on Quotation must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number above. The invitation to quote will be distribute on the needs of DRD. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ). Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address by corresponding **date and time stated in respective ITQ**, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

The goods will be contracted in lot-by-lot basis. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the "Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: Project Director Mrs. Nyo Nyo Win, NCDD Project Secretariat, Department of Rural Development, Office N°36, Nay Pyi Taw. Telephone(95-67)418604. For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067418637, Email: procurement@ncddpmyanmar.org.

Please indicate your e-mail address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send **as well as introduce your company name and contact number to communicate with you**. For more information on the NCDD Project please also visit Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.



A hooka (shisha) is pictured at a restaurant in Saudi Arabia's western city of Jeddah on 20 October 2019. PHOTO: AFP

Saudi Arabia’s new 100% shisha tax sparks fury

RIYADH (Saudi Arabia) — A decision to impose a 100 percent tax on bills at restaurants that serve shisha has ignited criticism on social media in Saudi Arabia, where the water pipes are a popular pastime.

The furore has also been fuelled by confusion over how the tax is applied.

In the meantime, some restaurants have stopped offering shisha, while others have lowered their prices to appease customers.

The government’s official gazette said earlier this month that the tax will apply to all tobacco products.

However the ruling from the ministry of rural and municipal affairs said it will apply “to the total invoice of the business serving tobacco products”.

A number of restaurants and cafes contacted by AFP said they believed that the tax applies to all table orders in any establishment that serves tobacco products, whether or not the order included shisha.

The decision sparked an avalanche of criticism on social media networks

where the Arabic hashtag “tax on hookah restaurants” is trending in the kingdom.

Many people posted photos of their restaurant bills, with totals of more than double the initial amount when taking into account the new 100 percent tax and a still-unpopular five percent value added tax which went into effect last year.

“Tobacco tax – controversy and confusion,” read a headline in the Al-Madina newspaper on Monday.

In the face of persistent budget deficits, the world’s top crude oil exporter has resorted to measures like cutting subsidies on fuel and power and imposing new taxes including on cigarettes and soft drinks.

There were also suggestions that the new shisha tax could be a measure to protect public health.

“This is an indirect way to prohibit shisha without actually prohibiting it,” tweeted Electronic Lawyer, a popular commentator who has more than 80,000 followers. —AFP ■

Georgia president eyes free trade agreement with Japan

TOKYO — Georgian President Salome Zourabichvili said Monday she is eager to boost economic cooperation with Japan with an eye to signing a free trade agreement in the future.

The former Soviet state’s location at the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia presents a wealth of business opportunities, Zourabichvili said in an interview with Kyodo News in Tokyo.

“Georgia has been developing in a constant manner in recent years, and we have now quite a promising situation be-

tween (the European Union) and Asia because we have a free trade agreement with the EU and we also have one with China and pretty soon with India,” she said.

“So we are located as a hub between those two worlds and we hope to also have a free trade agreement developed with Japan,” she added.

Japan and Georgia are expected to conclude an investment agreement this year after more than two years of talks, paving the way for negotiations on a wider free trade agreement. —Kyodo News ■

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C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Tsp, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 22nd October 2019 lmm@kcyangon.com

Public Notice to U Thein Naing Oo (NRC holder of 12/LaMaNa (Naing) 119821)

Public Notice is given by the undersigned, **Daw Than Myint alias Che Su Lian** (NRC holder of 13/TaKhaLa (Naing)026589, Director of Da Na Linn Company Limited, residing at number 61 A Tharaphy street tarlok ward, Tarchileik township and **Daw Mu Mu Sann** (NRC holder of 5/KaNaNa (naing) 030886) residing at number 8/N Ngu War 3 street, Mya Kan Thar Housing Estates, Ward 5 Hlaing township, to announce the followings:

Daw Than Myint, in the capacity of a director of Da Na Linn Company Limited, nominated **U Thein Naing Oo** as an agent for the afore-mentioned company with a general power of attorney document dated on 27th February 2014. Later, it came to our client’s knowledge with sufficient evidences that U Thein Naing Oo abused this agent role for his own benefits, instead. Consequently, Daw Than Myint alias Che Su Lian **withdrew** all relevant agency rights given to **U Thein Naing Oo**.

However, it came to our attention with sufficient evidentiary documents that another general power of attorney dated 04-10-2019 (registration number 326/2019) was made before a notary public. The document showed our clients Daw Than Myint alias Che Su Lian nominating U Thein Naing Oo as an agent, Daw Mu Mu Sann was featured as a witness and that our clients’ signatures were forged.

Hence, the public notice is given by our client Daw Than Myint alias Che Su Lian that the general power of attorney dated 27-02-2014 given to U Thein Naing Oo is cancelled as of today. Furthermore necessary actions according to existing laws of the country will be taken against U Thein Naing Oo for fabricating false documents.

Instructed by
Daw Than Myint alias Che Su Lian
Daw Mu Mu Sann

Advocate and Legal Consultant
U Hla Myo Myint (BA,RL,D.I.L,DIR)
Advocate License No - 5483 (30.11.1990)

Daw Thu Thu Htay
Advocate(14425)(17-5-2018)
LL.B, LLM, DM.L

Trade Mark Ads

Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355,09974424848

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V MATHU BHUM VOY.NO. (249E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MATHU BHUM VOY.NO. (249E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V OLYMPIA VOY.NO. (942W/943E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OLYMPIA VOY. NO. (942W/943E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (1920W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO.(1920W/E)are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21-10-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

Japan likely to face shortage of 270,000 nursing staff by 2025

TOKYO — Japan could face a shortage of up to 270,000 nursing staff by 2025 amid an aging and declining population, the welfare ministry said Monday.

The estimate, which covers registered nurses, assistant nurses, public health nurses and midwives, underscores the shortage would be most prominent in urban areas where home health care and other forms of nursing are used by many people, according to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.

With the minimum age of those born to the baby boomer generation to be 75 by the year 2025, social security spending by the government, as well as demand for medical practitioners, are expected to rise rapidly.

To secure skilled healthcare workers, the ministry is making an effort to improve working con-

ditions in the field, where overwork is a common problem.

A study that the ministry conducted to find ways of alleviating the problem found that up to 2.02 million nursing staff would be required by 2025.

But it estimates that number will only be around 1.75 million to 1.82 million by that time, rising slightly from the 1.66 million recorded in 2016.

The study attributed the country-wide shortage of home nursing and nursing care workers to a high number of people quitting due to the heavy workload required by the job and other reasons.

Local governments need to “revise their health care plans and strive to secure skilled workers in line with the actual situation,” an official of the ministry said. —Kyodo News ■



The first ever hydrogen-powered boat, the Energy Observer, sails on the River Thames in central London on 3 October 2019, one stop on its round-the-world voyage. **PHOTO: AFP**

Shipping firms look to sail into the future

PARIS (France) — Global shipping firms under pressure to cut carbon emissions are experimenting with an age-old technology: sails to harness ocean winds and reduce reliance on costly fuels.

“Five years ago, such projects would have gotten us thrown out by security” at shipping firms, said French naval architect Marc Van Peteghem.

“Now shipowners are listening to us,” he said.

A design from his firm, VPLP, has just been picked by European rocket-maker Ariane Group for a sail-equipped cargo ship to transport parts for its new Ariane 6 launcher to French Guiana starting in 2022.

The ship will be equipped with four huge rectangular sails rising 30 metres (100 feet) high, supplementing a motor and cutting fuel consumption by about 30 percent.

It might not be the first, though: French start-up Neoline announced in July it would start building a sail-powered transporter this year for launch by the end of 2021. “We have 5,000 years of experience in sailing with wind

— it’s renewable energy, and less intermittent than solar power,” Neoline’s managing director Jean Zanuttini told AFP at his office in Nantes, western France.

So far the firm has orders from three clients, including French automaker Renault.

But using wind to meet carbon goals is not as simple as building new boats or rigging sails on existing ones, as some ship owners have already done.

“Our 136-metre ship costs 30 per cent more than current ships,” Zanuttini said, “but we compensate by using 80 to 90 percent less fuel.”

Wind-powered vessels are also slower — a hard sell for some shipowners and clients who want their raw materials and merchandise to move as quick as possible.

‘Everything’s in transition’

Operators of the 60,000 to 90,000 oil tankers, bulk carriers, ferries and other huge cargo ships plying the seas are racing to find alternatives to fuel oil as pollution rules are tightened.

The industry generates roughly three percent of

Earth-warming greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, a figure that experts say could reach 17 percent by 2050 if nothing is done.

Also, starting January 1, levels of air-polluting sulphur in marine fuel must be below 0.5 percent, according to new International Maritime Organization standards — a sharp drop from today’s 3.5 per cent.

This is forcing firms to seek out cleaner, more costly fuels or invest in “scrubbers” to filter sulphur out of smokestacks.

“Everything is up for grabs, everything is in transition,” said Gavin Allwright, secretary of the International Windship Association in London.

This month his group organised a wind conference at the Royal Institution of Naval Architects in London, just a stone’s throw from Trafalgar Square and its statue of renowned British naval officer Horatio Nelson.

Even if sailing goes back centuries, “the vast majority of the technologies are 21st-century technologies and materials. They are almost fully automated, one-button computer operated,” Allwright said.—AFP ■



File photo taken in September 2016 shows a nurse giving an immunization shot in Osaka Prefecture. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Study finds footballers 3.5 times more likely to die from brain trauma

LONDON (United Kingdom) — A new study carried out by Glasgow University has found former footballers are approximately three-and-a-half times more likely to die from neurodegenerative diseases than the general population.

The report, released on Monday was commissioned by England’s Football Association and the Professional Footballers’ Association to assess the medical

records of 7,676 men who played professional football in Scotland between 1900 and 1976.

Their records were matched against more than 23,000 individuals from the general population, with the study led by consultant neuropathologist Dr Willie Stewart of Glasgow University.

His findings report that the “risk ranged from a five-fold increase in Alzheimer’s disease, through an approximately four-

fold increase in motor neurone disease, to a two-fold Parkinson’s disease in former professional footballers”.

Although footballers had higher risk of death from neurodegenerative disease, they were less likely to die of other common diseases, such as heart disease and some cancers, including lung cancer.

The study - titled ‘Football’s Influence on Lifelong Health and

Dementia Risk’ found that deaths in ex-footballers were lower than expected up to age 70, and higher than expected over that age.

Dr Stewart said in a statement: “An important aspect of this work has been the ability to look across a range of health outcomes in former professional footballers. This allows us to build a more complete picture of health in this population.

“Our data show that while

former footballers had higher dementia rates, they had lower rates of death due to other major diseases.

“As such, whilst every effort must be made to identify the factors contributing to the increased risk of neurodegenerative disease to allow this risk to be reduced, there are also wider potential health benefits of playing football to be considered.” —AFP ■



Green Party president Regula Rytz, centre, said the results marked a “tectonic shift”. PHOTO: AFP

Green Party makes historic gains in Swiss vote

GENEVA (Switzerland) — Switzerland’s Green Party made historic gains in national elections Sunday, while the anti-immigrant right wing remained the largest party in parliament despite a slip in its support.

Definitive results confirmed a pre-vote forecast that rising concerns about climate change would trigger an electoral “green wave”.

The results mark “a tectonic shift”, said Green Party president Regula Rytz, and the leftwing party called for the “urgent convening of a national climate summit”.

The Greens garnered 13.2 percent support, exceeding their pre-election projection and marking a six-point bump on their 2015 performance.

The Green Liberals — an environmentalist party with libertarian socio-economic policies — also gained ground, taking 7.8 percent of the vote compared with less than five percent in 2015.

“It’s more than a wave, it’s a tidal wave on the Swiss scale,” political scientist Pascal Sciarini told AFP. Focus will swiftly turn to whether the Greens — or a

coalition of the two environmentalist parties — will demand one of the seven cabinet positions that are shared among the leading political parties.

‘Swiss sovereignty’

The Swiss People’s Party (SVP), which has repeatedly been accused of demonising migrants, claimed 25.6 percent of the vote.

But that is down from the 29.4 percent it garnered in 2015.

University of Lausanne political scientist Oscar Mazzoleni told AFP the results showed that the SVP struggled to attract young voters while its ageing electoral base was less motivated to vote than in 2015, when Europe’s migrant crisis was on “page one”.

The SVP is also the only major party that has not pledged to pursue bolder climate action, having consistently denounced “climate hysteria” in Swiss politics. “We knew we were going to suffer a setback,” outgoing SVP senator Oscar Freysinger said on RTS. “But the important point remains that before saving the planet we have to save Swiss sovereignty,” he added. — AFP ■

Chile death toll rises to 11, president extends emergency

SANTIAGO (Chile)—Chile’s death toll has risen to 11, authorities said on Monday, after three days of violent demonstrations and looting that saw President Sebastian Pinera claim the country was “at war.”

Almost 1,500 people were detained in the worst outbreak of social unrest in decades while the capital Santiago was placed under curfew for two nights running.

“We are at war against a powerful, implacable enemy, who does not respect anything or anyone and is willing to use violence and crime without any limits,” Pinera told reporters on Sunday after an emergency meeting with army general Javier Iturriaga, who has been placed in charge of order and security in the capital.

Karla Rubilar, the governor of the Santiago region, said eight people had died on Sunday and three on Saturday -- all in the Santiago metropolitan area.

Santiago and nine more of Chile’s 16 regions were under a state of emergency, Pinera confirmed late on Sunday, with troops deployed onto the streets for the first time since Augusto Pinochet’s military dictatorship between 1973-1990.

The clashes, which have seen some 9,500 police and military fire tear gas and water cannon against protesters who have set fire to buses, smashed up metro stations and ransacked shops, were initially sparked by anger over metro fare hikes and wider social inequality.

Long queues formed at shops, service stations and bus

stops while the Santiago metro service, suspended on Friday as protesters burned and vandalized stations, was partially running again on Monday as some people returned to work.

In Santiago, many employers canceled the working day, while most schools and universities remained closed.

Iturriaga told reporters the capital was “peaceful and calm,” adding that 17 supermarkets were open as well as service stations and pharmacies.

He took a different line to the president, though, and added: “I feel happy, I’m not at war with anyone.”

Soldiers, though, patrolled outside metro stations and military vehicles were parked in streets near the presidential palace as tensions remained high.—AFP



Clashes in Chile have seen police and military fire tear gas and water cannon against protesters. PHOTO: AFP

Australian papers censor front pages in press freedom campaign

SYDNEY (Australia) — Newspapers across Australia ran heavily redacted front pages on Monday in protest against government secrecy and a crackdown on press freedom, a rare show of unity in a fractious media landscape.

National and regional mastheads including The Australian, The Sydney Morning Herald and the Australian Financial Review hit newsstands Monday with most of their front-page news stories blacked out. Advertisements

have also been rolled out across the country’s television networks, asking viewers to consider the question: “When the government hides the truth from you, what are they covering up?”

The campaign by the Right to Know coalition was sparked by federal police raids on the national broadcaster ABC and a News Corp journalist’s home earlier this year over two stories that had proved embarrassing for the government. It centres on six

demands, including exemptions for journalists from strict national security laws that have created a complex web of provisions critics say too easily ensnare reporters doing their jobs. “The culture of secrecy that has descended through these legal provisions restricts every Australian’s right to know and goes well beyond the original intent of national security,” Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance union head Paul Murphy said. — AFP ■

Kurdish fighters withdraw from besieged Syria town

RAS AL-AIN (Syria) — The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces fully withdrew from a Turkish-encircled town in northern Syria on Sunday, in what appeared to be the start of a wider pullout under a ceasefire deal.

Ankara launched a cross-border attack against Syria’s Kurds on October 9 after the United States announced a military pullout from the war-torn country’s north. A US-brokered ceasefire was announced late Thursday, giving Kurdish forces until Tues-

day evening to withdraw from a buffer area Ankara wants to create on Syrian territory along its southern frontier. The deal requires the SDF — the de facto army of Kurdish authorities in northeastern Syria — to pull out of the border zone extending 32 kilometres (20 miles) deep into Syrian territory, the length of which is not clear. The Kurds have agreed to withdraw from an Arab-majority stretch of border from Tal Abyad to Ras al-Ain, around 120 kilometres (70 miles).— AFP ■

Myanmar beat Timor-Leste 6-1 in AFF HD Bank Futsal Championship 2019

THE Myanmar national futsal team defeated the Timor-Leste team by 6-1 in the group match of the AFF HD Bank Futsal Championship 2019 at the Phu Tho Indoor Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam yesterday.

The goals for the Myanmar team were scored by Khin Zaw Lin in the 1st minute, Hlaing Min Tun in the 20th minute, Nye-in Min Soe in the 33rd and 35th minutes, Pyae Phyo Maung (2) in the 37th minute, and Kaung Chit Thu in the 40th minute.

The only goal for Timor-Leste was scored by Remigio Duarte in the 13th minute.

Myanmar has been placed in Group A with Thailand, Ti-

mor-Leste, and Cambodia for the tourney, while Group B comprises Viet Nam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Australia.

In other matches on 21 October, Thailand drubbed Cambodia 12-0, and Indonesia beat Malaysia 3-2.

Next, Myanmar will play against Cambodia at 11.30 a.m. local time on 22 October and Thailand at 11.30 a.m. on 23 October.

The winner of Group A and the runner-up of Group B will meet in the semifinals, scheduled for 2 p.m. on 25 October. Meanwhile, the winner of Group B and the runner-up of Group A will meet at 5 p.m.



The Myanmar futsal player (red) and the Timor-Leste player (white) vie for the ball at the Phu Tho Indoor Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam on 21 October. **PHOTO: MFF**

The final and third place matches will be held on 27 October. All the matches will be played at the Phu Tho Indoor

Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

From 2001 to 2018, Thailand was the winner of the AFF

Futsal Championship, except 2010, when the championship title was claimed by Indonesia. — Kyaw Khin



East Timorese delegates visit National Football Academy (Yangon)

THE former President and Prime Minister of East Timor, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao, and the president of the East Timor Football Federation, Mr. Francisco, yesterday visited the National Football Academy in Yangon.

Former President and Prime Minister of East Timor, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao, is seen with students of the National Football Academy on 21 October. **PHOTO: MFF**

The East Timorese delegation was welcomed by the Myanmar Football Federation general secretary, U Ko Ko Thein, the principal of the National Football Academy, U Aye Cho, and officials. They were then introduced to students and took a tour of the academy.

Later, the delegation went to watch a match in the region and state U-12 football tourney, organized by the Ministry of Education and the Myanmar Football Federation. — Kyaw Khin

Ronaldo happy with ‘more attacking’ Juventus

ROME (Italy)—Juventus forward Cristiano Ronaldo gave coach Maurizio Sarri a vote of confidence on Monday when he said he was happy with the “more attacking” approach the club had adopted since Sarri came on board in the summer.

“I think the team is getting better,” said Ronaldo on the eve of Juve’s Champions League Group D meeting with Lokomotiv Moscow.

“We are getting more and more confident. We are playing a different brand of football,

more attacking.

“I like the way he (Sarri) wants the team to play. We are creating more opportunities, we have more confidence in ourselves, I’m happy with these changes.

“Maybe we could score a little more but I’m proud of what we are doing.”

So far this season, Ronaldo has scored five goals in nine games and was on target at the weekend when Juventus beat Bologna 2-1 to consolidate top spot in Serie A.

“My role hasn’t changed,

perhaps I have a bit more freedom,” he said.

“I am happy because, bit by bit, we are getting to where Juventus ought to be. We have a difference coach, a different system, new players. We changed in order to improve.”

Last week, the five-time Ballon d’Or winner scored his 700th career goal while playing for Portugal.

“That’s already in the past. I want to move on, reach new heights to help the team. I want to play and help the team win trophies. —AFP



Cristiano Ronaldo says Juventus are more confident under new boss Maurizio Sarri. **PHOTO: AFP**