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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 191, 12th Waning of Thadingyut 1381 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Friday, 25 October 2019

State Counsellor returns from Japan after attending emperor's enthronement

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who attended the enthronement ceremony of the emperor of Japan held in Tokyo, left Japan on Air Nippon Airways for Yangon at local standard time 11:30 am yesterday.

The Myanmar delegation led by the State Counsellor was seen off at Narita Airport by Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu, Myanmar Military Attaché Colonel Tin Soe, officials from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar embassy and military attaché personnel and their family members.

The State Counsellor and party arrived back in Yangon at 4 pm and were welcomed by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon mayor U Maung Maung Soe, Japanese Ambassador Mr Ichiro Maruyama and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Yangon International Airport. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

State Counsellor

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed back by Japanese

Ambassador Mr Ichiro

Maruyama at the Yangon

International Airport yesterday.

PHOTO: MNA



Htamanthi Sanctuary gets official certificate of ASEAN Heritage Park

MYANMAR officials received a document that declared Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary as an ASEAN Heritage Park.

The document was presented to Director General of Forest Department Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw, the official of Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary and a representative of local ethnic people at the 6th ASEAN Heritage Parks Conference (AHP6) which was held in Pakse in the Champasak province of Lao PDR from 21 to 24 October.

The 15th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment, held from 7 to 8 October in Siem Reap, Cambodia, announced the sanctuary in the list of ASEAN Heritage Park (AHP) after the approval of ASEAN member countries during the 29th Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity held in Vientiane, Laos, in early May.

The nomination document for this wildlife sanctuary was submitted to the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity-ACB) as this sanctuary has a good ecosystem and is a habitat for endangered animal species such as tigers, wild elephants and pangolins, as well as rare plant species.

The conservation works started in 1974 by developing it into a wildlife sanctuary with the appointments of staff members and drafting management plan for it. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

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The joint committee meeting on amending the 2008 Constitution in progress. **PHOTO: MNA**

Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution holds meeting 49/2019

Meeting 49/2019 of the Joint Committee on Amending the 2008 Constitution was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Joint Committee Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, Deputy

Chairman of the Joint Committee Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Joint Committee secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe, joint secretary U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho and members who were representatives from political parties and Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative and officials from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.—MNA
(Translated by Zaw Min)

MOI delegation departs for Japan observation trip

A delegation from the Ministry of Information led by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint departed for Japan yesterday.

The trip will focus on film studios and academies, film libraries, museums, archive centres, and media agencies, film services and production companies. They will also attend the Tokyo International Film Festival.

The Union Minister was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Japanese Ambassador Mr Ichiro Maruyama, Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint

Maung and MoI officials.

The MOI delegation consists of the IPRD Director-General U Ye Naing, Film Promotion Division Director U Thein Naing, MRTV Deputy Director Daw Thillar Soe, NPE Editor Daw Khin Yadanar, Myanmar Movie Picture Organization Chairman U Zin Wine, Director A One U Thein Htut, Save Myanmar Film Director U Okkar, Third Floor Film & Festival Service Director U Theikdi and Daw Thu Thu Shein.—MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister Dr Pe Myint is seen at the Yangon International Airport before departing for Japan. **PHOTO: MNA**

MOALI, Norway's Yara International ASA discuss development of agriculture in Myanmar



Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister Dr Aung Thu is seen together with officials of the Norway-based Yara International crop nutrition company. **PHOTO: YARA**

DR Aung Thu, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, held talks with officials of the Yara International headquarters in Oslo, Norway, on 22 October over development of agro sector in Myanmar.

During his visit to Norway based world leading crop nutrition company, the Union Minister met with Mr Lars Røsæg Chief Financial Officer in Yara International and discussed about Yara's success story while starting up in Myanmar in last 2 years, products produced from Norway for Myanmar farmers, right combinations and right knowledge of crop nutrition, collaboration with Yezin Agricultural University to support the future of Myanmar agriculture.

Mr Røsæg explained to the

minister about Yara is also working for smallholder farmers by many digital farming tools for long term sustainable farming of Myanmar future as crop nutrition company for the future strategy.

Dr Aung Thu responded with welcoming Yara to prosper in Myanmar and Myanmar will be a great market for Yara, he said. The Minister also responded with positive interest and mentioned that new digital tools would require certain legal adjustments.

Senior Agronomist of Yara Myanmar Limited, Bjørn Tor Svoldal, further explained how Yara crop nutrition solutions can increase yield, crop and profitability for farmer at the same time reducing environmental footprint of agriculture.—GNLM

Reception to mark 74th Anniversary of UN held in Nay Pyi Taw

A reception to commemorate the Seventy-Fourth Anniversary of the United Nations was held at MGallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw in the evening of 24 October 2019.

During the occasion, U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations read out the Message from the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the 74th Anniversary of the United Nations Day.

Afterwards, Mr Andrew Kirkwood, the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. and Director and Representative of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), read out the message of the United Nations Secretary-General.



Union Minister U Thaung Tun reads out the message from the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the ceremony to mark the 74th Anniversary of the United Nations in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



It was then followed by a video clip presentation on the establishment and progress of the United Nations and the cooperation between Myanmar and the United Nations.

The Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Chairman and members of Hluttaw Committees, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, Ambassadors/ Heads of the Diplomatic Missions in Yangon, Heads of the United Nations agencies and International Organizations in Yangon and officials concerned from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the commemorative reception.—MNA

Myanmar reaffirms cooperation with the Special Envoy in finding sustainable solution for the issue of Rakhine State



Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations U Hau Do Suan. **PHOTO: MOFA**

THE Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to address the Rakhine State issues with goodwill, in cooperation with the Special Envoy as well as friends near and far during the introductory session of the Report of the Secretary-General on Myanmar.

At its 74th Session of the UN General Assembly, the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural) continued its debate on the promotion and protection of human rights in the afternoon session on 23 October 2019. Under the agenda item related to the human rights situation and reports of Special

Rapporteurs and Representatives, Special Envoy Ms Christine Burgener introduced the Report of the Secretary-General on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar.

During the discussion on the Report, the Permanent Representative made a statement as the country concerned. In his statement, the Permanent Representative expressed the Government's appreciation to the Special Envoy for her impartiality and constructive engagement with Myanmar in discharging her mandate. He highlighted the development in Myanmar's cooperation with UN agencies, ASEAN and INGOs in

addressing the Rakhine State issue and the Government's efforts on the repatriation process. In addition, he touched on the NVC and citizenship matter, handling of accountability question and implementation of Rakhine Advisory Commission's Recommendations.

In the conclusion, the Permanent Representative encouraged the United Nations and the international community to help the people of Myanmar in fulfillment of their aspirations by constructive engagement and to render assistance to Myanmar's national efforts with good will and sincerity, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

Workshop discusses role of constitutional tribunal in democracy transition

THE Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) Myanmar organized a workshop titled "The Chilean Transition to Democracy through Constitution Building Process and the Role of Constitution Tribunal" at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning to share knowledge on experiences of Chile in democracy transition process.

Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal U Myo Nyunt made an opening remark, saying that discussions at the workshop

could provide knowledge in drafting bills to amend the Constitution of Myanmar; and the Tribunal could find ways in this process.

Ms Kimana Zulue-ta-Fülscher, the Programme Manager of MyConstitution Project at the International IDEA, extended greetings, followed by the presentation of Professor Javier Couso from the Universidad Diego Portales on the topic of "The Chilean Transition to Democracy through Constitution Building Process and Role of Constitutional Tribunal" Then, Chairman U Myo Nyunt made a conclusion remark on the workshop which

was attended by the members of Constitutional Tribunal, its senior officials and representatives of IDEA. The workshop discussed political situations in Chile, the role of its constitutional tribunal during its fledgling democracy, comparative studies between experiences of Chile and other countries. Myanmar's Constitutional Tribunal and the International IDEA Myanmar are the partner organizations, and the latter is providing technical assistance to promote constitutional knowledge in building a democratic federal state.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



Officials and participants of the democracy transition workshop are seen at the opening ceremony. **PHOTO: MNA**

Press Release on Official Visit of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to Japan to attend Enthronement Ceremony of Japanese Emperor Naruhito



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends Japanese Emperor Naruhito's enthronement ceremony at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on 22 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

AT the invitation of the Government of Japan, the Myanmar delegation led by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi paid an official visit to Japan from 20 to 24 October 2019 to attend the enthronement ceremony of Japanese Emperor Naruhito. The delegation comprised of Union Minister for Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung and senior officials from the President Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The State Counsellor and party left the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport in the morning of 20 October 2019 and arrived at the Haneda International Airport in Tokyo at 9:50 pm local time. They were welcomed by Special Advisor to Prime Minister of Japan Mr Hiroto Izumi, Protocol Chief of Japan Mr. Kiminori Iwama, Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu, Myanmar Military Attaché Colonel Tin Soe, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Myanmar diplomatic staffs and family members at the airport.

In the morning of 21 October 2019, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the State Guest House in Tokyo. The meeting focused on matters pertaining to promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation

between Myanmar and Japan, fostering of economic cooperation between the two countries, including the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, continued support of Japan to the Myanmar Government's efforts in the peace process and the Rakhine issue, and collaboration in the regional and international arenas.

In the afternoon, the State Counsellor received Mr Kazush-

ence" organized by JETRO in the Meiji Kinenkan Hall and delivered a keynote speech. In her speech, the State Counsellor explained about the various aspects of the ongoing liberalization of Myanmar's economy, the goals, the plans of action and the commitments of the Myanmar government for economic development and foreign investment, the opportunities of investment

She also invited
Japanese companies and
businesspersons to make
more investments in
Myanmar.

ige Nobutani, President of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and party at the Meiji Kinenkan Hall in Tokyo. They discussed matters on the promotion of investments by Japanese companies and businesspersons in Myanmar, especially in agriculture, livestock and manufacturing sectors, and JETRO's projects in Myanmar.

Subsequently, the State Counsellor attended the "2nd Myanmar Investment Confer-

in Myanmar and the status of Japanese investments in Myanmar. She also invited Japanese companies and businesspersons to make more investments in Myanmar.

In the second part of the conference, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe explained about Myanmar's economic and investment policy reforms, and incentive offers to investors expressed in the Myanmar Investment Law and Myanmar Companies Law. Then,

JETRO Managing Director Mr Kazufumi Tanaka explained about Japanese companies investing in Myanmar and investment opportunities. It was followed by a panel discussion entitled "Investment and Business Climate from the Viewpoint of Japanese Companies in Myanmar". Deputy Minister U Set Aung, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Zaw Min Win, JETRO Managing Director and officials of Japanese companies investing in Myanmar took part in the discussion. More than 700 persons, including businesspersons from Japan and Myanmar attended the 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference.

Later in the evening, the State Counsellor and party cordially met with staffs and family members of Myanmar embassy and military attaché's office led by Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu at the Myanmar Embassy, and attended a dinner hosted by the Myanmar embassy.

In the morning of 22 October 2019, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received Mr. Ichiro Aisawa, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan and Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Parliamentary Friendship Association, at the Imperial Hotel. They cordially discussed matters on the promotion of bilateral relations

and friendship between Myanmar and Japan and cooperation between the two parliaments, the contribution made by the Association to the promotion of bilateral economic cooperation, including the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, the plantation of cherry trees in Myanmar by the Association as a gesture of Myanmar-Japan friendship and the future plans by the Association in Myanmar.

The State Counsellor later met with His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, King of Bhutan, and Queen Jetsun Pema at the hotel. During the meeting, they discussed matters on the promotion of bilateral relations between Myanmar and Bhutan, development and maintenance of cultural traditions and the exchange of visits between the two countries.

In the afternoon, the State Counsellor attended the enthronement ceremony of Japanese Emperor Naruhito held at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. At the ceremony, the Emperor delivered a speech on enthronement, followed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's congratulatory remarks. The ceremony concluded after expressing congratulations by the Japanese Prime Minister and cabinet members to Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako.

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In the evening, the State Counsellor attended the dinner at the Imperial Palace hosted by the Emperor and Empress for the royalties, heads of state, heads of government and high-ranking delegates attending the enthronement ceremony. The State Counsellor had the occasion to meet the Emperor and Empress as well as Imperial Princess Yoko.

In the morning of 23 October 2019, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gave the exclusive interviews to Mr. Tetsuya Iguchi, Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief of the Nikkei Newspaper, as well as Mr. Shinichi Nishiwaki, Deputy Editor of the Mainichi Newspaper, respectively at the hotel.

In the afternoon, the State Counsellor left the hotel for the State Guest House and met with Imperial Princess Yoko. Then, she left for the Myanmar Embassy

and cordially met with government scholars and private students studying at various universities in Japan.

In the evening, the State Counsellor attended the dinner at the New Otani Hotel hosted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and wife to the leaders of foreign countries attending the enthronement ceremony.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party left the Imperial Hotel for the Narita International Airport in Tokyo in the morning of 24 October 2019. They were seen off by Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu, Myanmar Military Attaché Colonel Tin Soe, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and staff of Myanmar embassy and military attaché's office. The Myanmar delegation led by the State Counsellor left Tokyo by flight and arrived at the Yangon International Airport in the evening. They were welcomed

by Yangon Region Government Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama and officials at the airport.

The official visit of the State Counsellor to Japan to attend the enthronement ceremony of the Emperor of Japan consolidates the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and Japan and the tradition of high-level interaction between leaders of the two countries. The attendance of the State Counsellor to the 2nd Myanmar Investment Conference in Tokyo also offers great opportunity to promote investments by Japanese companies and businesspersons in Myanmar and foster mutual understanding and trust between the governments and peoples of the two countries.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
24 October 2019



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the State Guest House in Tokyo on 21 October.
PHOTO: MNA

MPF Chief returns from overseas police conferences

THE Chief of Myanmar Police Force, Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo, returned from police conferences held in Chile and the Republic of Korea.

The MPF Chief and party arrived back to Yangon after attending the 88th INTERPOL

Conference organized in Santiago, Chile, from 15 to 19 October and the 74th Anniversary of the Establishment of the ROK Police and the conference of police chiefs from Asia-Pacific Region in Seoul, ROK from 21 to 23 October.

The 88th Interpol Conference

was attended by chiefs and deputy chiefs of police forces from 194-member countries, General Secretaries from ASEANPOL, EUROPOL, AMERICAPOL and AFRIPOL, the President and the General Secretary of INTERPOL's Executive Com-

mittee, officials and experts from the world-recognized technology organizations for security and rule of laws sectors.

At the conference, the participants reviewed major criminal cases across the world in 2018-2019, possible criminal cases in 2020, expectations, law enforcement measures of police forces and capacity building programmes.

Their discussions focused on proactive measures of police in preventing crimes, community policing, technology crimes, cybercrimes and partnership among police forces.

The MPF Chief also informally met with Mr Kim Jong Yang, the President of INTERPOL's Executive Committee, to discuss capacity building of MPF and cooperation of INTERPOL in fighting against terrorism.

During a separate meeting with Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police Reece Kershaw, the MPF Chief sought an agreement to conduct police dog trainings, and also discussed the establishment of database for criminal cases and exchange of information.

Police Lt-Gen Aung Win Oo also held informal meetings with police chiefs from China, the Philippines, Malaysia and Bangladesh.

The MPF Chief and party also attended 74th Anniversary of the Establishment of the ROK Police and the conference of police chiefs from Asia-Pacific Region in Seoul, ROK on 21 October. It was attended by 1,500 participants of deputy ministers, police chiefs, heads of police organizations from 29 countries of Asia and Pacific regions.

Prime Minister of ROK Lee Nak-yeon and National Police Commissioner General Min Gab-Ryon delivered opening remarks at the conference, and the participants looked around security and police technology exhibition before separate discussions with the deputy ministers and police chiefs. The MPF Chief also held a private meeting with the National Police Commissioner of ROK to discuss fighting against cybercrimes, scientific investigation, conducting anti-terrorism training courses and technical assistance of ROK.— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



The Myanmar delegation is seen together with Korean police officers before the Bilateral Meeting on Police Cooperation between the Republic of Korea and Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin delivers statement at Preparatory Ministerial Meeting of 18th Summit of Non-Aligned Movement held in Baku, Azerbaijan

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin made a statement at the first session of the Preparatory Ministerial Meeting of the 18th Non-Aligned Movement held on 23 October 2019 in Baku, Azerbaijan, emphasising on the need to strengthen unity of the Movement to respond to the challenges of the contemporary world and the need to settle bilateral issues among member States in an amicable and friendly manner.

In his statement, the Union Minister recalled that the Non-Aligned Movement was founded at the height of the Cold War based on the Bandung Principles and Myanmar was among the five countries which had sponsored the Bandung Conference in 1955. The founding fathers had envisaged a peaceful and prosperous world and a just and equitable order where states can determine independently their own destinies. Since then, the world has undergone far-reaching changes following the end of the Cold War. But, the fundamental principles of the Movement remain valid today in the inter-State relations. The Bandung spirit that had waned after the end of Cold War must be revitalised to the benefit of all member States. To that end, it is important for all to remain committed to those core principles, especially the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity, justice, equality and mutual respect among nations without interfering in the internal affairs of another country or using pressure against another country and settlement of disputes by peaceful means. The recent resurgence of new kind of cold war shaped by the geopolitical power competition and ongoing trade and technology war has once again pointed to the greater need to revive and strengthen the unity of the Non-Aligned Movement to collectively respond to the emerging challenges.

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin pointed out that the dream of the Movement to enjoy the right to determine their own destiny or resolve their own internal problems in their own way is still far from realization. The power of globalization made the national boundaries blurred and encroached upon the sovereignty and independence of nations.



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin delivers the statement at the Preparatory Ministerial Meeting of the 18th Non-Aligned Movement on 23 October in Baku, Azerbaijan. **PHOTO:MNA**

The tendency to such encroachment was most visible in the area of protection of human rights. The present world order is replete with unfairness, injustice and inequalities, double standards, imbalances in global economic order which have exacerbated the development gap. Unbalanced reporting of the world media monopolised by

Movement. To that end, it is of paramount importance that any issue between the member States of the Movement must be resolved bilaterally in an amicable and friendly manner and to avoid taking up sensitive country specific issues into the debate of the Movement. Trying to understand each other's challenges and complexities is the

The Government of Myanmar is creating a conducive environment for the returnees in cooperation with the UN agencies as well as with our ASEAN friends, as well as, our traditional development partners in our region and beyond.

the rich and powerful and suppression of the views of less developed countries are negatively influencing the shaping of policy decisions. To strengthen the unity of the NAM, it is important not to allow anyone to misuse the Movement to serve one's own political purposes. The Movement needs to strengthen the unity and solidarity among its diverse membership in order to adequately respond the global challenges facing the

key to building better relations between the member states.

Union Minister also rebutted to the remarks made by Bangladeshi Foreign Minister on Rakhine issue, highlighting that the issue of Rakhine is not an issue of religious persecution. It is absolutely not an issue of driving an ethnic group out of the country, as wrongfully alleged. Myanmar strongly objected to the labelling the issue as ethnic cleansing or gen-

ocide by Bangladesh. In fact, it is a political and economic issue involving cross-border migration since colonial time when immigrants from Bengal, mainly from Chittagong Region, were transferred en masse by the British colonial power into western townships of Rakhine for expanding rice productions. There was also another wave of mass migration across the porous border during the fight for Bangladesh's independence in 1971. The migration problem was also compounded by the poverty, lack of rule of law and security. There has been deep rooted history of tensions, mutual mistrust and fear between the local ethnic communities and the migrant community. What is happening in the northern tip of Rakhine does not represent the whole country. In the remaining areas across the country, people of different faiths are living in harmony. Religious building and edifices of different faiths stand side by side in many cities of Myanmar. Myanmar fully shares the concern over the plight of all communities affected by the violence. It is important not to overlook the fact that the violence was ignited by provocative attacks by ARSA terror group against multiple police outposts in October 2016 and again in August 2017. The violence was committed by both sides and affected all communities.

The Union Minister reiterated Myanmar government's full commitment to finding sus-

tainable solution that will lead to peace, stability and development for all the people in Rakhine State. The most pressing task between the two neighbours is to work together under the agreed mechanisms to remove all the obstacles hindering the repatriation. Myanmar has stated over and over again its readiness to receive all the displaced persons who have already been verified as former residents in Rakhine State. Since this is a migrant-related issue, this issue needs to be resolved bilaterally with Bangladesh. If both neighbours follow strictly the bilateral arrangement signed between the two countries, the repatriation process will be successful as it has been done in 1992. The main obstacle is the presence of hardliner groups and ARSA terror groups inside the camps in the Cox's Bazaar who do not want repatriation but exert international pressure to advance their political agenda. He hoped that Bangladesh would not turn a blind eye to their presence in the camps. They are taking hostages the displaced persons to reach their political goals, by intimidating those advocating for return. Regardless of their threats, over 350 displaced persons have already come back. The other day, 29 more returnees have just returned to Rakhine State on their own volition. They have resumed their lives in conditions of safety and dignity. Despite Myanmar's repeated request, Bangladesh has not sent back 444 Hindu displaced persons who have clearly expressed their desire to return. The Government of Myanmar is creating a conducive environment for the returnees in cooperation with the UN agencies as well as with our ASEAN friends, as well as, our traditional development partners in our region and beyond. The issue of Rakhine is a very complex, complicated one that requires time and space to educate the people and to build trust and harmony among the communities. Myanmar stands ready to resolve the issue with the cooperation of Bangladesh based on the bilateral agreement signed between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The 18th Summit of the Movement will be held on 25-26 October in Baku, Azerbaijan, according to Ministry of International Cooperation.—MNA

Anti-Corruption Commission, Sagaing govt hold public workshop

THE Anti-Corruption Commission and the Sagaing Region government organized a workshop participated by the private and public sectors on prevention of corruption at Mya Thallar Hall of Monywa, the capital of the region, yesterday morning.

The workshop titled ‘Responsible Administration and Business Entities’ was held with the technical support of UNDP.

After an opening remark of Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker U Than, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission U Aung Kyi said that the term corruption has a broader aspect than bribery cases as it may occur in both public and private sectors and lead to the loss of state property by breaching the existing laws, rules and procedures.

He added the ACC took effective

actions against any forms of corruption which damaged the state’s interests, value and development. The Chairman of ACC also said if the misuse of authority for the interest of private sector, such as in a factory or an organization, has caused the losses in public property, then it will be regarded as corruption whether the bribery scandal was exposed or not. He also advised the civil service personnel to participate in building a corruption-free society for posterity.

Then, Professor Dr Aung Tun Thet discussed a topic of ‘Anti-Corruption for Development’.

During the workshop, experts from both private and public sectors made their discussions on corruption-related issues from legal or administration sectors.—

MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)



Anti-Corruption public workshop being convended in Monywa. PHOTO: MNA

Five baby dolphins spotted along Ayeyawady River

FIVE baby Ayeyawady dolphins were spotted in the conservation area between Mandalay and Kyaukmyaung recently, according to local fishermen.

“While guiding local and foreign travelers in the river, I saw two babies in a group of dolphins near Seinpangon Village, another two in a group of eight dolphins

near Mingun, and one near Indaung Village,” said U Maung Lay, a local fisherman who is participating in the Ayeyawady dolphins-based community tourism.

A survey conducted in February this year had shown over 70 dolphins between Mandalay and Bhamo, and 24 of them were recorded between Mandalay and

Kyaukmyaung.

With the implementation of the dolphins-based community tourism between Mandalay and Kyaukmyaung, the number of foreign visitors coming to watch cooperative fishing with the Ayeyawady dolphins has been on the rise this year, according to U Maung Lay.

While newcomers are found annually in the river, there are also deaths due to electro-fishing and fishing nets.

With a team conducting two rounds of inspections every month, the practice of electro-fishing is gradually declining in the area from Mandalay to Bhamo in the Ayeyawady dolphin protection zone, according to U Kyaw Hla Thein, who is part of the Wildlife Conservation Society’s dolphin conservation project.

A combined team, with members drawn from the Fisheries Department, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Marine Police Force (Mandalay), and other concerned organizations, is conducting the inspections and also organizing awareness campaigns.

In 2018, 10 fishermen were arrested and 32 fishing vessels, 37 electric fishing nets, 31 batteries, and 19 machines were seized between the Mandalay and Kyauk-

myaung dolphin protection zone. The action was taken against eight more fishermen, and 18 fishing vessels, 8 electric fishing nets, 18 batteries, and 9 electric machines were confiscated. According to data recorded between January and July, the Mandalay Marine Police Force has taken action against 24 fishing boats for electro-fishing.

Six dolphin deaths were recorded in 2018. In February and May, two dolphins were reportedly killed out of the total 72 in the 400-kilometer area between the Mandalay and Bhamo dolphin protection zone. Dolphin breeding was also observed in the month of May. According to data recorded in February, 2018, there were 76 dolphins in the 400-kilometer area from Mandalay to Bhamo, which forms a part of the Ayeyarwady dolphin protection zone. —Aung Thant Khaing

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



The baby Ayeyawady dolphins were spotted in the conservation area between Mandalay and Kyaukmyaung. PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

AA attack police convoy, two policemen killed

AA attacked a prison van and a police car on the Buthidaung-Maungtaw Road yesterday. The attack claimed the lives of two policemen. About 10 AA members set off two remote-controlled mines and fired upon a convoy of police vehicles around

4:25 pm at milepost 5/2 on the Buthidaung-Maungtaw Road in Buthidaung Township. The convoy comprised a prison van which was carrying 14 policemen and 20 inmates and a security vehicle carrying eight men and two women. The policemen escorting

the prison van returned the fire, forcing the AA members to retreat around 4:45 pm. Five policemen and two women were injured in the attack. Police Constable Tun Aung Kyaw and Police Sergeant Hein Zaw succumbed

to their injuries around 5:30 pm at the hospital. The inmates were sent to the Buthidaung Prison, and the security forces are conducting security measures around the site of the attack.— MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

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The global population crisis

THE global population has reached 7.7 billion this year according to the World Health Organization's report. This means that between 1980 and 2015 there has been an average increase of 400 million people every five years. Furthermore between 2015 and 2019 there has been an increase of almost 100 million people every year.

However, there is no sign of population growth slowing down. In fact, experts predict the world will have 8 billion people by 2023, 9 billion by 2037, and 10 billion in 2057.

China and India are currently in the lead for most populous countries with 1.430 billion people living in the former and 1.370 billion in the latter. But the rate of population increase is faster in India and it won't be long till they overtake China as the number one most populous nation.

Naturally, this exceptionally high population boom carries with it its own problems and challenges. The first major obstacle is hunger as experts point out it will become increasingly difficult to provide enough food and water to the global population. People are giving birth faster than food production and distribution can keep up with.

The modern lifestyle of the increasing human population will also bring with it increased pollution to the land, water and air of the Earth.

We have roughly 40 years left until we reach that limit and we must work hard to prevent possible difficulties from arising.

The first step to resolving this issue is for everyone alive to understand the issues we have as critical problems that concerns every living being on this planet. This line of thinking will usher in individual respect for nature and a willingness to preserve it.

An important point of note is that the population crisis and its consequences may be felt within our lifetime. As it is a global phenomenon, the problem cannot be relegated to just one nation or body of authority. It requires the collective effort of all human beings from all corners of the globe to figure out sustainable solutions for our shared future.

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Chin youths are always welcome to return home

By Salai Ban Roe Htan

PEACEFUL, beautiful and virtually untouched by the hands of urbanization, Chin State hosts authentic natural scenery and is the home of nearly five hundred thousand inhabitants. A lot of intellectuals have also sprung forth from here. The development and future of the state currently rest on the shoulders of its young generation. Thus, they need to bring out the next generation of intellectuals with hearty does of nationalism. It is up to the young Chin people to preserve the ethnic race's traditions, customs and unique language.

A people of migrating workers

Since 1996, Chin people have been going abroad for work and the number is ever increasing. Some even migrate with their entire household. While the number of migrant Chin workers was high, those traveling for further education were few and far between.

This was partly due to parents taking out their children from 8th to 9th grade and sending them in the prime of their youth to work abroad, as the income of the family was insufficient to continue their education.

They were more interested in finding employment overseas



Damsels wearing Chin traditional dress celebrate harvest festival in Chin State.

than passing the matriculation examinations. However, some Chin people do continue their education after some time abroad. Generally speaking, one person from ever Chin household was working in a foreign land. This was roughly 30 per cent of the entire Chin State population.

Underlying cause for working abroad

Families and individuals with a secure job overseas are living

In 2010, more civil servant positions were offered in Chin State and the number of youths leaving for another country decreased. The government and NGOs called in more young Chins to increase their staff and they are now serving the national interest across Myanmar.



FILE PHOTO: Chin ethnic dancers perform traditional dance at a ceremony to mark the 69th Chin National Day in Yangon on 20 February, 2017. PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)

State. The Union Government and Chin State Cabinet will continue to increase civil servant positions and hire more Chin youths.

Eco, agro-analysis

Transportation is quite difficult in Chin State as its terrain is mostly steep hills and mountain ranges. The rest of Myanmar also refers to Chin State as its own little world. They mainly import goods from Central Myanmar and India. The difficulty of traveling to Chin State means logistics will cost more and thus the price of commodities there is a bit more expensive than the rest of the nation.

One of the main exports of Chin State is the elephant foot yam, farmed extensively in almost all corners of the state. They also cultivate other crops for consumption. The locals continue to plant on the steppes as they have done traditionally. They only cultivate crops once a year. Rice is planted on the farms while elephant foot yams and other crops are planted in each household's little garden.

Improving roads & transport

Transportation infrastructure plays a pivotal role in the development from villages and townships all the way up to states and regions. Hence, the Chin State Cabinet keeps improving transportation as its first priority.

They are also improving the roads used as trade routes between Chin State and India and constructing airports in Loilempi and Falam. This will brighten the future of Chin State and its people.

Returning back home

Lots of Chins working abroad are now returning to their homes in Chin State and working in whatever jobs are available. This is without a doubt a positive sign for the state. As a developing state, there will be more jobs available there.

If all Chin expatriates were to return to Chin State and aid in every sector of its development, then perhaps one day the only reason to leave to find employment overseas will become a choice rather than a necessity.

Translated by Pen Dali

မူဝါဒတိုင်းသောကြားသုံးစွဲရမည့် စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှု ဖြန့်ဖြူးရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်သွယ်ရေး ဘဏ္ဍာရင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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စာပေပွဲတော် နှင့် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေမှု

(ချောင်းသာမြို့)

၂၀၁၉ ခုနှစ် ၊ ဇူလိုင်လ (၁၂)ရက် (သောကြာနေ့)၀၉း၁၅း၂၄ နာရီ ၊ နံနက် ၉ နာရီမှ ၁၁း၀၀ နာရီအထိ

မည်သူမဆို ဝါသနာရှိသူတိုင်းပါဝင်နိုင်ပါသည်။

အခြေခံပညာအထက်တန်းကျောင်း၊ ချောင်းသာမြို့။

Notification of Road Transport Administration Department for car registration in accurate ownership, name and address

1. The accuracy of ownership, name and address of automobiles registered at the Road Transport Administration Department is very crucial for promoting rules of law, security and regulations, and to adapt with the future Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system.
2. The Internal Revenue Department collected 15 per cent in minimum and 30 per cent in maximum of tax on each car in the past. The Article 25 of Union Taxation Law 2019 has favoured every owner to pay the tax for their car and has created an opportunity to register their vehicles in the name of owner and the address.
3. Commencing 1 January 2020, the RTAD will allow the registration processes (for initial registration, license extensions, identifying the cars, registered area, permitted areas, physical changes and loss of registration documents) only through the owners in person or by checking their national ID cards and family registration document. If the owners failed to present the required documents, the registration in ownership name can be done after paying the income tax at the Internal Revenue Department.
4. The RTAD will allow for license extension in the name of its ownership, and that all the automobile owners are notified to follow the instructions of RTAD during the tax relief period.

Road Transport Department
The Ministry of Transport and Communications.

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 ee@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

circulation@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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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.

IWT runs more Wahdan-Dala Z-crafts to reduce traffic

THE Inland Water Transport (IWT) has increased the number of Wahdan-Dala Z-crafts to reduce traffic in Yangon Region, according to a media conference held on yesterday morning at the IWT office, located on the Yangon-Wahdan jetty.

“Earlier, Z-crafts were plying nine routes per day between Wahdan and Dala. They were transporting around 260-270 cars per day. On 1 October, the Z-crafts operation was extended to 15 routes from nine routes. Now, ferry boats are conveying around 650-700 cars per day. This means we are solving the traffic problem as far as we can,” said U Win Ko Aung, the head of the Transportation Division of the IWT.

“Cars can save two hours’ time driving to towns from Ayeyawady region through Wahdan and Dala.



The Z-crafts are operating hourly from 5 am to 7 pm every day. PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG

Moreover, cars must not be in a tight line while the Bayintnaung bridge is being upgraded,” he added.

The fare for transportation with a Z-crafts ranges between K2,500 and K8,000, depending upon the vehicle tonnage. The

ferry boats are operating hourly between 5 am and 7 pm every day.—Myint Maung
(Translated by Hay Mar)

5th Property Guru Myanmar Property Awards 2019 held in Yangon

THE 5th Property Guru Myanmar Property Awards 2019 were held on 23 October at the Sule Shangri-La hotel to honor the best construction companies that have contributed to the development of Yangon Region over the year.

“Today, we were awarded the best wholesale center prize and the best healthcare center prize. We were awarded because we constructed buildings which met high-quality standards,” said Mr Yotsaton Kijkuso, the director of GMP Company.

The company constructed Gamone Pwint Wholesale Mall between Myanmar Gone Yi and Bo Min Yaung



The 5th Property Guru Myanmar Property Awards 2019 ceremony held on 23 October in Yangon to honour the best construction companies in Yangon Region. PHOTO: MYINT MAUNG

roads, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township, including a car parking with a capacity of 700 cars, ten lifts for carrying goods, and an air-cooling system.

The company also built the ArYu International Hospital in Tawmay Township for providing quality healthcare services.

The 5th Property Guru Myanmar Property Awards 2019 was organized by Kohler. Local and foreign construction experts chose the winners for the awards. At the ceremony, two companies were presented the best constructor awards, eleven took the best construction awards, three got the best designer awards, and four were given special awards.—Myint Maung
(Translated by Hay Mar)

Number of travellers visiting Ayeyawady up 15 % in 2019

THE number of local and foreign travellers in Ayeyawady Region registered an increase of 15 per cent in the January-August period this year compared to a year ago.

In 2019, Pathein welcomed 35,297 local and foreign travellers, Ngwehsaung beach received 145,330 travellers, and Chaungtha beach recorded 414,965 visitors.

In 2018, a total of 55,481

local and foreign travellers visited Pathein, 176,879 visitors headed to Ngwehsaung beach, and 514,489 to Chaungtha beach.

“The number of travellers visiting Ayeyawady Reigon has been increasing annually. The number of travellers visiting Pathein reached more than 73,000 in January-December, 2017, over 55,000 in January-December, 2018 and over 35,000 in

January-August, 2019,” said an official from the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Additionally, the number of travellers visiting Ngwehsaung beach was 142,676 in January-December, 2017, over 176,879 in January-December, 2018, and over 145,000 in January-August, 2019.

Chaungtha beach welcomed 182,563 travellers during January-December, 2017,

524,489 travellers in January-December, 2018, and over 410,000 visitors in January-August, 2019. With an increase in the number of travelers visiting Ayeyawady Region, the tourism revenue also climbed up by 40 per cent during the January-August period this year compared to the last year.—Aye Cho
(Translated by Hay Mar)

Hong Kong Amata Company invests over \$270 mln in smart and eco city business

By Nyein Nyein

HONG KONG listed Amata Company brings in over US\$270 million in the development and operation of Smart and Eco City and related business, said U Thant Sin Lwin, Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

Yangon Amata Smart and Eco City Ltd will develop and operate smart and eco city businesses on 2,000 acres of land near Laydauntkan near East and South Dagon townships.

“Amata Corporation is the leading industrial city developer and it operates automotive business and industries. They also provide vocational training. The project in Myanmar also includes vocational training center. I believe it will help improve Myanmar’s skilled labour sector”, said U Thant Sin Lwin.

The heavy investment like Amara is a good start for the current fiscal year.

It is about one and half year that Amata proposed to invest in the country. However, the company held on the investment to manage land location, environmental condition, road infrastructure, wastewater treatment system.



U Thant Sin Lwin, director-general of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. PHOTO: NYEIN NYEIN

Further, Myanmar has investment potentials from the South East Asian countries owing to cheap labour and business potentials in the country. This being so, more large entities are likely to enter the country, he added.

“We see many investment potentials of large companies. We prioritize the responsible business and so, we take special care while screening the investment proposals”, said U Thant Sin Lwin.

Large investments are possibly to flow into the oil and gas, agriculture, mineral, manufactur-

ing and industrial estate sectors.

The economic interaction between Myanmar and Hong Kong has been increasing rapidly. Hong Kong has emerged as the third largest investor in Myanmar, after Singapore and China. Between 1988 and September, 2019, 196 enterprises from Hong Kong have brought in foreign direct investments of \$8.2 billion into Myanmar, according to official data on existing enterprises provided by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Long staple cotton yield touches 750 viss per acre in Meiktila Township special zone



The Township Agriculture Department is currently distributing seeds of long staple cotton with the aim to increase the acreage in Meiktila Township. PHOTO: THEIN MYINT KYAW (MEIKTILA)

THE yield of long staple cotton, grown on 50 acres at the agriculture service centre in Kantaung Village, Meiktila Township, has reached 750 viss (a viss equals 1.6 kg) per acre.

“The Township Agriculture Department is currently distrib-

uting seeds of long staple cotton with the aim to increase the acreage in the special zone. Moreover, officials from the department have conducted inspections to check data registration, co-operation in pest control, and compliance with guidelines on

pesticides. As per data, an acre of long staple cotton field can produce 750 viss of cotton,” said U Nay Phyto Thu, an official from the department. —Thein Myint Kyaw (Meiktila)

(Translated by La Wonn)

MIC clears 10 foreign projects worth \$288.8 mln, 8 domestic proposals worth K160.95 bln

By Nyein Nyein

THE Myanmar Investment Commission, at a recent meeting, approved investments of US\$288.8 million from 10 foreign enterprises and eight domestic investment projects, with estimated capitals of K160.95 billion and \$47.63 million.

The foreign businesses were approved and endorsed by the MIC and the investment committees of Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions. They are expected to create 35,912 jobs for local residents.

The enterprises will be engaged in manufacturing, real estate development, hotel services, and other services sectors.

Between 1 and 21 October in the current fiscal year, FDI of \$304.34 million flowed into the country, including expansion of capital by existing

enterprises and investments of \$11.4 million in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

Meanwhile, the proposals of eight domestic enterprises were endorsed by the MIC and the investment committees of Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Kayah. The projects will be executed in the manufacturing, agriculture, real estate development, and other services sectors, and create over 1,266 jobs.

In the current fiscal, domestic enterprises have invested \$47.63 million and K160.95 billion in the country.

The Myanmar Investment Law allows regional and state Investment Committees to endorse local and foreign proposals, where the initial investment does not exceed K6 billion, or \$5 million. This has been done to simplify the verification of investment projects.

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Peanut growers in Sagaing Region earn smaller profit due to low production

THE long rainy season in Sagaing Region affected the yield of peanuts in Myaung Township, and growers have earned smaller profits due to low peanut production in the region.

“Only one third of peanut plantations yielded well due to the erratic weather and the long spell of rains. The total input costs for cultivation are estimated at K500,000 per acre, including the cost of

seeds, wages, and fertilizers, among other things. But, we have earned K650,000 in three months, making a profit of K150,000. Growers who cultivated peanuts on hired farmlands may face losses”, said U Zaw Naing Tun, a grower from Mayoe Village.

The yield of peanuts in August, last year was pretty good, but the production was low this year. —Tin Ko Ko (Myaung)

(Translated by La Wonn)



The yield of peanuts is low this year due to the erratic weather and the long spell of rains. PHOTO: TIN KO KO (MYAUNG)

CBM Governor takes part in WBG, IMF annual meetings



Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung shakes hand with Thailand's Central Bank Governor Mr Veerathai Santiprabhob. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, attended the annual meetings of the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund at Washington, D.C., USA, from 17 to 20 October.

The Governor and his delegation first attended The Joint Governors' Meeting of the EBG-IMF Southeast Asia Voting Group at 2 p.m. on 17 October.

During the meeting, WBG Executive Director Ms Kulaya Tantitemit and IMF Executive Director Ms Alisara Mahasandana talked on policy matters, implementation of action

plans and its improvements. Other speakers also included Ms Ceyla Pazarbasioglu, Vice President of the WBG's Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions, and Mr Tobias Adrian, Financial Counsellor and Director of IMF's Monetary and Capital Markets Department, talking under the heading 'Digital Economy: What Has Changed?' This was followed by the bank governors exchanging perspectives.

Annual plenary, closed meeting

On 18 October the next day, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung attended the WBG-IMF Annual Meetings Plenary

at DAR Constitution Hall. Later in the afternoon, he met with IMF's Director for Asia-Pacific Development Mr Changyong Rhee and discussed the development of financial sector in Myanmar.

From there, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung attended the closed-door meeting between the IMF's Managing Director and the finance ministers and central bank governors of ASEAN at the IMF's Executive Board Room.

During the meeting, IMF Managing Director Ms Kristalina Georgieva delivered an opening address and Mr Changyong Rhee explained the different economic development of ASEAN nations. The finance ministers and governors mainly discussed on their respective national improvements and challenges.

Inking MoUs with Thai Central Bank

Afterwards, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung met with Thailand's Central Bank Governor Mr Veerathai Santiprabhob. In the presence of the Union Minister

for Planning and Finance, U Soe Win, both governors signed the Memorandum of Understanding for increasing the use of the Myanmar Kyat and Thai Baht in transnational transactions and account settlements and the MoU for cooperating on financial innovations and payment systems. Both MoUs are made between the central banks of Myanmar and Thailand.

On the morning of 19 October, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung attended the International Monetary and Financial Committee Meeting Plenary at IMF HQ2's conference hall 1.

He then met with Ms Alisara Mahasandana, the executive director of the Southeast Asian nations' voting group, in the afternoon and discussed the development of Myanmar's economic and financial sectors.

The delegation headed by the Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar returned from the US capital to Myanmar on 22 October.—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Invitation for Bids

Date: 25 October 2019
Loan Agreement No: MY-P5

1. The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) toward the cost of Greater Yangon Water Supply Improvement Project (MY-P5), Lagunbyin WTP and Nyaunghnapin WTP No.1 & No.2. Also need to include upgrading the existing dosing facilities of the Nyaunghnapin WTP No.1 & No.2. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the Contract for the Supply and Delivery of Poly Aluminium Chloride.
2. Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement.
3. The Yangon City Development Committee now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the procurement of the Supply and Delivery of Poly Aluminium Chloride ("the Goods").
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation), Yangon City Development Committee at 12 1/2 Storey Office Building, No.390, Merchant Road, Yangon, Myanmar.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee 50,000 Myanmar Kyats.
6. The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the Standard Bidding Documents under Japanese ODA Loans for the Procurement of Goods.
7. Bids must be delivered to the above address at or before 14:00 on 5 December 2019.
8. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 14:00 PM on 5 December 2019 at the office of Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation), Yangon City Development Committee, 12 1/2 Storey Office Building, No.390, Merchant Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

Mr. Myint Zaw Than
Head of Department
Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation)
Yangon City Development Committee
12 1/2 Storey Office Building, No.390, Merchant Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Email : lagunbyin@gmail.com

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Bank Holiday

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M.V B TRADER VOY.NO. (941S/943N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V B TRADER VOY.NO. (941S/943N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-10-2019 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)
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Phone No: 2301185

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

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

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

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The Indonesian Embassy holds an Indonesian food festival yesterday with a reception and cultural performance at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon. PHOTO:MNA

Indonesian Embassy conducts Food Festival 2019

The Indonesian Embassy in Yangon kicked off an Indonesian food festival yesterday with a reception and cultural performance at the Pan Pacific Hotel to introduce the culture and food of the country's west Sumatra, west Java provinces and other regions to diplomats and guests.

The four-day festival is part of a series of events organized by the embassy to celebrate 70 years of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Myanmar.

The food festival was formally opened by the Indonesian Ambassador Prof. Dr. Iza Fadri at the Saan Restaurant, Pan Pacific Hotel.

In his remarks, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Myanmar said that the event aimed to introduce Indonesian food to Myanmar and strengthen relations between the two countries. On the opening of the food festival, 25-28 Oct, guests sampled Indonesian delicacies, including rendang from West Sumatra, which is already well-known internationally, sate ayam (chicken satay), mie kocok bandung (noodles Bandung-style), snacks, and desserts. The opening of festival also featured music and dance performances from Padang State University.—GNLM

Farmers fear leftist return in Argentina

RAMALLO — Record grain harvests were a much needed boon to Argentine agribusiness this year, but farmers here see trouble ahead if leftist Peronist candidate Alberto Fernandez wins Sunday's presidential election.

"They're coming for us," Deniel Perez says darkly as he gazes across a vast expanse of grain fields in Ramallo, the lush agricultural heartland of Buenos Aires province.

Peronists "will come for us in the countryside for sure," said Perez, "because it's the only real money they can call on" to help lift Argentina out of crisis — particularly its growing number of urban poor.

Farmers like Perez found an ally in President Mauricio Macri when he scrapped taxes on exports of corn and wheat following his election in 2015.

Now they are bracing for a backlash from Fernandez and his running mate, former president Cristina Kirchner, should the Peronist duo seal an anticipated return to power.

Perez, 42, has grown disillusioned with Macri after the economic turmoil of the last two years that has seen millions of Argentines hit by soaring inflation and a plummeting peso.—AFP ■

France picks Breton for top EU commission job

PARIS — President Emmanuel Macron announced Thursday he has proposed former economy minister Thierry Breton, who rescued France Telecom, as Paris's candidate for a major portfolio in the European Commission.

European members of parliament rejected Sylvie Goulard, his first candidate for the Brussels executive, on 10 October in a rare political defeat on the European stage for the French leader.

The presidential Elysee Palace issued a statement saying Macron had forwarded his proposal to the new head of the commission Ursula von der Leyen for Breton to take over the ambitious portfolio covering industrial policy, defence spending, high-tech and space.

Von der Leyen had already approved the proposal after she and Macron "agreed on the profile", the Elysee statement said.

"If we are proposing this candidate, he is suitable," it added.—AFP ■


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စိတ်ပါဝင်စားမှုဖော်ပြခြင်းအဆိုပြုလွှာတင်သွင်းရန်
ပြင်ဆင်သတ်မှတ်ကြောင်းကြေညာခြင်း

၁။ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်တွင် ဇန်နဝါရီလ ၁၅ ရက်နေ့ ဖြူးရေးစနစ် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးစီမံကိန်းဆိုင်ရာ လုပ်ငန်းများအတွက် Public-Private Partnership (PPP) ဖြင့် အကောင်အထည်ဖော်ဆောင်ရွက်ရန် စိတ်ပါဝင်စားသည့် ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပ သို့မဟုတ် ဖက်စပ် ကုမ္ပဏီများအား စိတ်ဝင်စားမှု ဖော်ပြခြင်းအဆိုပြုလွှာများ ၂၈-၁၀-၂၀၁၉ ရက်နေ့ ၁၅:၀၀ နာရီ မတိုင်မီ တင်သွင်းနိုင်ရန် ၂၇-၈-၂၀၁၉ ရက်နေ့ မြန်မာ့အလင်း၊ ကြေးမုံနှင့် The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာများတွင် ကြေညာဖိတ်ခေါ်ထားခဲ့ပါသည်။

၂။ သို့ရာတွင် အဆိုပါသတ်မှတ်နေ့ရက်အား အများပြည်သူအလုပ်ပိတ်ရက်အဖြစ် သတ်မှတ်ကြေညာခဲ့ပါသဖြင့် အိတ်ပိတ်ထားသည့် EOI အဆိုပြုလွှာများအား ရုံးဖွင့်ရက်ဖြစ်သည့် ၂၀၁၉ ခုနှစ် အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၉ ရက်နေ့ (အင်္ဂါနေ့) ၁၅:၀၀ နာရီ မတိုင်မီ ရေရှည်ရေးနှင့်ရေးပေးဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်းတာဝန်ခံအဖွဲ့မှ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေး ကော်မတီ၊ ၁၂ ထပ်ခွဲရုံးသစ်၊ အမှတ်(၃၉၀)၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့သို့ လူကိုယ်တိုင် လာရောက်တင်သွင်းရန် ပြင်ဆင်သတ်မှတ် ကြေညာအပ်ပါသည်။

တင်ဒါကော်မတီ
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ

 **Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
Ministry of Planning and Finance
Modernization of Public Finance Management Project (MPFMp)

Request for Expressions of Interest for Individual Consultant – Translator cum Interpreter for:
(1) Ref no. A-C506 for Large Taxpayers Office (LTO), Internal Revenue Department (IRD), Yangon, and
(2) Ref. no. A-505 for IT Directorate, Internal Revenue Department (IRD), Nay Pyi Taw

REOI No.: MPFMp/A-C505 and 506 Closing Date: 30 October 2019

The Project is seeking to recruit national Translator cum Interpreter (2 positions) to support its work in the area of modernization of its work. The translation services are to assist the IRD in translating documents from English to Myanmar and from Myanmar to English documents, and interpretation services is to assist the communications for the international consultants and the IRD.

This work will specifically include:
Translation of documents from Myanmar to English, and from English to Myanmar, and would comprise of – key publications and major documents, shorter documents for public dissemination, documents for internal use, and operational and miscellaneous documents.
Interpretation in Myanmar and in English – consecutive interpretation during meetings with small groups and larger groups, and workshops; simultaneous interpretation for individuals (international consultants), and for groups.

The Consultant is required to demonstrate the following as a minimum:

- Proven abilities and experience in English/Myanmar translation
- A University degree preferred
- At least 5 years professional English/Myanmar translating experience desirable
- Capacity and Ability to finish heavy task of translation under tight deadline
- A proven track record of successful translation of technical related documents
- For LTO position - Experience in translation & interpreting related documents on auditing related subjects would be an advantage
- For IT Directorate position – Experience in translation & interpreting related documents on IT related subjects would be an advantage.

The assignment is for an estimated duration of 12 months (full time).

MPFMp now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above mentioned services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (in addition to the educational qualifications, experience of similar assignments should be incorporated in the CV to be submitted along with expression of interest/application).

Expression of interest must be delivered to the address below by 1600 hours of **30 October 2019**:

For position Ref no. A-C506 for LTO, IRD, Yangon, to
Daw Aye Sanda Kyaw, Deputy Director, Large Taxpayer Office, IRD.
No.569/577, Merchant Road, Kyauktadar Township, Yangon
Tel: 01-384318, Fax: 01-384762
E-mail for applications: ayesandakyaw@gmail.com, trdirdmyanmar@gmail.com

For position Ref no. A-C505 for IT Directorate, IRD, Nay pyi Taw
Daw Khing Khing Win, Deputy Director, IT Directorate, IRD
Building No.46, Thirimandine Road, Oadarathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 09-977504045, Fax: 067-430414
E-mail for applications: kyiikyii@gmail.com, trdirdmyanmar@gmail.com

Japan, S Korea PMs make scant progress in mending ties

TOKYO — Japanese and South Korean prime ministers made little progress Thursday in de-escalating a feud over wartime history that has led to a tit-for-tat trade spat but managed to agree on the need to continue dialogue.

The 20-minute meeting between Shinzo Abe and his counterpart Lee Nak Yon in Tokyo was the highest-level discourse in more than a year between the two Asian neighbors who have seen ties sink to their worst level in years.

Lee, who attended Emperor Naruhito's enthronement ceremony on Tuesday, handed Abe a letter from South Korean President Moon Jae In, which said Japan is an "important partner in cooperating for peace in North-east Asia," according to a South Korean government official.

Abe also acknowledged that as neighbors Japan and South Korea are important to each other. "At present, bilateral ties are in an extremely severe state, but I believe we should not leave them as they are," the Japanese Foreign Ministry quoted him as telling Lee.

The Japanese leader expressed his intention to continue diplomatic efforts to break the impasse, while Lee said he



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) and South Korea Prime Minister Lee Nak Yon. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

shares an understanding of the importance of dialogue between the two nations, according to the ministry. Bilateral ties soured after South Korea's top court last year ordered Japanese firms to pay compensation for forced labor during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula from 1910 through the end of World War II in 1945. Tokyo has long maintained that the issue was settled by a 1965 agreement under which it

provided Seoul with \$500 million for "economic cooperation."

Abe told Lee that South Korea should "keep its promises" under the accord to allow the neighbors to return to a "healthy relationship," according to the Japanese ministry. Lee, meanwhile, said that his country has honored the agreement and would continue to do so, according to the South Korean official. —Kyodo News ■

Philippine city of Surigao marks 75th anniv of pivotal WWII battle

SURIGAO CITY — The Philippine city of Surigao in the north-eastern tip of Mindanao island held commemorative events on Thursday for the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Surigao Strait during World War II.

Prayers were offered and wreaths were laid at a section of a public school identified as cremation site for up to some 500 Japanese naval personnel and soldiers who died when American forces, out to regain the Phil-

ippines from Japan, conducted air raids in Surigao beginning September 1944.

"Some fell on the battlefields worrying about the future of their homeland. Others perished in remote foreign countries after the war here. For the soul of all who lost their lives, I offer my heartfelt prayers for their repose," Cmdr. Michinori Fukuda, the Japanese Embassy's assistant defense attache, said at the ceremony.

"We never forget that the peace and prosperity we enjoy at this moment was built atop the precious sacrifice of the war dead...We must never again repeat the devastation of war," said Fukuda, who is the first Japanese government representative to ever join the city's annual Battle of Surigao Strait commemorations. —Kyodo News ■



A local historian explains about some items on display at the Battle of Surigao Strait Museum. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

16 sentenced to death for burning alive Bangladesh teen

DHAKA — Sixteen people were sentenced to death Thursday for burning alive a Bangladeshi teenager who refused to withdraw sexual assault charges against her head teacher.

The case highlights what activists say is a culture of impunity over sexual violence in the South Asian country of 168 million people, as well as abuse rife in around 20,000 seminaries that educate mostly poor and rural students.

Nusrat Jahan Rafi was doused in kerosene and set on fire on April 6 after she made a sexual harassment complaint against the principal of her rural Islamic seminary. The head teacher, who a court in the southern coastal town of Feni found

had ordered the brutal killing from jail after being arrested over the harassment claim, was among those sentenced to death. Others included activists from the ruling Awami League party and some students — including two females — who either participated in the killing or guarded the gates of the seminary while it took place.

"The verdict proves that nobody will get away with murder in Bangladesh. We have the rule of law," prosecutor Hafez Ahmed told reporters after the verdict in a crowded courtroom.

Rafi was lured to the rooftop of the seminary in Sonagazi where her attackers pressed her to withdraw the complaint she had filed with police. —AFP ■



Women hold pictures of murdered teenager Nusrat Jahan Rafi during a protest in Dhaka. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pakistan, India sign deal on visa-free corridor for Sikh pilgrims

NEW DELHI — Islamabad and New Delhi signed an agreement Thursday on a visa-free corridor between the two countries that will allow Sikh pilgrims in India to visit the shrine to their religion's founder, which is in Pakistan.

The Kartarpur Corridor deal — a rare example of cooperation between the nuclear-armed arch-rivals — follows months of heightened tensions, mainly over the disputed region of Kashmir.

"Indian pilgrims of all faiths and persons of Indian origin... can use the corridor. The travel will be visa-free," said S.C.L. Das, a joint secretary in the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs, at a press conference after the agreement was signed.

"Pilgrims from around the world are also welcome," add-

ed Pakistan's foreign ministry spokesman Mohammad Faisal.

The deal allows for a secure corridor and bridge between the two countries, leading directly to the grave of Sikhism's founder Guru Nanak, just four kilometres (two miles) from the Indian border.

Pakistan had employed hundreds of labourers to spruce up the shrine, including building a border immigration checkpoint and a bridge, as well as expanding the grounds comprising the shrine itself.

India had long been asking Pakistan for such a corridor, but the project's realisation was prevented by years of diplomatic tensions between the two countries that have fought three wars since the partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947. —AFP ■

Germany's AfD faces electoral test after synagogue shooting



In regional elections in the eastern German state of Thuringia on Sunday, the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party faces a key test of support. **PHOTO: AFP**

ERFURT (Germany) — Germany's far-right AfD party faces a key test of support in a state election in former communist east Germany on Sunday, following national outrage over a deadly shooting at a synagogue.

The campaign in Thuringia has featured death threats, arson and Nazi rhetoric and the AfD's candidate is Bjoern Hoecke, who heads up the most extreme wing of Alternative for Germany (AfD).

As in other parts of east Germany, the anti-immigrant, anti-establishment party is expected to make strong gains.

But opinion surveys suggest support for the AfD has softened slightly to around 20-24 per cent in the wake of the attack on October 9, which has fuelled concern over growing right-wing threats.

The AfD is vying for second place with Chancellor Angela

Merkel's CDU conservatives, with the far-left Die Linke tipped to hold onto the top spot thanks to the popularity of its local leader Bodo Ramelow. With a population of just over two million people and an agreement between parties not to govern with the AfD, Thuringia's election is unlikely to cause any political earthquakes in Berlin. But the vote is being closely watched as a snapshot of the mood in the AfD heartland after a suspected neo-Nazi shot dead two people in the eastern city of Halle. The gunman had earlier tried and failed to storm a packed synagogue on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur. The AfD's Hoecke tweeted his outrage at the assault, but immediately came under fire from critics who said his own anti-Jewish remarks had stoked hatred and violence.—AFP ■

Lebanon protests enter second week

BEIRUT — Unprecedented nationwide protests in Lebanon entered their second week Thursday, with demonstrators defying the army to block roads and press their demand for a complete overhaul of the political system.

Sparked on 17 October by a proposed tax on calls made through messaging apps, the protests have morphed into a cross-sectarian street mobilisa-

tion against a political system seen as corrupt and broken.

On Thursday morning demonstrators set up roadblocks around the capital, AFP correspondents and Lebanese media reported.

A dozen young protesters had blocked one major east-west artery, pitching tents in the middle of the road.

Sitting on the pavement with a red and white keffiyeh on his

shoulders, a 30-year-old who had trained as a chef said he had been protesting since the first day.

"We're here closing the main road to stop some movement in this country," he said, asking not to be identified.

"People think we're playing but we're actually asking for our most basic rights: water, food, electricity, healthcare, pensions, medicine, schooling," he told AFP.—AFP ■



Protesters have cut major highways across Lebanon, crippling the capital Beirut and other cities. **PHOTO: AFP**

UK police search properties after 39 Chinese nationals found dead in truck

LONDON — The 39 people found dead in a truck in Britain were Chinese nationals, several British media outlets reported on Thursday, citing sources.

The victims were discovered in a container on the back of a truck in Grays, east of London, on Wednesday, shortly after arriving by ferry from Belgium. British police have searched properties in Northern Ireland hours after launching a major murder investigation into the discovery of 39 dead bodies inside a truck at an industrial park near London.

Officers raided two addresses late Wednesday in County Armagh, which are believed to be linked to the truck driver, a 25-year-old man from the UK-ruled province, according to multiple reports.

Investigators have said the man — named in the media as Mo Robinson from the Northern Irish town of Portadown — was arrested on suspicion of mur-

der and remained in custody on Thursday.

The dozens of corpses were found in the early hours of Wednesday in a refrigerated truck container at an industrial park in Grays, east of London, triggering shock and outrage in Britain.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson described it as "unimaginable tragedy".

With the help of immigration officials, the local Essex Police force is leading the biggest murder probe in Britain since the 2005 terrorist attacks in London that killed 52 victims.

Deputy chief constable Pip-pa Mills told reporters Wednesday the first priority was identifying the victims, thought to be 38 adults and one teenager. "It's absolutely imperative that the operation is conducted with the utmost respect for the 39 people who've lost their lives," she said, adding it would be "a lengthy enquiry".—AFP ■

Iran urges non-aligned countries to support Palestinian cause

TEHRAN — Iran has urged member states of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to support the Palestinian cause, Tasnim news agency reported on Thursday.

"It is of great importance that the NAM countries maintain and strengthen their united front and do not allow the Zionist regime (of Israel) and its enablers to succeed in their

aim of relegating the Palestinian question to the margin," Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was quoted as saying.

Zarif made the remarks

at a meeting of the NAM Ministerial Committee on Palestine held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, on Wednesday, the report said.

"The extremist and unilat-

eral policy pursued by the United States coupled with its contempt for international law has had a devastating impact on the Palestinian people," Zarif said.—Xinhua ■

AFF Futsal Championship semifinal: Myanmar to play Indonesia today



The Myanmar national futsal team sing the national anthem before the match against Thailand in the group stage of the AFF Futsal Championship 2019 in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam. **PHOTO: MFF FUTSAL**

THE Myanmar national futsal team will play against the Indonesian futsal team today in the semifinal of the ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) HD Bank Futsal Championship 2019 at the Phu Tho Indoor Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

Myanmar secured a place in the semifinal by bagging the runners up position in Group A, while Indonesia emerged as the Group B winner. The two teams will meet in the semifinals at 4:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time today.

Speaking about the match, the head coach of the Myanmar

national futsal team, U Htay Myint, said: "I have already learnt our opponent's strengths and weaknesses by watching their group stage matches. And, I have briefed my players on the playing style of the Indonesian team. Also, I have repaired my team's weaknesses to make sure we shape a good result. We will do our best." The champion team, and the second and third placed teams in the tourney will get a chance to directly enter the AFC Futsal Championship 2020, which will be held from 24 February to 10 March, 2020 in Turkmenistan.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

AFC U-19 Women's Championship: Myanmar announces final squad

THE Myanmar U-19 national women's football team has announced the final list of 23 players for the squad for the upcoming Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U-19 Women's Championship 2019, which will be held from 27 October to 9 November in Chonburi, Thailand.

Three goalkeepers have been selected on the squad — Zu Latt Nadi, Khin Myat Moe, and Kyi Pyar Lin. The selected defenders are Ei Ei Kyaw, Hnin Mya Thazin, Moe Ma Ma Soe,

Nant Zu Zu Htet, Phyu Phyu Win, and Zune Yuya Oo.

The squad will have ten midfielders: Lin Myint Mo, May Phu Ko, Moe Moe Than, May Htet Lu, Naw Htet Htet Wai, Nwe Ni Win, Pont Pont Pyae Maung, Thazin Aung, Win Win, and Bawelyan Kane.

Four strikers have been chosen for the team — Aye Myat Khaing, Myat Noe Khin, San Thaw Thaw, and Swe Mar Aung.

Team Myanmar will be headed by head coach Daw Thet

Thet Win, and U Ko Ko Aung will act as the team's goal coach.

Team Myanmar are undergoing physical exercises and training sessions on the training ground of the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon

The team will leave for Chonburi on 25 October to compete in the championship.

Myanmar will take on Asian football powerhouse Japan on 28 October; China PR on 31 October; and South Korea on 3 November.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)



Myanmar U-19 women footballers train in Yangon ahead of the AFC U-19 Women's Championship 2019. **PHOTO: MFF**

Inter Milan, Man Utd interested in Bayern star Muller - reports

BERLIN — Inter Milan and Manchester United are interested in signing former Germany star Thomas Mueller, who has lost his starting place at Bayern Munich, according to German media

reports on Thursday.

The 30-year-old has often found himself on the bench this season behind Philippe Coutinho, who Bayern coach Niko Kovac prefers in the attacking midfield

role. According to magazines Kicker, Inter's "interest is intensifying" and the Italian giants could bring Muller to Milan in the January transfer window, while Sport Bild report that Premier League side United, who have been linked to Mueller in the past, are also interested.

Mueller, who has a contract at Bayern until 2021, made a rare start, only his fifth of the season, on the right wing in Tuesday's 3-2 win in the Champions League at Olympiakos in the Champions League, helping set up two goals for Robert Lewandowski.

"I'm trying to concentrate on playing football. Slowly all the discussions will come to an end," Mueller told reporters in Athens when asked about his future at Bayern.—AFP ■



Inter Milan and Manchester United are reportedly interested in signing Bayern Munich's striker Thomas Mueller. **PHOTO: AFP**

Golf gambling to be rolled out 'next year': US PGA Tour boss

CHIBA (Japan) — The US PGA Tour is ready to roll the dice and unveil gambling at tournaments "from next year" to tap into new audiences, Commissioner Jay Monahan has revealed to AFP.

Gaming restrictions are being relaxed across the United States and golf has been preparing for legalised sports betting for years, Monahan said in an exclusive interview on the sidelines of the inaugural Zozo Championship in Japan.

"You'll start to see product in the market place next year," he said, with the primary

aims to attract new fans and to prolong interest over a tournament day, which can stretch to 12 hours or more.

The \$9.75 million Zozo Championship, which began Thursday featuring Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy in a star-studded field, is the middle leg of the Tour's new Asian swing, worth almost \$30 million in prize money.

It began last week in South Korea at the \$9.75 million CJ Cup won by Justin Thomas and concludes at the \$10.25 million WGC-HSBC Champions in Shanghai next week.—AFP ■