State Counsellor attends opening ceremony of 35th ASEAN Summit, related summits in Thailand

3 November 2019, Bangkok/Nonthaburi, Thailand

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and leaders from the ASEAN countries pose for a documentary photo in ASEAN way at the opening ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summit and related summits in Bangkok on 3 November. PHOTO: MNA

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the opening ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits hosted by Thailand in its capital Bangkok yesterday.

Myanmar delegation also attended the 22nd ASEAN-China Summit, the 18th ASEAN-India Summit, the 16th ASEAN-UN Summit and the gala dinner to mark the summits.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Union Ministers U Thaung Tun, U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Permanent Representative/Ambassador to ASEAN U Min Lwin, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint Than and officials attended the opening ceremony of the 35th the ASEAN Summit at the Grand Dimond of the Impact Muang Thong Thani Commercial Complex at 9 am local time.

Prime Minister and Retired General Prayut Chan-ocha, Brunei’s Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Philippine President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, Indonesian President Mr Joko Widodo, Prime Minister of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Thongloun Sisoulith, Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, state leaders and senior government officials of East Asia Summit Member Countries.

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State Counsellor attends opening ceremony of 35th ASEAN Summit, related summits in Thailand

First, Thai students performed with ASEAN theme song to open the Summit.

Prime Minister and Retired General Prayut Chan-ocha then officially inaugurated the 35th ASEAN Summit. The Thai premier also presented ASEAN Prize 2019 to Dr Jemilah Mahmood for her leading role in various humanitarian missions and disaster management in the region.

Then, the dancing troupe composed of artistes from 10 ASEAN member countries performed with the cultural dances.

The opening ceremony was concluded by screening the three video presentations of the ASEAN Training Centre for Social Work and Social Welfare, the ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation and the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue.

The State Counsellor then attended 22nd ASEAN-China Summit held at the Sapphire-204 of Level-2 in the same venue. The summit reviewed ASEAN-China cooperation and exchanged views on promoting possible cooperation.

Thai premier also presented ASEAN Prize 2019 to Dr Jemilah Mahmood for her leading role in various humanitarian missions and disaster management in the region.

She also participated in the 16th ASEAN-India Summit which held talks on better collaboration.

Together with the State Counsellor, the summits were attended by Union Ministers U Thaung Tun, U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Permanent Representative/Ambassador to ASEAN U Min Lwin, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint Than and officials. In the evening, the State Counsellor attended the gala dinner hosted by Prime Minister and Retired General Prayut Chan-ocha for state leaders and senior government officials who attended the 35th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)
State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with IMF head, FIFA president, Indian prime minister at separate meetings

S TATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held talks with the head of International Monetary Fund (IMF), the president of International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) and the prime minister of India at separate meetings at the Impact Muang Thong Thani Commercial Complex, the venue of ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in Bangkok.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of IMF, at Impact Sapphire-104, the venue of the ASEAN Summit, at 3:45 pm local standard time.

At the meeting cordial discussion were centred on continued provision of momentary and financial techniques, development of market economy and banking business, sharing of financial experiences and the best procedures of the countries at the initial stage of adopting the market economy and the challenges Myanmar is facing during its transition.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor met Mr. Gianni Infantino, President of FIFA, at 4:20 pm local standard time.

During the cordial discussion, talks were centred on development of Myanmar football, performance improvement of Myanmar men and women footballers, greater familiarization of football techniques among youths, improvement of football techniques and football academies, cooperation between FIFA and the Ministry of Health and Sports and the Ministry of Education and meetings between globally acclaimed footballers and Myanmar youths.

The State Counsellor requested assistance from FIFA president to further enhance traffic agreement, upgrading of female police training school in Yamethin, capacity-building for public servants, and human resources development.

Also present at the meetings were Union Ministers U Thaung Tun and U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Permanent Secretary/ Ambassador to ASEAN U Min Lwin, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Myo Myint Thant and officials. — MNA

(Translation: TMT)
State Counsellor responds to the remarks made by the UN Secretary General on Rakhine issue

Myanmar will not shirk its responsibility to take care of the security and rights of all those who must be protected

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi responded to the remarks made by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres regarding the Rakhine issue. She underscored that Myanmar will not shirk its responsibility to take care of the rights and security of all those whom it must protect.

In the opening session of the 18th ASEA-UN Summit in Bangkok on 3 November 2019, the UN Secretary General expressed concern over the situation in Rakhine State and the plight of the refugees in Cot’s Bazaar. He also stressed that it was Myanmar’s responsibility to ensure a conducive environment for safe, voluntary and dignified return of refugees.

In response to the remarks of the Secretary General, the State Counsellor underscored that the issue of Rakhine is a most complex one and that the UN and its agencies which have been present in the region for ten times longer than the present Government has been in office, must have some idea of the extent of the complexities.

She stressed that the Government will not shirk its responsibility to take care of the security and rights of all those who it must protect. She added that the Government of Myanmar was fully committed to take back the verified returnees based on the bilateral agreement signed with Bangladesh and the trilateral agreement signed with UNHCR and UNDP. She expressed appreciation to ASEAN, the ASEAN Secretariat and the AHA Centre for their constructive contribution to our efforts in creating the most suitable environment to which the displaced people can return in peace and security and voluntarily. She reaffirmed Myanmar’s intention to continue its work with the help of our friends who approach the problems in Rakhine in a practical and balanced way, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

— MNA

SWRR Union Minister provides cash aid to charity school in Dimawhs

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye provided cash assistance for the Myoma charity school at the Kayah State Hall in Loikaw Township, Kayah State yesterday.

The Union Minister also met with the staff of his ministry in Kayah State.

In the event, Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phuang Sho and officials said the Demawhsa Myoma charity school took care of parentless, abandoned and poor children providing them with foods, shelters, education and etc. There are 120 students who were studying from kindergarten to tenth standard.

The Union Minister said. He said the rate of primary schools completion was higher year by year as primary school teachers were making constant efforts to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic to the students with the use of new methodologies from the new school curriculum. He also stressed the importance of constant efforts for classroom assessment, exam paper security at school, district and region/state levels, and implementing the procedures without bias to produce better human resource who are being graded with the assessment, and to promote cooperation, accountability and creativity.

The Union Minister also urged teachers, Basic Education Department, Myanmar Examinations Department and officials to cooperate in compiling an assessment manual as the policy for it was already laid down.

Afterwards, Dr Kelvin Gregory from Oxford Policy Management discussed the basic education goals of Myanmar, learning assessment, while Assessment Expert Mr. Mostyn from ADB-EYE Project discussed the knowledge, skill, attitude and values that are important for learning process.

MOE holds workshop on assessment for primary, middle schools completion rates

UNION Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi delivers the speech at the workshop on assessment for the completion rates of basic primary and middle schools at the University of Education in Yangon yesterday.

The Union Minister also urged teachers, Basic Education Department, Myanmar Examinations Department and officials to cooperate in compiling an assessment manual as the policy for it was already laid down.

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Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi delivers the speech at the workshop on assessment for the completion rates of basic primary and middle schools at the University of Education in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Management also discussed the assessment matters.

To create more learning opportunities, the levels of the basic education schools were being upgraded since April 2016. The populations of primary school students reached to 5,275,121 in 2018-2019 academic year and 5,178,775 in 2019-2020 academic year.

The populations of middle school students reached to 3,194,454 and high school student reached 1,103,107 in 2018-2019 academic year.

There were 3,287,602 middle school students and 1,095,265 high school students in 2019-2020 academic year; according to the results from the workshop.

The assessment workshop will be held till 3 November — MNA

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye meets with staff of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Loikaw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)
Maritime trade up $131.96 mn last month

The value of Myanmar’s maritime trade for the period between 1 and 25 October in the 2019-2020 fiscal year totaled US$1.77 billion, an increase of over $131.96 million compared to the year-ago period, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

During the previous period, maritime exports were valued at $747.38 million, while imports were registered at $1.628 billion. Compared to the same period in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, imports were lower by $16 million, while exports registered a rise of $148 million.

During the same period, the value of trade through the border gates was estimated at $598.8 million, an increase of $20.69 million amid the strict confiscation of illegal and untaxed goods, and the suspension of trade by Myanmar’s main trade partner, China.

Meanwhile, the country’s total external trade reached $2.37 billion, which was higher than the $2.22 billion recorded in the year-ago period.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, fishery products, minerals, livestock, forest products, finished industrial goods, and other products, while it imports capital goods, consumer goods, and raw industrial materials.

The country currently has nine ports involved in sea trade.

The Yangon Port is the main gateway for Myanmar’s maritime trade. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

India’s possible purchase drives mung beans prices up to above K1.18 mn per ton

Mung bean price breached K1.18 million per ton for FAQ (fair and average quality) in the domestic market following the news of India’s possible purchase of more mung beans, according to Bayintnaung commodity depot.

India’s October-end import deadline has already expired. However, India might purchase the beans when there is market demand.

The price of mung beans has been gradually increasing since the end of September. Mung bean was priced at K853,000 per ton in early October, and is currently pegged above K1.18 million per ton, according to a commodity depot in Yangon.

At present, mung beans are fetching K1.18 million per ton in the Yangon market, an increase of some K300,000 per ton within one month.

At the 4th ASEAN-India Expo and Summit held last February, a Myanmar delegation, led by the Union Minister for Commerce and made up of pulses and bean merchants, forwarded a request to Indian government officials for 400,000 tons of mung beans from Myanmar. But there has been no response to the request, according to the association.

India, the main buyer of Myanmar pulses, has announced an import quota of 150,000 tons for mung beans and 200,000 tons for pigeon peas for exporter countries. The import deadline had been set for the end of October.

Besides India, Myanmar beans are purchased by Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Dubai, Malaysia, Indonesia, China (Taipei), Japan, and other ASEAN and European countries. But the volume of demand remains small, according to the domestic pulses market.

The Ministry of Commerce has been conducting a series of discussions to sell Myanmar beans through government-to-government (G2G) pacts. In addition, the ministry has been exploring more external markets, said U Aung Htoo, the Deputy Minister for Commerce.

India’s move to restrict the importation of pulses in August 2017, severely affected growers in Myanmar. The price of pulses also plummeted drastically.

In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, over 1.32 million tons of mung beans, pigeon peas, and green grams were shipped to foreign countries. But, the earnings were registered at just $886 million, owing to the price drop, according to data provided by the Ministry of Commerce.

During the last FY 2018-2019, more than 1.64 million tons of various pulses were exported to foreign countries, with an estimated income of over one billion dollars. Also, the volume was up 300,000 tons compared to the year-ago period.—Ko Htet

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade at Muse rises to over US$350 mn in October

The value of Sino-Myanmar border trade through the Muse gate soared to US$332.8 million between 1 and 25 October, 2019, registering an increase of $128.27 million compared to the corresponding period last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Exports through the Muse gate dropped significantly to $240.7 million, while imports were valued at $112 million. Both exports and imports climbed during 25 days of trade in the current fiscal year.

Muse is an important border gate in Myanmar and handles the largest trade volume, but sometimes it experiences a sharp drop, as trade in agricultural products has been halted on account of China clamping down on illegal goods.

Myanmar merchants find it difficult to export goods to China through legitimate channels, as they find the tax levied by China too high. Therefore, rice confiscations and price manipulation often occur.

The country needs to convert the government-to-government (G2G) agreement into a sustainable pact. Myanmar requires G2G or business-to-business (B2B) agreements for the trade of pulses and beans, corn, sesame, fish, and shrimp, to grab a share of the Chinese market.

The government and the private sector also needs to move forward through public private partnerships (PPP), according to the Myanmar Rice Federation.

Myanmar exports rice, sugar, pulses, sesame seeds, corn, dried tea leaves, fishery products, minerals, and animal products to China, while it imports agricultural machinery, electrical appliances, iron and steel-related materials, raw industrial goods, and consumer goods. —GNLM

(Translated by EMM)

Two-day AgroChemEx Myanmar 2019 to be held on 6, 7 Nov

AGROCHEMEX Myanmar 2019 – the 12th International Agriculture Exhibition and Asia Crop Protection Forum, will be held on 6 and 7 November 2019 at the Rose Garden Hotel, Yangon.

The exhibition will provide an opportunity for agrobusinesses to find new partners and obtain latest updates through exchanging information on developments in agriculture and Asian crop production with leading industry experts.

About 50 exhibitors from foreign countries will display their new products and provide the latest technology regarding agricultural chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers, crop protection, biotechnology and the agrochemical industry. A business matching program with potential manufacturers and suppliers is being held, along with a seminar.

Last year, AGROCHEMEX & AGRO MYANMAR 2018 attracted 45 exhibitors and 1,189 trade visitors. Those seeking to attend can register at: bit.ly/AgroChemExMyanmar9_VisitorRegistrationForm.—GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)
Traffic death toll reaches 3,930 nationwide from Jan to Sept

A total of 3,930 people were killed and 18,596 injured in 12,084 traffic accidents in Myanmar in the January-September period this year, according to data released by the Road Transport Administration Department.

Bago Region topped the list with 1,850 accidents, followed by Yangon with 1,767 accidents, and Mandalay with 1,448 accidents. The highest number of traffic deaths was registered in Yangon Region, with 519.

During the year, there were 386 traffic accidents, registering 74 dead and 736 injured, on Myanmar’s busiest Yangon-Mandalay highway.

In the corresponding period of last year, 13,061 traffic accidents occurred countrywide, leaving 3,899 people killed and 19,919 injured. —GNLM

(Translated by El Myat Mon)

1,900 Yaba pills seized in Kentung, over 300 in Kalaw

LOCAL Police in Kentung, eastern Shan State, confiscated 1,900 Yaba pills from a motorcycle on 2 November, according to a report released by the Myanmar Police Force yesterday. The team comprised of members of the local anti-drug squad and police searched a vehicle driven by Myo Hein on the Kentung-Mongkhet Road in Kentung and found the drugs.

Similarly, Heho police found 19 Yaba pills from a man namely San Toe in Kalaw. In connection with the case, the police discovered 294 Yaba pills from a hut in a crop field owned by Yi Nyo in the same area. Those who involved in the cases have been charged under the Anti-Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law. —GNLM

PHOTO: MNA

Operational grievance mechanism implemented in Mann Oil Field

The MPRL E&P Pte Ltd conducted a campaign to raise awareness about the Operational Grievance Mechanism—OGM in the Mann oil field where the oil and gas exploration company is carrying out win-win cooperation with the state-owned Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise.

The team comprised of village near the Mann oil field, the MPRL E&P Pte Ltd has displayed its cooperative social responsibilities and sought advice from the public.

Troupe of local school children competed in the contest of dance and songs titled “Advice, Discuss and Cultivate the future generation”.

At the event at Maebaygon

PHOTO: MNA

Helmets distributed to public in Nay Pyi Taw

THE township’s administrators and traffic police force from Nay Pyi Taw conducted the road safety education campaign, delivering helmets sponsored by Mytel free to the public on Saturday.

Staff from Mytel Nay Pyi Taw Branch distributed 100 helmets to public in Nay Pyi Taw during the campaign. —Maung Lumaw (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

PHOTO: MAUNG LUMAW

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, articles and photos please email ceglobalnewlight@myanmar.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letters to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should your letter exceed 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.
MYANMAR delegation led by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko attended the 22nd ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Meeting (ASCC) and the 27th Senior Officials’ Meeting for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOCA) held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 31 October and 2 November.

The Union Minister signed agreements in the “Advancing Partnership for sustainability” the theme developed during the ASEAN chairmanship term of Thailand in 2019, the establishment of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community centers which will be implemented by Thailand, and the six declarations of the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 25th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP25), the Declaration on the Protection of Children from All Forms of Online Exploitation and Abuse in ASEAN, the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration, Bangkok Declaration on Advancing Partnership in Education for 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in ASEAN, the Joint Statement on reaffirmation of Commitment to Advancing the Rights of the Child in ASEAN and the ASEAN Leaders’ Declaration on ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-reliance.

The ASEAN minister also attended a joint publication entitled “Children in ASEAN: 30 Years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.”

They also discussed the ASCC Blueprint 2025, plans for ASCC activities, Plan for Action on Declaration of Culture of Prevention, and the convening of the ASCC fact-finding mission to Timor-Leste and the secondment of ASCC officer to the permanent missions to ASEAN.

The Union Minister and party also attended a joint publication entitled “Children in ASEAN: 30 Years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.”

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko attends 22nd ASCC Council Meeting, 27th SOCA child rights publication in Thailand

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe attends neurosurgical meeting in Yangon

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe delivers the speech at the Myanmar, American and Korean’s Neurosurgical Meeting 2019 in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

The Myanmar, American, Korean’s Neurosurgical Meeting 2019 was held at the Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe suggested senior medical experts at home and abroad to share the video records on joint operations to the junior surgeries across the country.

He also requested medical experts from the United States and the Republic of Korea to give advice on curriculum reforms in neurological surgeries at the pre-graduate and post-graduate levels at medical universities of Myanmar.

He also remarked on the importance of preoperative care and postoperative care in any surgery.

The Ministry of Health and Sports is building a new hospital specializing in neuro and cardio care with the Japanese grant, and it will become a hospital for treatments of advanced heart disease and neurosurgical operations after it is completed in 2020.

The meeting was attended by medical specialists from Henry Ford Hospital of the United States, professors and associated professors of Ajou University of the ROK, Myanmar medical professors, doctors and nurses.

Senior medical experts shared knowledge on neurological diagnostic tests, operation equipment, neurological cancer, intensive cares, and records on neurological injuries.

The new generation of Myanmar neurologists also made their discussions.

The well-experienced neurological experts will conduct operations together with Myanmar doctors at the North Okkalapa General Hospital for two weeks up to 14 November.

The Henry Ford Hospital from the United States also donated US$20,000 worth of neurophysiological machine and $15,000 worth of brain scanner infrascan machine to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

Deputy Information Minister coordinates library services in Thandaunggyi Township

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun visited Thandaunggyi Township in Kayin State yesterday.

He held a meeting at the township public library with Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Saw Victor Kha Laik, Amyotha Hluttaw MP Naw Chris Tun, local renowned persons and library committees to discuss development programmes, developing reading habits of people, child reading corners, public talks and expanding library services.

The Deputy Minister also arrived at the township office of Information and Public Relations Department, and discussed knowledge dissemination and information sharing of the staff—Naw Law Mu (Thandaunggyi).

(Translated by Aung Khin)
The quest for larger share of external market

PANTANWAL Township in Ayeyawady Region will have its own aquaculture industry in a few months, as the multiple fish farming projects being carried out are complete. The projects involve all the different sectors from hatchery, fish food, fish feeding, processing, cold storage, feeder factories and laboratories for research and development. This will establish an aquaculture industry with a production capacity of over USD 3 billion, and generate over 6000 jobs. So, it is obvious that its early completion may be, might have been doing as I prevailed upon the thoughts of my retirement. To the benefits of both partners, the advanced technology and methods by TIDE in many of such aspects. TIDE is established for another of teachers with a view to coping with modern online teaching methods and helps them in coming up with new teaching ideas. Thus, every single department in TIDE has now prepared various online courses such as certificate, diploma, bachelor and master degrees. In Chemistry Department, TIDE has prepared courses of preparation of courses in ‘Good Manufacturing Practice for Food’ and ‘Good Manufacturing Practice for Public Health’ for the coming academic year. These new infrastructures are all oriented towards fully three-month online certificate courses conducted under the auspices of the National Institute of Education, Myanmar.

The quest for larger share of external market

HUMANITY FOR ALL

By Arakan Sein

THE title was given by Hans Haug, For The Human Rights and Social Institutions. This is the blood we have been doing for 20 years than...
BANGKOK — The signing of the world’s largest trade pact will likely be kicked back to 2020, according to a draft statement by Southeast Asian leaders, delaying a deal craved by China to offset a painful tariff war with the US.

The 16-nation Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) spans from India to New Zealand and includes 30 percent of global GDP and half of the world’s people.

Objections by India have dashed hopes of finalising the pact at this weekend’s Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Bangkok, where members of the 18-nation bloc have been joined by the premiers of India and China.

“Most market access negotiations have been completed and the few outstanding bilateral issues will be resolved by Feb 2020,” said a draft agreement obtained by AFP.

Negotiations have sputtered for several years, but the statement said the text of all 20 chapters was now complete “pending the resolution of one” member, believed to be India.

But it said all members were “committed to sign the RCEP” next year in Vietnam, which will take over the ASEAN chair.

New Delhi is worried its small businesses will be hard hit by any flood of cheap Chinese goods creating “unsustainable trade deficits” — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in an interview published by the Bangkok Post.

Beijing sees RCEP as a central pillar of its trade strategy for its Asian neighbourhood, and it is backed by the leaders of ASEAN and who represent a 650 million-strong market.

Concluding the deal has been made more pressing by the brutal tit-for-tat trade war with the US, which has chipped back at growth in China, the world’s second-largest economy.

World’s biggest trade deal to be delayed to 2020: draft ASEAN statement

RIYADH — Saudi stocks sagged two percent Sunday after the announcement that the blockbuster listing of state energy firm Aramco was headed its way, as analysts warned it risked overwhelming the local bourse.

After years of repeated delays, Aramco on Sunday announced its intention to float an unspecified percentage of its shares on the Tadawul stock market, the region’s biggest capital market.

The state-owned company however said there was no decision yet on the second part of the IPO to list on an international stock market, raising doubts that this much-anticipated step will ever happen.

The local bourse lost 1.99 percent to 7,590.33 points during the session.

Ellen Wald, author of “Saudi Inc.”, said that listing on the domestic market without any plans for an international offering was risky because it could “completely overweight” the local market.— AFP

New cocoa deals help peasant farmers, but not enough

YAMOUSSOUKRO — The willingness of some multinational firms to pay a cost-of-living bonus for African cocoa planters is welcome but will not save many farmers from grinding poverty, industry sources say.

Ivory Coast and Ghana, which together account for more than 60 percent of global cocoa production, initiated deals with chocolate makers in July, adding a “living income differential” (LID) to prices.

Barry Callebaut and Nestle, two world leaders in cocoa products, confirmed that they would pay a supplement of $400 (almost 360 euros) per tonne above the market price to help farmers, in the wake of announcements during an October meeting of the World Cocoa Foundation in Berlin.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations will likely delay finalising a regional trade pact at a summit in Bangkok. PHOTO: AFP

Cocoa farmers use hooked knives to break open the cocoa pods on a plantation near Sinfra in Ivory Coast’s Central region. PHOTO: AFP

Saudi bourse sags as giant Aramco listing looms

LONDON — With a crucial election, Brexit and potential trade deals looming, the future of the beating heart of Britain’s financial sector will be shaped in the coming months.

The spectre of a “Singapore-on-Thames” — a highly deregulated British financial sector like the city-state — is the dream of some pro-Brexiteers, who have criticised European rules that they believe are holding them back.

But regulators don’t appear to be in a mood to tear up the rulebook just yet.

“It has been 10 years since the financial crisis and the subsequent reforms we put in place, and now is the right time to review our approach to regulation,” Nausicaa Delfas, from the UK Financial Services Authority (FCA), said this week.

“Brexit provides added impetus to look at things again.”

At a London conference on the issue, Barnabas Reynolds, who specialises in UK and EU regulation at law firm Shearman & Sterling, said the regulators should look at everything.

Like many in the City — the financial hub in central London — he did not see “what’s wrong” with the idea of a Singapore-on-Thames.

European financial rules, although designed under Britain’s influence, have restricted the sector’s ability to compete with Wall Street, he added.

Fintech boom

The Governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, thinks differently. — AFP

The neighbouring West African countries in June said they would set the minimum price per tonne at $2,600 (2,330 euros) for the 2020/2021 season.

Nestle “have already started buying 2020/2021 cocoa with the living income differential”, declared the world’s largest food and beverage company in a statement.

“The LID will help improve farmers’ living income and complement all our efforts to improving the lives of farmers,” it said.

Barry Callebaut, another firm with headquarters in Switzerland, declared that it agrees with the principle enabling the Ivorian and Ghanaian governments to back a minimum cocoa price to cocoa farmers.

Singapore-on-Thames? London’s City mulls post-Brexit future
Beijing says ‘ready to work’ with ASEAN on South China Sea rules

BANGKOK—Beijing said Sunday it is “ready to work” with Southeast Asian nations on a code of conduct in the flashpoint South China Sea, where it is accused of building up military installations and bullying fellow claimants.

China claims most of the resource-rich waterway, a major global shipping route that has long been a source of tension in the region. For years, the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has been locked in talks for a code of conduct for the sea, where China is accused of deploying warships, arming outposts and ramming fishing vessels.

The agreement, set to be finished in 2021, will lay out conduct guidelines for the sea along with conflict resolution parameters.

On Sunday, China’s premier Li Keqiang said the first reading of the document—a chance for all members to comment on the draft terms—was “a very important landmark”. “We stand ready to work with ASEAN countries building on the existing foundation and the basis to strive for new progress” on the guidelines, he said. He added that China wanted to “maintain and uphold long-term peace and stability in the South China Sea”.

“IT recognises the fact that if it doesn’t agree to a code of conduct then there will be turmoil in the region,” presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo told reporters in Bangkok on the sidelines of ASEAN. — AFP

China launches new Earth observation satellite

TAIYUAN—China on Sunday launched a new Earth observation satellite, Gaofen-7, which will play an important role in land surveying and mapping, urban and rural construction and statistical investigation, according to the China National Space Administration (CNSA).

The Gaofen-7, launched on a Long March-4B rocket at 11:52 a.m. (Beijing Time) from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China’s Shanxi Province, is China’s first civil-use optical transmission three-dimensional surveying and mapping satellite that reaches the sub-meter level, CNSA said.

The satellite and carrier rocket were developed by the China Academy of Space Technology (CAST) and the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology under the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation. The users of the Gaofen-7 satellite will be mainly from the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and the National Bureau of Statistics. Via the same carrier rocket, three other commercial and scientific experiment satellites including one developed for Sudan were also sent into space.

The development of the Gaofen-7 has achieved a breakthrough in sub-meter level 3D mapping camera technology, meeting the highest mapping accuracy requirement among the Gaofen series Earth observation satellites, CNSA said.—Xinhua

Toll in Philippine quakes climbs to 21

MANILA—The death toll in two powerful quakes that struck the southern Philippines in the past week has risen to 21, authorities said Sunday, as survivors struggled to access food and water.

The 6.6-magnitude and 6.5-magnitude quakes hit the island of Mindanao two days apart, destroying buildings and displacing tens of thousands of residents.

Some villagers staying under tents near a highway were begging for help from passing motorists, carrying placards asking for food and water, TV footage showed.

Rescuers had found more bodies, many crushed by falling debris and landslides caused by the violent shaking, the national disaster council said.

The quakes also left 432 residents injured with two people still missing, it added.

Thursday’s big quake was the third since mid-October in the Mindanao region, which makes up a third of the Philippines.

Temporary shelters have been set up to house more than 20,000 displaced individuals — many already there since the first quake struck on October 16, leaving seven people dead. — AFP

15 killed, 35 injured as bus plunges into river in Nepal

KATHMANDU—A passenger bus veered off a road and plunged into a river in a mountainous region of central Nepal on Sunday, killing at least 15 people and injuring 35 others.

The accident happened at Sukute village of Sindupalchok district, located 45 kilometers northeast of Kathmandu, police said.

The bus, which was traveling from Dolakha district to Katmandu, fell about 50 meters and landed upside down in the river, which is quite deep along that section of the road, Prajwal Maharjan, police chief of the district, told Kyodo News by phone.—AFP

Bangladesh Nobel laureate granted bail by court

DHAKA —A court in Bangladesh’s capital gave bail to Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus on Sunday afternoon over the firing of his three employees.

Yunus, chairman of Grameen Communications Limited, told Kyodo News by phone that a Dhaka 3rd Labour Court acting Chairman Zakia Parveen granted the order when Yunus, chairman of Grameen Communications appeared before the court.

He was given bail in connection with three cases filed over the sacking of three employees.—Xinhua

Sri Lanka election chief censors state TV ahead of polls

COLOMBO—Sri Lanka’s election commission said it would censor a state-owned TV station in an unprecedented move after accusing the network of bias against the former president’s brother, who is standing in upcoming polls.

The surprise move came after the Independent Television Network (ITN) aired a programme alleging loyalists to the previous regime had thwarted a corruption probe into strongman ex-president Mahinda Rajapakse’s family.—AFP
A year before 2020 election, a divided and ‘angry’ America

WASHINGTON—America on Sunday kicks off the one-year countdown to Election Day 2020, with President Donald Trump betting an “angry” Republican surge can deliver him a second term, as the Democratic battle to win back the White House heats up. The building political clash — dramatically fueled by the House of Representatives’ impeachment inquiry into Trump — appears to virtually guarantee another year of sharp division in a nation long weary of such drama.

Polls suggest the country couldn’t be much more divided.

The latest projection from a University of Virginia political science team points to a dead-even 2020 race, with each party leading in states totaling 248 electoral college votes, 22 short of the 270 needed for election.

The division is reflected in the House, where the vote Thurs-day to formalize the impeachment inquiry passed almost entirely on party lines — more partisan than any of the three previous impeachment votes in US history.

‘Mentally violent’

As that inquiry proceeds, Trump has lashed out in increas-ingly angry, personal and crude terms, seeking to damage his political foes while energizing a fiercely loyal base.

In a speech Friday in Tupelo, Mississippi, he called Democratic leaders “mentally violent,” denounced the impeachment inquiry as a “hoax” and said former vice president Joe Biden, once a Democratic frontrunner, was getting “slower and slower.”

Trump has even retweeted, with apparent approval, a warn-ing by an evangelical pastor that his impeachment could “cause a Civil War like fracture in this Nation.”—AFP

Iran’s Khamenei rules out talks with US

TEHRAN—Iran’s supreme leader on Sunday again ruled out negotiations with Washington, a day before the 40th anniversary of the hostage crisis at the US embassy in Tehran.

“Those who see negotiations with the US as the solution to every problem are certainly mistaken,” Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said during a speech to mark the anniversary, according to his official website.

“Nothing will come out of talking to the US, because they certainly and definitely won’t make any concessions.”

On November 4, 1979, less than nine months after the top-ping of Iran’s American-backed shah, students overran the em-bassy complex to demand the United States hand over the ousted ruler after he was ad-mitted to a US hospital.

It took a full 444 days for the US President Donald Trump to support the amputation of 23 candidates running to replace ousted Algerian president Bouteflika

WASHINGTON—President Donald Trump told supporters at a rally November 1, 2019 in Tupelo, Mississippi that Democratic leaders were “mentally violent” and “angry” about the US presidential election.

“Nothing will come out of talking to the US, because they certainly and definitely won’t make any concessions.”

On November 4, 1979, less than nine months after the top-ping of Iran’s American-backed shah, students overran the em-bassy complex to demand the United States hand over the ousted ruler after he was ad-mitted to a US hospital.

It took a full 444 days for the US President Donald Trump to support the amputation of 23 candidates running to replace ousted Algerian president Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the coun-try’s election authority said Saturday, amid widespread protests against the vote.

A total of 23 candidates had submitted their papers to run and five were approved, head of the election authority said Saturday, amid widespread protests against the vote.

The other candidates are Azeddine Mihoubi, leader of the Democratic National Rally party (RND) that was part of Bouteflika’s ruling coalition, former tourism minister Abdelkader Bengrina and Abdelaziz Belaid, head of the Front Istiqlal (Independence) party.—AFP

UNESCO rings alarm over rise in violence against media

PARIS—The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) warned against the rise of violence targeting media and journalists on the Interna-tional Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journal-ists, which falls on Saturday.

UNESCO said in the last report, titled “Intensified Attack, New Defenses,” that the number of killings of jour-nalists jumped by 18 percent in the past five-year period (2014-2018), compared with the previous five-year period (2009-2013).

The report revealed that more than half of jour-nalists fatalities took place in non-conflict zones in the past two years (2017-2018).

“This trend exemplifies the changing nature of kil-lings of journalists, who are of-ten targeted because of their reporting on politics, crime and corruption,” it said.

According to the report, almost 90 percent of cases of killings of journalists be-tween 2006 and 2018 were unresolved worldwide.

“UNESCO holds to ac-count all those who put jour-nalists at risk, all those who kill journalists, and all those who do nothing to stop this violence. The end of a jour-nalist’s life should never be the end of the quest for truth,” UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay said.

The UN General Assembly proclaimed Nov. 2 as the Inter-national Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journal-ists in a resolution adopted in 2013. The date was chosen in commemoration of the assass-ination of two French jour-nalists in Mali in November that year.—Xinhua

Five candidates running to replace ousted Algerian president Bouteflika

ALGIERS—Five candidates, including two former prime ministers, will run to replace ousted Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the coun-try’s election authority said Saturday, amid widespread protests against the vote.

A total of 23 candidates had submitted their papers to run and five were approved, head of the election authority said Saturday, amid widespread protests against the vote.

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Japan to step up monitoring of defence firms’ business conditions

TOKYO—The Defence Ministry will strengthen its surveillance of the financial conditions of domestic equipment suppliers to Japan’s Self-Defence Forces, in an effort to ensure stable and safe procurement, a government source said Sunday.

The ministry will conduct state funds to bail out firms in the industry, which consists of many small and medium-sized businesses, in such cases as when they face the threat of acquisition by foreign rivals, according to the source.

The ministry will start gathering information through credit research firms in fiscal 2020 to check defence-related companies’ business situations. It has requested 10 million yen ($92,000) to cover relevant costs under the state budget for the business year starting next April, the source said.—Kyodo

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMAR OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(16 / 2019-2020)

1. Open tenders for 2019-2020 fiscal year are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr No.</th>
<th>Tender No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>DMPL/158-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for Tractor (54) Items</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>DMPL/154-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for CAT-245-125 Torque Converter (25) Items</td>
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<td>(c)</td>
<td>DMPL/155-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for Kobelco Excavator (73) Items</td>
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<td>(d)</td>
<td>DMPL/156-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for Drilling Rig Drive Group (21) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
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<td>(e)</td>
<td>DMPL/157-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for National C 300-100 (FH) Torque Converter (25) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(f)</td>
<td>DMPL/158-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for A 1700 PT Pump Ex USS Oil Well Rig (16) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
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<td>(g)</td>
<td>DMPL/159-19-20</td>
<td>Assorted Sizes of Seamless Steel Casting (3) Items</td>
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<td>DMPL/160-19-20</td>
<td>Assorted Sizes of TRI Cone Bits (10) Items</td>
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<td>(i)</td>
<td>DMPL/161-19-20</td>
<td>Air Clutch &amp; Spares for Drawworks and Catwork</td>
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<td>(k)</td>
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<td>Spares of All Swivels (7) Groups</td>
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<td>(l)</td>
<td>DMPL/164-19-20</td>
<td>Spares for Drilling Rig (25) Items</td>
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<td>(m)</td>
<td>DMPL/165-19-20</td>
<td>Hand Tools for BOP &amp; Welding (9) Items</td>
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<td>DMPL/166-19-20</td>
<td>Power Tong &amp; Air Winch Spares (4) Groups</td>
<td>Ks</td>
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<td>(o)</td>
<td>DMPL/167-19-20</td>
<td>Assorted Sizes of Steel Wire Rope (10) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
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2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from 4 November 2019 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanma.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond & Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach to Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than 14:00 pm on 4 December 2019.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time: 4-12-2019, 14:00 pm

5. Any reading below 50 percent indicates the improvement from the previous month, but sentiment remains more cautious than optimistic,” Timothy Fiore, chair of the ISM’s manufacturing business survey committee, said in a statement. “Global trade remains the most significant cross-industry issue.”—Xinhua

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE
M.V NERAIDA

Consignees of Cargo carried on M.V NERAIDA VOY. NO. (1909) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.11.2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT
SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE
M.V YONG SHAN

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V YONG SHAN VOY. NO. (+) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.11.2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T-3 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 A.N.T IMPEX PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301928
Pa-O land with true natural beauties

By Thiha (the Traveller)

A-O land or Pa-O region’s Pinlaung Town was said to be very beautiful by those who were there. Those who had visited many regions of Myanmar would say that Myanmar is beautiful with its natural beauties. However the beauty of Pinlaung is somewhat in a majestic and peaceful way.

How to go to Pinlaung
Pinlaung was a town midway between major cities so it is quite an awkward destination. From Yangon, most will take an overnight express bus to Loikaw reaching Pinlaung at an unearthly hour of 2:30 or 3 am. From Nay Pyi Taw, it can be reached via Kintha. By air, you’ll land at Heho and then drive down to Pinlaung for about two hour.

Places to go in and near Pinlaung
There were some places to visit in Pinlaung but most drive out of town to visit villages, hike into forests or up a hill. Pinlaung was surrounded by natural greenery and there were many natural waterfalls and caves that are of interest. As I’m not that sporty type of person, I’ll only mention places that I went to.

Pinlaung Haw or palace
The front end of Pinlaung Haw (palace) had collapsed while the back end was in a dilapidated condition looking at though it was hit recently by a strong earthquake and was on the verge of collapsing. Relatives of the saopha still lived in nearby houses and visitors can pay a visit but be sure to be respectful toward the host. Comparing the sad state at the present with its glorious past could bring tears to those who tend to be sad.

Saopha tombs
The tombs of saophas and families are in the town center near Mway Daw Pagoda. Their ancient titles and names can be examined from the cemetery record.

Mway Daw Pagoda
Mway Daw Pagoda can be seen from afar across Kan Tha

Pinyaung Town was said to be very beautiful by those who were there. Those who had visited many regions of Myanmar would say that Myanmar is beautiful with its natural beauties. However the beauty of Pinlaung is somewhat in a majestic and peaceful way.

Pinlaung
It was a region once governed by saophas (local rulers or royalties) and the region was known as Loilon region. Now it is Pa-O Self-Administered Zone. It was in southern Shan State and was about 50 miles away from Taunggyi. Sao Moe Kyaw was Pinlaung (formerly Loilon) region’s last saopha and relinquished his powers in 29 April 1959.

Weather
Situated 4,820 ft. above sea level, weather in Pinlaung Town is cool. It also rain considerably in the raining season. For a person like me who came up from hot and humid delta area, the Pinlaung weather was very nice. Sometime water became frozen during the winter time.
Ya Lake as you enter Pinlaung Town. The lake itself was always crowded with local and foreign visitors.

**Pinlaung Myoma Market**

Although it is right smack in the middle of the town, it is usually busy only on the market days that were held once every five days. The market days are when exotic traditional Shan foods that were not readily available everyday even in other towns and villages were offered. Restaurants and eateries near the market also offer special dishes on the market days. It is advisable to check out when the next market day will be and time it to coincide with your visit in order to taste local Shan delicacies.

**Loi Maung Taung or Loi Maung Mountain**

The road beside the Mway Daw Pagoda will take you to Loi Maung Taung or Loi Maung Mountain. This is the highest peak near Pinlaung rising up to a height of 6,124 ft. At such height, the weather at the top of the mountain is severe and changes drastically in a moment. It might be misty but can become sunny and hot within a moment or the other way round. At the summit is a monastery, a pagoda and a communication tower. The mountain is very attractive for active sports persons, mountaineers and hikers alike. As the summit can also be reached by cars or motorcycles, even non-sporty person like me can enjoy the view up there. Inle Lake as well as other peaks can be seen from the summit. Most went up to enjoy the sunset view and timed the ascent to coincide with the sunset.

**Edible earth**

There’s a strange habit of eating earth in this region. The edible earth pits were right beside the road or trek up Loi Maung Mountain. For a visitor like me, the ordinary and edible earths were indistinguishable. It is best to check out with locals. Villagers roast the edible earth and eat it as a snack.

**Nam Hoo Pagoda Hill**

Nam Hoo Pagoda Hill near Pinlaung Town is a place where the town can be seen closely from above. Pintale Kyaik Hti Yo Pagoda is yet another place rising up above the town and yet near the town offering a close up view of the town from above.

Lone Naga Pat Pagoda is a must visit place if you were ever in Pinlaung. The views along the way to the pagoda were breathtakingly beautiful. The history of the pagoda was too mythical and I’ll leave it for visitors to learn about it in their visit and to believe it or not! Near this pagoda is a small pond called Thitsa Khayu (snail) pond with many snails in it.

**Sa Ma Kyauk Sar Pagoda**

Sa Ma Kyauk Sar Pagoda or Sa Ma Stone Inscription Pagoda is right beside the path that’ll take you to Lone Naga Pat Pagoda. In my mind the stone inscriptions looks more like a fossil remains of the snails! (to be continued as part two next week).

Translated by Handytips

Photos: THIHA

Nam Hoo Pagoda Hill.

Saopha tombs.

Edibal earth pits

Pinlaung Haw Nan or Palace.
Air KBZ Fight 6: Too Too knocks out Japan’s Tokeshi in fourth round

MYANMA Lethwei “Air KBZ Fight 6” was held at Thein Phyu Lethwei Stadium in Yangon yesterday, where Myanmar Lethwei star Too Too defeated Japanese fighter Tokeshi in the fourth round in a 76 kilo bout of the lethwei event.

As the bout was the main event, both fighters attacked aggressively from the start.

Too Too relied on strong punches in the first round, but Tokeshi blocked the punches to finish the first and second rounds.

The fight was more intense in the third round, with simultaneous punches by both fighters. In the fourth round Too Too made a strong kick over Tokeshi and Tokeshi requested a break.

After the break in the fourth round, Too Too scored a surprise headbutt to Tokeshi, as Tokeshi fell and did not recover.

In another event, Myanmar’s Soe Lin Oo defeated Yar Mhan in a 71 kilo fight, winning in the fifth round with continuous punches.

In the 57 kilo bout, Myanmar’s Saw Shwe Lay fought against Thailand’s Chaggaphan, and the match ended with a victory for Saw Shwe Lay with a fourth round knock-out.

In the 61 kilo bout, Ye Thway Ni fought to a draw with Out Chin Lay. In the 63 kilo bout, Myanmar’s Saw Dar Wait fought to a draw against Naing Win Tun.

AFC U-19 Women’s Championship: Myanmar suffer 0-1 loss to South Korea

MYANMAR U-19 women’s national football team suffered a 0-1 loss to South Korea’s U-19 international football team in their final group B match of the AFC U-19 women’s team in their final round in the 76 kilo bout of the lethwei event.

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In the 78 kilo event, Saw Nico defeated Hmawbi Zar Mani (Thaing Byaung Byan) in the second round. In the co-main event (women’s lethwei fight), Myanmar’s women lethwei fighter Vo Ro Ni Ka fought to a draw against Italian Miriam.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Online tickets to be available for AFC U-19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers

Online tickets will be available for the Myanmar U-19 men’s national football team matches for the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) U-19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

The Championship will be held at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon from 6 November to 10 November.

The online tickets will be sold through the message box of the Myanmar Football Federation: https://www.facebook.com/MFFMYANMAH/ and an automatic robot system will allow for the step by step method of buying tickets.

The Myanmar U-19 team has been placed in Group I of the qualifiers, along with two Asian star teams: South Korea and China, as well as the ASEAN football team Singapore.

The Myanmar U-19 team will take on China U-19 team at 3:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on 6 November, South Korea U-19 team at 6:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on 8 November and Singapore U-19 team at 6:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time) on 10 November.

Tickets are priced as K 1000 for the ordinary stands and K 2000 for the grand stands.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)