State Counsellor addresses UMFCCI Centennial Celebration at MICC-II

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addressed the Centennial Celebration of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II (MICC-II) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In addressing the event State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said UMFCCI had 75 sister organizations and was established all over the country in states and regions covering all business sectors. In international relations, it has signed 167 MoUs with chambers of commerce of various countries and business organizations cooperating for development of trade and investment.

In implementing UMFCCI’s aims and work processes it not only works hand in hand with development partners but also cooperates and works closely in public-private cooperation programmes for national economic development. The Government on its part had selected UMFCCI for its size, representation and international contacts as an organization representing the private sector. It was expected to participate and work effectively in the country’s economic development processes.

As the private sector has been determined to be the main driving force in the socio-economic development of the country, a Private Sector Development Committee led by Vice President U Myint Swe was formed in October 2016 to support the private sector in all work sectors. At the moment five work committees have been formed with relevant union ministerial departments and state/region governments to coordinate the works and resolve difficulties faced by private businesses.

Setting aims and goals in all sectors for a country to develop economically would require financial investments, technical knowhow, human resources and basic infrastructures.

There are limitations and constraints for the country’s government and private sector in jointly cooperating and fulfilling these requirements. Especially developing countries like Myanmar need a lot of investments and technical knowhow.

SEE PAGE-3
Second Pyithu Hluttaw’s 14th regular session holds sixth-day meeting

The Second Pyithu Hluttaw’s 14th regular session held its sixth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, Asterisk marked questions raised by Daw Yin Min informed the Hluttaw of receipt of three bills. Reports on the bills were also read and explained.

Asterisk marked questions

In the asterisk marked question and answer session, questions raised by Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency on arrangements made to prevent habitats for elephants from being destroyed from permit venting of coal mining in the area; Dr Tun Lim Maw of Kyangin constituency on providing a water bowser truck to water saplings of a forest reserve in Kyangin Township and to construct a 17,000 ft. long road; Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency on a plan for relevant ministry to conduct enquiry on the reason for a landslide in Paung Township; U Tun Tun Naing of Kani constituency on the issue of 17 farmers’ land included in an application for a mining right by a company; U Phone Myint Aung of DaikU constituency on a plan to upgrade timber extraction road in DaikU Township to a concrete road; U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency on status of state/region wise bamboo planting and the government’s support toward those who want to plant bamboo; and U Thant Zin Tun of Ddekkhinathiri constituency on arrangements made to develop gem sale shop area and the government’s support for reforestation in Myanmar.

Receipt of bills and reports on bills

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the receipts of a bill amending Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law for the fifth time, a bill amending Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law for the fifth time and a bill amending State/Region Hluttaw Election Law for the fifth time. After the announcement of the receipt of each bill, Bill Committee members U Aung Sein, U Zaw Win and U Sai Tun Aye separately read and explained the committee’s report on each bill. And after each bill was read and explained, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to table amendment motions to register their names.

The seventh-day meeting of the 14th regular session of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw will be held on 25 November.— Aye Aye Thant (MNA)
State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi urges private sector to exploit technology, create conducive investment climate

FROM PAGE-1

That was why every country was competing in inviting foreign investments that would bring in investments and technical know-how.

In the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Index for 2020 published on 24 October 2019, Myanmar obtained 46.8 points. This was an increase of 3.3 points from last year’s 43.5. The ranking has also increased 6 positions from last year’s 171. Myanmar’s inclusion in the top 20 progressing countries in Ease of Doing Business Index for 2020 was a significant result. Yet Myanmar would continue to strive harder. There was progress in five indices and this was the outcome of cooperation between the government and the private sector.

These good results need to be maintained while efforts were required to be made in making it easier to do things in other works in our daily life. It was very satisfying to know that people could use various works in our daily life had passed 100 per cent in Myanmar. Today, Myanmar had 99 per cent of mobile phone users. In Myanmar, smart phones can be used in various works in our daily life. It was very satisfying to know that people could use various works in our daily life had passed 100 per cent in Myanmar. Today, Myanmar had 99 per cent of mobile phone users. In Myanmar, smart phones can be used in various works in our daily life.

In conclusion, may the UMFCCCI centennial ceremony take a commemorative group photo together with local business persons, ambassadors and representatives of international business organizations at the UMFCCCI Centennial Celebration in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Together with the MSDP, regional value chain for ASEAN integration, effective use of Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar. Cyber technology for connectivity among the peoples would be employed in Myanmar.

By 2014, as the State gave priority to the private sector for the country’s economic development, the UMFCCCI became an organization that led the private sector. Also present at the event were Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Union Ministers, Union Attorney General, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman, Deputy Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, Hluttaw representatives, Permanent Secretaries, heads of department, UMFCCCI Patron U Chit Khyaing, President U Zaw Min Win and Vice Presidents, members and invited guests. - MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

... work processes to remove administrative sluggishness and bottlenecks are being implemented to increase the pace of reforms.

UMFCCCI centennial ceremony was a bright future of all businesses in all of Myanmar. May UMFCCCI’s relentless efforts and future work processes bring forth success. May it provide better and effective work plans to the State. May it strengthen the private sector required for national economic development. Although it has been termed government and private sector, in the end it was all the people of Myanmar. Whatever works would not be successful without the people’s participation. UMFCCCI was believed to continue its effort toward the development of the country and all the people living in it, said the State Counsellor.

Afterwards, the State Counsellor, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, Union Ministers, Union Attorney General, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman, Deputy Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, Hluttaw representatives, Permanent Secretaries, heads of department, UMFCCCI Patron U Chit Khyaing, President U Zaw Min Win and Vice Presidents, members and invited guests. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)
Union Planning, Finance Minister receives Chinese business leaders

Union Minister U Soe Win meets with President of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) Mr Gu Shu in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win separately received the President of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), Mr Gu Shu, and the Vice President of the China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC), Mr Wang Wenzhong in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting with the ICBC President, the Union Minister discussed China-Myanmar economic cooperation, ICBC’s financial support to Myanmar’s state-owned banks, opening ICBC branches in Yangon and other major cities, and gathering ICBC’s support for developing the bond market in Myanmar’s economy and investments. During the meeting with the CRCC Vice President, the Union Minister discussed CRCC’s involvement in developing Myanmar’s infrastructure, constructing the Yangon-Dala Bridge project and the water treatment plant for distributing water from Paunglaung Dam to Nay Pyi Taw and the surrounding area. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Second part of UMFFCCI Centennial Celebration, talks and panel discussion

SECOND part of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFFCCI) Centennial Celebration was continued with talks and panel discussion at Myanmar International Convention Centre II (MICC-II) yesterday morning.

The second part of UMFFCCI Centennial Celebration was continued with a speech delivered by UMFFCCI President U Zaw Min Win.

Next, talks on Global Economy and Mega-Trends, Myanmar Economy and Future Prospects, and the 4th Industrial Revolution 4.0 and Business were conducted by McKinsey & Company Managing Partner Mr Kaushik Das, the World Bank Group Myanmar Head Economist Mr Hans Beck and the World Economic Forum Head of Asia Pacific and member of the Executive Committee Mr Justin Wood respectively.

During the afternoon session panel discussions on the subjects “Building a Competitive Myanmar Economy” and “A Strategic Investment for the Future” was held. In the first panel discussion Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism delivered an opening remark UMFCCI Vice President U Wai Phyo chaired the panel discussion while Thai Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade of Thailand Chairman Mr Kalin Sarasin, Serge Pun & Associate Ltd Chairman Mr Serge Pun and MyanShwePyl Tractors Ltd Chairman U Khin Maung Win participated in the discussion.

In the second panel discussion Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung delivered an opening remark. Sandanila Investments Managing Partner Daw Thiri Thet Mon chaired the panel discussion while Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Permanent Secretary U Aung Naing Oo, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar-Marubeni Corporation Vice Chairman Mr Kunio Negishi, China Enterprises for Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar Vice Chairman Mr. Gong Jingtao and YGA Capital Ltd Managing Director U Thura Ko Ko participated in the discussion. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)
**Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Swiss ambassador**

**AMYOTHA HLUTTAW Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than received Swiss Ambassador Mr Tim Enderlin at the Pyithu Hluttaw building yesterday.**

During the meeting, they discussed promoting friendly relations between Myanmar and Switzerland, cooperation between domestic election-oriented organizations and international assistance groups for the 2020 General Elections, assistance provided to Myanmar’s democratic transition, domestic peace efforts and economic development, and attracting more investments to Myanmar.

—MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)
Senior General attends closing ceremony of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) in PRC

A Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended a closing ceremony of a joint counter-terrorism actual-troop drill of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) held at Fenglin Training Field in Guilin, People’s Republic of China on the morning of 21 November.

The Tatmadaw delegation led by the Senior General together with other attending chiefs of armed forces and officials of defence ministries were first welcomed by participants in the troop drill, combat vehicles used in the troop drill and People’s Liberation Army (PLA) of China military band.

Next, outstanding participants in the joint counter-terrorism actual-troop drill were presented with documents of honor by member of Central Military Commission (CMC) and Chief of the Joint Staff Department of the CMC of the PLA General Li Zocheng and Joint Chairman of the troop drill Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Pornpipat Benyasri.

Afterwards Joint Chairman Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces, CMC member and Chief of Joint Staff Department of the CMC delivered closing speeches of ADMM-Plus (VIP Program) and took a commemorative group photo together with attendees.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing then cordially greeted Myanmar Tatmadaw personnel who participated in the drill and presented cash presents.

Later in the day Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and delegation members together with chiefs of armed forces of respective countries and officials from defence ministries left for Guilin Port by cars and cruised along Li jiang River on a cruise ship.

Following this, accompanied by Chinese Military Attaché to Myanmar Senior Colonel Xiong Shaowei, Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air Force) Brig-Gen Zaw Oo and delegation members, the Senior General visited the Trunk Mountain and Park situated at the junction of Taohua River and Li jiang River according to information released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. —MNA

(Under the photos)

UEC Chair meets NDP President

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein received the President of National Democratic Institute (NDI), and former US Ambassador, Mr Derek Mitchell at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed preparations for ensuring the 2020 General Elections are in accord with the five norms, organizing capacity-building courses for the chairpersons, members and staff of election sub-commissions, preparing the Code of Conduct for political parties and Hluttaw representatives to be coherent with current times, forming security management committees and negotiation committees for the upcoming election, plans to prevent hate speech and fake news from spreading on social media, election monitoring activities, and forming an information unit to ensure correct election news is disseminated. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Commerce Minister meets Yunnan Vice-Governor

UNION Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint received the Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province, Mr Zhang Guohua, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides discussed promoting bi-lateral trade and investment between Myanmar and China, creating good investment environments and attracting more investors from China, increasing exports of agricultural products, livestock and fishery products to China, ensuring more domestic products reach set quality standards, technological cooperation for increasing both countries’ production sector, cooperating on developing the support transportation and communication sector and basic infrastructure, reciprocating invitations to expos and co-organizing them, and swiftly implementing the Myanmar-China Border Economic Cooperation Zone. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)
The third meeting of the 47-member leading committee of the 8th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee concluded its 3rd meeting at the Wizaya Mingalar Dhammathabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon yesterday.

The second-day meeting was attended by the member sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee led by Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maharaththa Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Suddhamma Jotika Bhanso Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumanarabhivamsa. Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thu-ra U Aung Ko, Deputy Minister U Kyi Min and officials of the ministry. Bhanso Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumanarabhivamsa presided over the meeting and Sayadaw Joint Secretary Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Sehtila acted as the master of the ceremonies. At the meeting, members of the 8th committee discussed the measures taken during the first period of the duty taken by the first branch of the 8th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and made resolutions. Joint Secretary Sayadaw sought the approval for the report of the first branch of the 7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the meeting came to an end in the afternoon. — MNA

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin received the delegation led by Mr Zhang Guohua, Vice Governor of the People’s Government of Yunnan Province of the People’s Republic of China, on 22 November 2019 at 1 pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the matters relating to strengthening of cooperation between Myanmar and Yunnan Province of China in wide-ranging areas including commerce, investment, agriculture, livestock, tourism and upgrading the border gates. — MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin receives Yunnan Province delegation

Union SWRR Minister addresses 6th ASEAN+3 meeting on social welfare, development

THE 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development Plus Three was held in Vientiane, Laos, yesterday, and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Settlement Dr Win Myat Aye participated in the discussions.

The ‘Plus Three’ of the meeting refers to Chin, Japan and South Korea, and Japanese officials said at the meeting that Japan will observe and cooperate in the development of social welfare, protection of the elderly, inclusive community-based projects for disabled persons, organizing training courses for disabled persons to gain better employment opportunities, and the social welfare programmes of nations within the ASEAN region.

Next, Chinese officials said that China cooperate with ASEAN nations on Mekong-Lancang youth development activities, youth observation and experience exchange programmes, and socioeconomic development.

South Korean officials then said ROK will cooperate in elderly protection programmes, youth volunteer programmes, and research on the elderly. ASEAN+3 nations will provide the necessary human resources, technology and financial assistance for implementing the ASEAN Nation Social Welfare and Development Plan for 2020-2025.

Next, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye said that among the ASEAN+3 nations, China cooperates with Myanmar on Mekong-Lancang youth Engagement and ASEAN leadership programmes. He said they have signed an MoU on Myanmar-China bilateral economic cooperation and believes they will cooperate on social matters more in the future.

The Union Minister said Myanmar cooperates with JICA for developing sign language for the deaf, combating human trafficking, and providing technical assistance in elderly protection plans.

He said Myanmar cooperates with KOICA and the Korea University Council for Social Service (KUCSS) in effective youth volunteering in early childhood care and development activities. He said Myanmar has opened a social welfare training school, established a social service news system, and joint training programmes and will continue to do so with the ASEAN+3 nations. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin meeting with Mr Zhang Guohua, Vice Governor of the People’s Government of Yunnan Province of the People’s Republic of China, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. — MNA

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and Ministers from other ASEAN countries pose for a group photo at the 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development Plus Three in Vientiane, Laos. — MNA

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Myanmar’s efforts to curb CGE (Carbon Gas Emission) and the impact of environment

By: Tommy Pauk

The natural environment on Earth is impacted by the climate changes that happen due to global warming, which is caused by global warming. As a result, the natural environment is in grave peril. Only the human beings can save and maintain or conserve this environment, which involves an individual’s responsibilities.

The global people express their deep concerns about the great perils facing the environment. Each one of us around the world must curb the global warming and the impact of environment as much as we can. Debates over carbon emissions, green gases, and global warming are increasing. How difficult they may be, if we work together.

Addressing these complex issues requires more than anti-corruption efforts. It needs a well-coordinated approach. Not just in Myanmar, in most countries, institutions tackling such complex problems with the help of international organizations.

Myanmar is also facing challenges because the institutions responsible for combating illicit trade, corruption, money laundering, and corruption are not well-coordinated even within the country, let alone at the regional level.

Target 16.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda calls for substantial reduction of corruption and illicit trade in all their forms and, the illicit financial flows, including lost tax revenues, and illicit capital movements.

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YWB service added with six new vessels

By Nyein Nyein

THE Yangon Water Bus (YWB) service will operate vessels acquired from foreign countries and currently, payment machines are being installed on the vessels, said U Hla Aung, joint-secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

“We bought six new water vessels from abroad for Yangon. Payment machines that allow passengers to use KBZ pay, CB pay, Visa, or Mastercard are being installed on board the vessels. So far, payment machines have been installed on two vessels. The machines remain to be installed on four vessels,” said U Hla Aung.

“In order to operate the six water vessels, payment machines need to be installed on them. The jetties along their operation route are also being upgraded. The upgrade project will take 25 days,” he added.

The previously operated YWB vessels are currently docked in Ayeyarwady Region—seven of the vessels were locally manufactured, while three were manufactured abroad. According to a report issued by the company, the water vessels will be operational in Ayeyarwady Region, he added.

As part of a major upgrade, the Yangon bus service was suspended from 27 September. Then, the jetty was upgraded, and the water vessels were renovated. The upgrade project was sought for construction of the Nga Moe Yeik creek jetty, and the Thanlyin jetty was upgraded, and payment machines were installed on vessels.

Yangon water buses were launched on October 7, 2017 by Tint Tint Myanmar Company. The company is operating 11 motor vessels from Botataung jetty to Insein Jetty, transporting around 100,000 commuters per month. The Yangon water bus service is operated daily for pilgrimage and riverine cruise tours.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Taunggyi celebrates Shan New Year Festival

THE traditional Shan New Year Festival was celebrated at 5 p.m. on 21 November at the Awayyar fire balloon field in Taunggyi, eastern Shan State. The festival marked the arrival of the year 2114 on the Shan calendar. U Sai Tun Mya, chair of the Shan New Year Celebration Committee, Dr. Lin Httu, Chief Minister of Shan State, U Sai Lone Seng, Speaker of the Shan State Hluttaw, Major General Lin Aung (Eastern Command), and U Kywal Kyaw, Chief Justice of the Shan State High Court, opened the ceremony by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

In addition, performers from the Shan Literature and Culture Association presented traditional Shan dances. The program included performances by different ethnic groups such as Shan, PaO, Inn, and currently, payment machines are being installed on them. The project is being jointly implemented by the government and the public. The cost of each lamp post is K1,800,000, the officials added.

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(Translated by Hay Mar)

Double-arm lamp posts erected on Katha streets

DOUBLE-arm street lamp posts are being installed in Ka-tha town of Sagaing region as part of efforts to beautify the city.

A total of 30 street lamp posts will be erected in the town. Out of the 30, 21 lamp posts have been erected and the remaining nine will be placed in front of the office complex. In addition, 11 more lamp posts will be installed between City hall and BOC Gone, according to officials.

The lamp posts have been erected at a distance of 100 feet, they said. The project is being jointly implemented by the government and the public. The cost of each lamp post is K1,800,000, the officials added.

The Sagaing region government has allocated K30 million for the project, while the remaining costs have been borne by the residents of the township.

The lamp posts have been erected with the aim of beautifying the city, ensure road safety, and reduce crime, said U Nyi Nyi Tun, a Hluttaw representative from Sagaing Region.

A total of 50 lamp posts are expected to be erected in the township. The road to the entrance gate of the town is 12,000 feet long. About 70 lamp posts are required to be erected on the road, and the project implementation committee has asked locals to contribute for the lamp posts.

(Translated by Hay Mar)
THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint visited the Mt. Qingxiu Park and Li Jiang Bookshop in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China, yesterday.

The delegation toured the sightseeing in the mountain which is covered with many kinds of trees. Mt. Qingxiu Park is established on 4.07 square kilometre and located 289 metres above the sea level. Twelve sites with mature trees are designated in the park.

The park attracts about 2.4 million visitors per year.

Afterwards, the delegation visited the Li Jiang Reading House in Nanning, Mt. Qingxiu Park and also visited Xiao Feng Lake and Mu Long Lake.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister and entourage departed from Nanning by bullet train and arrived in Guilin City, located in the northeastern part of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Afterwards, they attended a dinner reception hosted by Mayor Mr Qin Chuncheng at Yao Hu Hotel. From there they cruised on a boat across Li Zhang River, Tao Hua River, Shan Ye Lake, Gui Lake and Mu Long Lake and also visited Xiao Feng Tower and the historical palace.

Guilin is filled with beautiful scenery and rich cultural heritage that make it a prime travel destination, including efficient transportation, excellent lodging and a wide variety of delicious food.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Karen Development Network (KDN) congratulates its Chairperson, Professor Saw Tun Aung Chain on being honored with the 2018 Lifetime Achievement of the National Literature Award.

Deputy Minister for Information attends talks with the Guangxi Writers Association (Photo: MNA)

Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun observes inside the Sarpay Beikman Building on Merchant Street, Yangon. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Deputy Minister for Commerce attend MOU signing between Myanmar-China businesses

The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint visited the Mt. Qingxiu Park and Li Jiang Bookshop in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China, yesterday.

They spent a day sightseeing in Mt. Qingxiu Park and also visited Xiao Feng Lake and Mu Long Lake.

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(Translated by Zaw Min)
Government, KNU delegations hopeful for resuming peace talks

A GOVERNMENT delegation and a delegation of the Karen National Union (KNU) held a meeting to coordinate on steps going forward with the peace process, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, yesterday.

The meeting focused on proposals made by the KNU for moving forward with the peace process, organizing the fourth session of the Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong in 2020, holding the Joint Ceasefire Implementation Committee Meeting (JCICM), and other matters.

U Hla Maung Shwe, an advisor to the Myanmar Peace Commission (PC), said the KNU were just as keen as them to hold the JCICM and the 2020 conference as well. He said the government and KNU delegations aim to meet again after them.

The government delegation consisted of PC Secretary Lt-Gen (Retd) Khin Zaw Oo, PC advisory board members U Hla Maung Shwe and U Moe Zaw Oo, Director-General U Zaw Htay of the Ministry of Office of the State Counsellor, and U Kyaw Lin Oo as technical support.

The KNU delegation consisted of the KNU Chairman’s military and political advisor Saw Tu Tu Lay, KNU General-Secretary Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo, KNU permanent executive committee members Padoh Saw Sel Gay and Padoh Saw Taw Nee, KNU Chairman Secretary Padoh Saw Tar Mu Lar, and Policy Advisor Naw May Oo.

After the meetings, Director-General U Zaw Htay and KNU General-Secretary Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo gave an interview to RFA journalist U Aung Moe Myint.

U Zaw Htay said they discussed the meeting between KNU leaders and the government delegation led by the State Counsellor at the 4th anniversary event of the NCA on 28 October, which agreed on holding separate meetings during the interim period and has led to this meeting in Chiang Mai. He said they will hold the PPST meeting, after which both sides agreed to quickly meet up.

The KNU General-Secretary said the meeting also held an informal consideration of what preparations should be put in place to ensure the peace process continues regardless of which government administration becomes incumbent after the elections next year. He said as working groups from both sides need more contact and meetings, he hopes doing so will facilitate easier communication in future meetings.

When asked of proposals from the government’s side, Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo responded that the four proposals are very connected. He said ceasefire and political dialogues are the two main parts of the NCA, and there has been a great improvement on the political front, as well as more familiarity. He said they will continue to discuss the ceasefire side of the agreement.

When asked of his analysis on the government delegation’s journey, U Zaw Htay replied that there was a fundamental point highlighted by the State Counsellor during the 4th anniversary event of the NCA which includes three factors to the peace process moving forward. The first is to sign the Union Accord in three phases.

U Zaw Htay said the journey of the Chairman of the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) last October prompted them to come to Chiang Mai and meet with the RCSS delegation. He said Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and Lt-Gen Min Naung were present there as well, since they are both NRPC members and leaders of the Tatmadaw Negotiation Team. He said they engaged in serious discussions and produced remarks on how to avoid these types of complications regarding EAO leaders travelling in the future. He said the RCSS were okay to be on board with the process and they have overcome an obstacle.

U Zaw Htay said they made numerous agreements in discussing what type of meetings to pursue with the ten EAO signatories to the NCA. He said they discussed in detail the implementation process of the agreements made between the State Counsellor and the KNU leaders. He said they achieved very close results and will hold detailed discussions on that in the future. He said they will meet again as soon as possible in December. He said there are monitoring groups on the peace process and worries concerning it, but both sides are giving it their best efforts.

U Zaw Htay also said they will not step back from the path based on the NCA. He said there are concerns of the delayed process but both sides are reviewing and coordinating to ensure the path taken by both sides are made better and stronger. He said they are endeavoring to ensure the post-2020 peace process will carry on regardless of which government administration takes office at that time.

Padoh Saw Tadoh Moo spoke of the next proposed meeting with the government delegation as needing to go into detailed discussion to make the proposals by the KNU much clearer. He said it involves thinking carefully for both sides. He said that as there isn’t much time, they are discussing the nature of the upcoming meeting.

—Ye Kaung Nyunt

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Nay Pyi Taw hosts 6th Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Forum

Representatives from the Myanmar government and Karen National Union (KNU) hold a coordination meeting on peace process in Chiang Mai, Thailand yesterday. PHOTO: HMS

A Myanmar delegation led by the Vice-Governor of Yunnan engage in discussions at the 6th Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

The Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum was held at Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, as Myanmar promotes relations with Yunnan Province, which plays a pivotal role in increasing existing friendly relations with China and implementing bilateral strategic cooperation framework.

A Myanmar delegation led by Permanent Secretary U Soe Han of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a Chinese delegation led by the Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province, Mr Zhang Guohua, led discussions at the forum. The forum mainly focused on intercommunication between Myanmar and China and especially Yunnan Province, and the current processes and progress of areas of cooperation between both sides, including economic, trade, investment, agriculture, livestock, travel, education, healthcare, social communication, and border management sectors.

Furthermore, they openly exchanged views on the challenges and future areas of cooperation in these aspects. They also agreed on increasing cooperation in areas that benefit the citizens of both nations. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)
Myanmar exports over 374,600 tons of rice worth $108 mln in current fiscal

THE volume of rice and broken rice exported between 1 October and 8 November in the 2019-2020 financial year has been estimated at over 374,635 metric tons, worth US$108.58 million, according to an announcement from the Myanmar Rice Federation.

In the current financial year, Myanmar has shipped rice to 37 foreign markets.

China, which accounts for over 36 per cent of the total rice exports, is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by Madagascar and Malaysia. Mozambique is the fourth-largest buyer and Cameroon, the fifth-largest buyer of Myanmar rice. The European Union countries account for over 10 per cent of rice exports, while 39.9 per cent of rice grown in Myanmar goes to African countries.

In the current FY, Myanmar has exported broken rice mostly to Senegal, followed by Indonesia, Belgium, Mali, and Thailand. Broken rice has been placed in 27 foreign markets.

Earlier, border trade was relatively high compared to sea trade in terms of rice exports. Since the previous financial year, border trade has dropped, and currently, it accounts for just 14.8 per cent of the total rice exports, while maritime trade constitutes 85.13 per cent.

Rice exports through the border gates have generated an estimated $14.9 million, whereas income from maritime trade touched $93.67 million, or 38.8 of 8 November in the current FY, as per data from the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar primarily exports rice to China through the border gates. However, trade in agricultural products has been halted on account of China clamping down on illegal trade. As a result, stocks of rice piled up at the Muse border gate in Q1 of this year, bringing down the price of rice in the export market.

Additionally, the prices of medium-quality rice varieties Ngasein and Aemahta were lower compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, according to local market data.

At present, rice is being exported to China through a government-to-government (G2G) arrangement and barter system, in exchange for Chinese cash.

Myanmar shipped 3.6 million tons of rice in the 2017-2018 financial year, which was an all-time record in rice exports. The export volume plunged to 2.29 million metric tons, worth $601 million, in the 2018-2019 FY.

Shareholders ask Yangon government to review dividend policy of transport firm

By Nyein Nyein

A TOTAL of 190 shareholders have asked the Yangon Region government to review the dividend policy of the Yangon Urban Public Transport Company, said U Hla Aung, Joint Secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA).

"Those 190 individuals have reported how they want the annual dividend paid out. We have forwarded their reports to the Yangon Region government through the YRTA. After it is sorted out, we will notify the shareholders. Currently, their request is being processed," said U Hla Aung.

The YRTA has asked the remaining shareholders for their opinions on the share dividend, he said.

At the YUPT’s second anniversary general meeting on 30 October at the Gandamar Grand Ballroom, some shareholders had asked for a dividend payment and the removal of some directors from the board appointed by the regional government.

Following the friction at the 2nd annual meeting of the YUPT, regional minister Daw Nilar Kyaw, chair of the YRTA, and members met with bus owners. She asked them whether all shareholders agreed with the complaints and reports.

"The YRTA said it will take a decision based on the report of the shareholders for better results. "It will ensure that the shareholders’ conflict does not harm the Yangon Bus Service sector, and they will take effective action," the YUPT company to achieve growth, in line with the prescribed rules and regulations,” U Hla Aung added.

At present, the YUPT is the biggest bus service provider in the Yangon Bus Service, providing services to many bus lines. The Yangon Region government has also bought shares in the company, along with more than 200 shareholders.

Domestic gold price likely to fall

By Nyein Nyein

WITH gold prices sliding in the global market and the dollar weakening against the Kyat, the price of gold in the domestic market is likely to continue its decline, said U Myo Myint, chairman of the Yangon Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

"The global gold price and the dollar exchange rate are currently on a downward slide. So, the price of domestic gold is on the decline. The price of gold will continue to drop till December. Gold price usually declines during the months of September, October, November, and December," said U Myo Myint.

In early September, the price of pure gold crossed K1,300,000 per ounce. The dollar exchange rate also reached K1,518 per dollar, according to the local gold market.

The domestic gold price has remained above K1,2 million per tical since 7 August, rising to a record high of K1.3 million on 5 September; said gold businessmen.

With global gold prices on the up, the domestic price has hit fresh highs this year, reaching K1,000,000 per tical between 17 January and 21 February, crossing K1,100,000 (22 June to 7 August), climbing to K1,200,000 (7 August-4 September), and then reaching a fresh peak of K1,300,000 on 5 September.

The lowest price for gold in July was K1,099,000 (1 July) and the highest was K1,149,400 (31 July). In August, the price of gold crossed the market. The dollar exchange rate reached the lowest level of K1,422,000 on 1 August and the lowest level of K1,250,000 on 29 August. In September, the price moved in the range of K1,223,800 (14 September) and K1,370,000 (5 September). Last month, it reached a low of K1,211,500 on 1 October and a high of K1,228,000 on 10 October, according to gold traders.

Agri bodies discuss exports of rice, tapioca chips to China

THE Agriculture Department, the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), and the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association (MFVP) held a meeting on 19 November to discuss a draft contract sent by China’s General Administration of Customs for export of Myanmar’s rice and tapioca chips.

Members of the bodies discussed the signing of the agreement, exportation, and plans for disclosing the article of agreements to exporters.

U Aung Kyaw Oo, director of the Agriculture Department and staff, MRF Vice President U Aung Than Oo and executive members, rice millers and trader’s body, MFVP consultant Dr Htet Kyu, and officials from the Myanmar Cassava Association attended the meeting and discussed the exportation of rice and tapioca chips.

"The sale of gold is normal. The sale of around 50 viss of gold is normal in the Yangon Region market," said U Myo Myint.

The domestic gold price is positively linked to the global gold price. On 22 November, the global gold price reached US$1,407 per ounce. The dollar exchange rate also reached K1,518 per dollar, according to the local gold market.

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STUDENTS of Myanmar missed chance of pursuing higher education for many years after the country had lost its independence under the rule of British colonials. In 1920, British established the Yangon University.

After establishing Yangon University, its related buildings such as the convocation building, the library, university hospital, Dhammayon, lecture halls and student halls emerged as colonial era buildings on the campus of Yangon University. Later, these buildings became historical heritages of Yangon University.

Yangon University in the history

Among ancient buildings of around 100 years old in Yangon City, Yangon University has been famous as a significant educational institution till today.

Yangon University established in Kamayut of Yangon in 1920 was related to incidents of independence struggles in Myanmar. During the 100-year period, the university turned out so many outstanding persons in literature, politics and various arenas and has been nurturing outstanding new generation students.

Before establishment of Yangon University, British opened a college in Yangon of Lower Myanmar, a subordinate of Kolkata University. Students from the college went to Kolkata University of India to take the examinations for Intermediate of Arts. The university education was initiated at the Yangon Government High School (Now, Latha BEHS No. 1) by giving lectures at university level to those preparing to take the aforesaid examination.

American Missionary set up the Judson College similar to Yangon College. The former was named Judson College (Yudathan College) in honour of American missionary Dr. Judson in 1918. Motivation to recognize Yangon College as a separate independent university started in 1892. Hence, the Legislative Council of Myanmar approved the bill of Yangon University in September 1920 and then the Yangon University emerged on 1 December 1920. In its establishment, Yangon University was formed with University College and Judson College. Meanwhile, a total of 692 students attended the University College and 137 students, Judson College. The first chancellor of Yangon University was Governor of Myanmar Sir Reginald Craddock.

In 1941, as Yangon University managed six colleges namely University College, Judson College, Medical College, Teacher Training College, Agriculture College and Mandalay Intermediate College, many numbers of buildings were extended. During a decade from 1940 to 1950, Yangon University was famous in Southeast Asia and it was one of the best universities in Asia.

Convocation Building

Although the first-ever convocation of Yangon University took place on 28 November 1921, the cornerstone of the convocation building was laid by the University Chancellor on 2 December 1922. The convocation building was the first building on the campus of 400-acre Yangon University.

The convocation building was created with colonial and western European architectural works, and the main building was in square shape. The convocation hall was in the centre of the building surrounded by double theatre stairs.

Three crescent shape arches on the front wing of the building became the symbol. A large lion statue was kept on either side of the front wing. The emblem of the Yangon University was created at the head band flanked by fabulous creature on both sides.

Judson Church

Chancellor of Yangon University Sir Charles Alexander Innes laid cornerstones of Judson Church built on Pyay Road on 27 July 1931. The church aimed to host Christian service ceremonies. The church was in design of
ART & CULTURE

The Dhammayon in rectangular shape with 140 feet in length, 65 feet in width and 22 feet in height was built in designs mixed with west European and Myanmar architectural works. The building comprises a portico and a side building was decorated with the tier-roofed structures on the roof. A peacock statue was kept under the portico while a beautiful handicraft was decorated on the front wing of the main building. The ladder towards the Dhammayon was made of bricks. The Dhammayon was installed with wooden doors. Although the University Dhammayon was renovated in 1995, there remain original works till today.

Yagon University Library

Sir Harcourt Butler laid cornerstones for Yagon University Library in the eastern part of the Chancellor Road on 8 December 1927. The library came into operations in 1928. Rao Bahadur S Ramanatha Roodiar and wives donated K 200,000 to the fund of the library. The two-storey library in L shape with 130 feet in length and 42 feet in width stores a large number of palm-leave inscriptions and folded papers. Names of the donors were listed above the entrance. Yagon University Library was built of colonial and Myanmar architectural works.

Arts and Science Buildings

Two buildings were constructed on both sides of the Chancellor Road. The arts building is constructed in the western part of the road in 1928 and the science building in the eastern part in 1931. The arts building comprised the arts hall, four three-storey lecture buildings, the administrative office and the library. The square shape three-storey main building was decorated with hemisphere shape arches and circular shape concrete windows.

Yagon University Hospital

University Hospital is of importance in providing health care services to staff members and students including faculty members. University Hospital, south of current University Avenue, is located at No. 160 on University Avenue.

The building of the hospital was built by Myanmar architect U Tha Tun in 1927-1928. A one-storey brick building, 103 feet long, 42 feet wide and 16 feet high. The brick floor open-air theatre was built behind the gymnasium.

University Halls

As hostels for female and male students were built on the campus of Yagon University, Ava (inwa), Pinya, Sagaing, Thaton and Bago halls were main hostels. The E shape three-storey halls were built in 1928. The halls with 196 feet in length, 82 feet in width and 36 feet in height comprised 148 rooms each.

Inya Hall and Thiri Hall were constructed on the campus of Yangon University in 1928 and Shwebo Hall and Dagon Hall in 1933-1934. All halls were painted in red colour with brick tiles. Two-storey wooden halls namely Pyay, Sagaing and Tagaung and two-storey brick hall Nawade were built outside the campus.

Yangon University and Colonial Era Buildings concerning Myanmar education and educational history remain unchanged in their original styles of architectural works till today. In fact, preservation of these buildings means maintenance of Myanmar historical evidences.

Translated by Than Tun Aung

Reference:
Colonial era buildings in Yangon Region (Report)
Popov selects U-22 players for 30th SEA Games

HEAD coach of the Myanmar U-22 men’s national football team Velizar Popov yesterday announced the final list of 22 players who will compete in the 30th South East Asian Games.

Two goalkeepers have been selected on the squad: San Satt Naing and Soe Arkar. Six defenders have been selected on the team — Ye Min Thu, Thu Rein Soe, Aung Wunna Soe, Ye Yint Aung, Soe Moe Kyaw, and Win Moe Kyaw.

The head coach has chosen 10 midfielders — Lwin Moe Aung, Nay Moe Naing, Zin Min Tun, Myat Kaung Khant, Aung Naing Win, Kaung Htet Soe, Soe Lwin Lwin, Htet Phyoe Wai, Hlaing Bo Bo and Si Thu Aung. Aung Kaung Mann and Win Naing Tun will be the forward players on the team, while two players — goalkeeper Zin Nyl Nyl Aung and midfielder Hein Htet Aung — have been selected as reserves.

Speaking about the selection of players, head coach Popov said that he wasn’t too happy about some key players Phone Thitsar Min, Zeyar Naing, Naing Htike Zaw, and Kyaw Thu Tun being left out of the list due to injuries, but was hoping the best from the remaining players, including youth stars Win Naing Tun, Lwin Moe Aung, Htet Phyoe Wai, and Win Moe Kyaw.

The head coach said that Si Thu Aung and Hlaing Bo Bo are senior players and he believed they would work well with the U-22 players.

Team Myanmar will leave for the Philippines for the men’s football event of the SEA Games on 23 November, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

India International Challenge 2019: Thet Htar Thuzar reaches semifinal

MYANMAR badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar advanced to the semifinal of the India International Challenge 2019 by beating Thailand’s Nuntakarn Aimsaard in the quarterfinal match, played yesterday at the Cricket Club of India in Mumbai.

In the crucial quarterfinal, Thet Htar Thuzar faced tough competition from Nuntakarn Aimsaard, but managed to win with a 2-1 result: 11-21, 21-18, and 21-17.

In the Round 2 match at the same venue yesterday morning, before the quarterfinal, Thet Htar Thuzar beat India’s Tanvi Lad with a decisive 2-0 result: 21-12 and 21-15.

Also, in the Round 1 match on 21 November, Thet Htar Thuzar had dominated over India’s Ira Sharma to achieve a 2-1 win: 10-21, 21-9, and 21-10.

The Indian International Challenge 2019 is being sponsored by the INFOSYS Foundation. The tournament started on 20 November; and the final matches and the awarding ceremony will be held on 24 November.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Zidane urges fans to back under-fire Bale

MADELIDE — Zinedine Zidane has urged Real Madrid fans to get behind Gareth Bale and insists he does not believe the Welshman is happier playing for his country than his club, Zidane said: “I don’t think so, maybe it’s better for him with the language, but he seemed happy when he scored in the Champions League final.

“It’s just the language, he said it. Inside the dressing room here, he’s good.”

Zidane would not comment on whether Bale’s celebrations were aimed at Real Madrid or the media’s criticism of him for spending too much time playing golf.—APP