State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers statement at ICJ in connection with lawsuit filed by Gambia

THE International Court of Justice (ICJ) held the second day of oral hearings on the application submitted by The Gambia. The State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in her capacity as the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs appeared as Agent for Myanmar and delivered the oral presentation at 10 am today at The Hague, the Netherlands. The Gambia presented its oral arguments on the first day of oral observations on 10 December 2019. The full text of the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's statement is published separately.

SEE PAGE-3
Message from President U Win Myint sent to the opening of the 20th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference (12 December, 2019)

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to Myanmar’s traditional medicine practitioners across the country, and the delegates to the 20th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference, and wish all of you the best for their physical and mental well-being.

For this chapter of the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference, practitioners of traditional medicine from across the country have gathered together to amicably exchange views, with the goal of promoting the all-round standards of the Myanmar traditional medicine professional world, which has been in existence for over two thousand years, and is a national cultural heritage. Those in the profession seek to develop the quality and ethical integrity of Myanmar’s traditional practitioners, and encourage cooperation between practitioners and organizations related to traditional medicines at home and abroad. They also seek to develop the traditional medicine profession and encourage cooperation from the private sector, along with the herbal gardens of the Traditional Medicine Department, as part of the efforts to ensure the sufficiency of herbal raw materials at home, and I am confident that this conference will bring about positive results.

While offering serious encouragement to the development of the Myanmar traditional medicine profession, the State has been enacted the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Council Law on 25, January 2019, and I hope that the traditional medicine council, which the law will create, would make special efforts for the development of Myanmar traditional medicine. I heard that the book, entitled “Milestones of Traditional Medicine in Myanmar”, was published in August, 2019, with the cooperation of the Traditional Medicine Department of the Ministry of Health and Sports, the Traditional Medicine Council, the Traditional Medicine Advisory Board, Myanmar Traditional Medicine Manufacturers and the Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association.

The Union Government, for its part, has been working to promote the standard of the Myanmar traditional medicine profession and to raise the health care coverage of the people, by having access to traditional medicine practices. The government has included this as a policy in the national health programme, and it is highly satisfactory for the Union Government to know that the initial health care activities are being carried out in accordance with the fine traditions of the Myanmar traditional medicine profession in rural and urban areas, especially as priorities are given to the prevention of diseases due to the efforts of the traditional medicine profession.

It is heard that a qualified new generation of traditional medicine practitioners are being sent for local and foreign training and workshops, realizing that the development of human resources is an important sector for improving Myanmar traditional medicine, to ensure it meets world standards.

To promote traditional medicine and penetrate the world, it is necessary to make collective efforts for publicizing the potency of herbal plants growing naturally, and to set their standards with the use of modern technology, and with the use of the perfect knowledge of the Myanmar traditional medicine profession based upon the Four Great Nayas, namely Desana naya, Bethistsa naya, Netkhata veda naya and Vissadara naya.

As the government of the State has been making strenuous efforts for building a peaceful and prosperous Federal Democratic Union, it is delighted for the government to know that the Myanmar traditional medicine practitioners are cooperating with western medicine practitioners in providing health care services to the people.

On this special occasion of the 20th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Conference, I send this message and wish responsible officials of the Traditional Medicine Department of the Ministry of Health, the Traditional Medicine Council, the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners’ Association, the Traditional Medicine Advisory Board, the Myanmar Traditional Medicine Manufacturers and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association, along with traditional practitioners across the country, to contribute their efforts to promote healthcare services to the people through traditional medicine by exchanging views at this conference.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw debates report on Second Bill Amending Constitution

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE 14th regular session of second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held its 13th day meeting at Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speak-er U T Khun Myat sought approval of the Hluttaw for replacements of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s Joint Committee on ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly members for which MP Daw Pyone Kay Thi Naing from Kawl constituency was substituted with MP U Htay Win Aung (a) U Pyone Cho from Dawbon constituency, and MP U Pe Tin from Mon State constituency as with U Nay Yaw Gu from Kachin State constituency I.

MP U Soe Thein from Kayah State constituency 9 and MP U Bo Gyi from Chaung constituency discussed exemptions of special commodity tax and commercial tax on imports of six bullet proof Toyota Landcruiser cars.

MP debates on Joint Scrutiniz-ing Committee’s report on Sec-

ond Bill to Amend Constitution

Amyotha Hluttaw Tatmadaw MP Lt-Col Thant Swe object-ed the Joint Scrutinizing Com-mittee’ 7/2019 report on the Second Bill to Amend the Consti-

tution as it should be discussed by all the members of Hluttaw instead of putting into the working process of the 45-member joint committee as the suggest-ed articles and sub-articles in the report may not have nega-

tive impacts on social, economic and administrative sectors, as well as peace-making processes of the country. MP U Maung Maung from Htiyaing constituency ex-

pressed his support to the report not to delay the amendment pro-

cesses in accordance with the political will of public to emerge a constitution with the federal democratic norms.

MP U Thein Tun from Kyawngon constituency sug-

gested to handle the Second Bill to Amend the Constitution as per Chapter 12 of this charter. MP U Aung Kyaw Kyaw from Hlone constituency addressed the need for cooperation in constitution amendment to establish a Federal Democratic Union through mutual respect and recognition among Hluttaw representatives.

MP Daw Mar Mar Khang from Thaton constituency sup-
ported the report as it was sub-
mitted by the Joint Scrutinizing Committee to be able to review all the collections of bills.

The report was also dis-


cussed by MP U Tin Aung Tun from Magway Region constitu-

ency 5, MP Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye from Kayin State constituency 6, Lt-Col Nyan Shwe of Amyotha Hluttaw Tatmadaw representatives, MP U Myo Win from Mon State constituency 8 and Major Zarrr Htet Aung of Amyotha Hluttaw representative.

The Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s 14th regular session will convene its 14th day meeting on 17 December.—Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant

(Translated by Aung Khin)
At the oral observations, the counsels and advocates for Myanmar presented the following oral arguments: Professor William Schabas argued on the lack of a plausible claim; Dr Christopher Staker argued the lack of prima facie jurisdiction of the court, the lack of prima facie standing of The Gambia, and inappropriateness of the provisional measures requested; and Professor Phoebe Okowa argued on the lack of real and imminent risk of irreparable prejudice to the rights in dispute.

Also in attendance at the oral observations were U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor and U Kyaw Tin, the Union Minister for International Cooperation; Myanmar Ambassador to the

Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance-MECA issued a statement on 10 December. The following is the full text of the statement.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered statement at ICJ in connection with lawsuit filed by Gambia

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the second day of hearing at the UN’s International Court of Justice at The Hague, The Netherlands on 11 December. PHOTO: THA BYAW

People participate in rally in support of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi during the second day at the International Court of Justice at The Hague, The Netherlands. PHOTO: MNA

At the oral observations, Professor William Schabas argued on the lack of a plausible claim; Dr. Christopher Staker argued the lack of prima facie jurisdiction of the court, the lack of prima facie standing of The Gambia, and inappropriateness of the provisional measures requested; Professor Phoebe Okowa argued on the lack of real and imminent risk of irreparable prejudice to the rights in dispute.

Rev. Dr. U Aye Min
Chairman
Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance-MECA

Rev. Dr. U Maris Hlyanar
General Secretary
Myanmar Evangelical Christian Alliance-MECA
Statement by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar As Agent Before the International Court of Justice

The Hague, 11 December, 2019

1. Thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Court. It is an honour to appear as Agent of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in these proceedings, in my capacity as Union Minister for Foreign Affairs. For materially less resourceful countries like Myanmar, the World Court is a vital refuge of international justice. We look to the Court to establish conditions conducive to respect for obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law, one of the fundamental objectives of the United Nations Charter.

2. In the present case, Mr. President, the Court has been asked to apply the 1948 Genocide Convention, one of the most fundamental multilateral treaties of our time. Invoking the 1948 Genocide Convention is a matter of utmost gravity. This is the treaty that we made following the systematic killing of more than six million European Jews, and that my country whole-heartedly signed as early as 30 December 1949 and ratified on 14 March 1950. Genocide is the crime that the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda applied in response to the mass-killing of perhaps 70% of the Tutsis in Rwanda. It is the crime that was not applied by the Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia to the displacement of approximately one million residents of Kosovo in 1999. Neither was it applied by that Tribunal nor by this Court when deciding upon the exodus of the Serb population from Croatia in 1995. In both situations international justice resisted the temptation to use this strongest of legal classifications because the requisite specific intent to physically destroy the targeted group in whole or in part was not present.

3. Regrettably, The Gambia has placed before the Court an incomplete and misleading factual picture of the situation in Rakhine State in Myanmar. Yet, it is of the utmost importance that the Court assess the situation obtaining on the ground in Rakhine dispassionately and accurately.

4. The situation in Rakhine is complex and not easy to fathom. But one thing surely touches all of us equally: the sufferings of the many innocent people whose lives were torn apart as a consequence of the armed conflicts of 2016 and 2017, in particular those who have had to flee their homes and are now living in camps in Cox’s Bazar.

5. Mr. President and Members of the Court, the troubles of Rakhine State and its population, whatever their background, go back into past centuries and have been particularly severe over the last few years. Currently, an internal armed conflict is going on there – between the Arakan Army, an organised Buddhist armed group with more than 5,000 fighters, and the regular Myanmar Defence Services. None of the speakers yesterday made any reference to this. The Arakan Army seeks autonomy or independence for Rakhine – or Arakan as it was called – finding inspiration in the memory of the historic Kingdom of Arakan. This conflict has led to the displacement of thousands of civilians in Rakhine. Standard security restrictions – such as curfew and check-points – are in place at present in the conflict zone and affect the situation of civilians there, regardless of their background.

6. Mr President, on 9 October 2016, approximately 400 fighters of the Arakan-Rohingya Salvation Army – known as ARSA – launched simultaneous attacks on three police posts in Maungdaw and Rathedaung Townships in northern Rakhine, near the border with Bangladesh. ARSA claimed responsibility for these attacks, which led to the death of nine police officers, more than 100 dead or missing civilians, and the theft of 68 guns and more than 10,000 rounds of ammunition. This was the start of an internal armed conflict between ARSA and Myanmar’s Defence Services which lasted until late 2017. The selective factual propositions contained in The Gambia’s Application actually concern this conflict.

7. In the months following the 9 October 2016 attacks, ARSA grew in strength in the Maungdaw, Rathedaung and Rathedaung Townships in northern Rakhine. It resorted to threats and intimidation against local villagers in order to gain support and allegiance, executing suspected informers. According to, among others, the International Crisis Group, ARSA received weapons- and explosives-training from Afghan and Pakistani militants.

8. In the early morning of 25 August 2017, several thousand ARSA fighters launched coordinated attacks on more than 30 police posts and villages, and an army base in northern Rakhine. Most of the attacks took place on the narrow Maungdaw plain, which is framed by densely forested hills to the east, and the border with Bangladesh to the west. Indications are that ARSA’s objective was to seize Maungdaw Township.

9. It may aid the Court to briefly consider the historical significance of Maungdaw. When Britain made Burma a colonial entity separate from British India in 1937, the border between Burma and India was drawn along the river Naf, where we find today’s border between Bangladesh and Myanmar. The historical kingdom of Arakan had extended much further to the north than the river Naf, including most of what is today Chittagong District in Bangladesh. Members of some Rakhine communities therefore felt that the border drawn by the British was too far south; others,
Statement by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as Agent Before the International Court of Justice

Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively invests in such activity? Can individuals be held accountable for such actions? This is the question that the United Nations and the international community are currently facing in the context of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

FROM PAGE-4

that it was too far north. Myanmar has never challenged this border since independence in 1948.
10. Britain did not lose control over what

India did not lose control over what

11. Mr. President and Members of the

12. DECEMBER 2019

13. There was

14. It may be worth noting that the use of

15. Mr. President, it cannot be ruled out

16. Please bear in mind this complex situ-

17. Under its 2008 Constitution, Myanmar

18. Crimes against soldiers or officers for

19. This fact reinforces my sense that I

20. Other cases are undertaken without

21. In the Minsi case, for ex-

22. The Office of the Judge Advocate

23. Can there be genocidal intent on the

24. Mr. President, there are those

25. The emerging system of international

Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively invests in such activity? Can individuals be held accountable for such actions? This is the question that the United Nations and the international community are currently facing in the context of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

FROM PAGE-4

that it was too far north. Myanmar has never challenged this border since independence in 1948.
10. Britain did not lose control over what

India did not lose control over what

11. Mr. President and Members of the

12. DECEMBER 2019

13. There was

14. It may be worth noting that the use of

15. Mr. President, it cannot be ruled out

16. Please bear in mind this complex situ-

17. Under its 2008 Constitution, Myanmar

18. Crimes against soldiers or officers for

19. This fact reinforces my sense that I

20. Other cases are undertaken without

21. In the Minsi case, for ex-

22. The Office of the Judge Advocate

23. Can there be genocidal intent on the

24. Mr. President, there are those

25. The emerging system of international

Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively invests in such activity? Can individuals be held accountable for such actions? This is the question that the United Nations and the international community are currently facing in the context of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

FROM PAGE-4

that it was too far north. Myanmar has never challenged this border since independence in 1948.
10. Britain did not lose control over what

India did not lose control over what

11. Mr. President and Members of the

12. DECEMBER 2019

13. There was

14. It may be worth noting that the use of

15. Mr. President, it cannot be ruled out

16. Please bear in mind this complex situ-

17. Under its 2008 Constitution, Myanmar

18. Crimes against soldiers or officers for

19. This fact reinforces my sense that I

20. Other cases are undertaken without

21. In the Minsi case, for ex-

22. The Office of the Judge Advocate

23. Can there be genocidal intent on the

24. Mr. President, there are those

25. The emerging system of international

Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively invests in such activity? Can individuals be held accountable for such actions? This is the question that the United Nations and the international community are currently facing in the context of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

FROM PAGE-4

that it was too far north. Myanmar has never challenged this border since independence in 1948.
10. Britain did not lose control over what

India did not lose control over what

11. Mr. President and Members of the

12. DECEMBER 2019

13. There was

14. It may be worth noting that the use of

15. Mr. President, it cannot be ruled out

16. Please bear in mind this complex situ-

17. Under its 2008 Constitution, Myanmar

18. Crimes against soldiers or officers for

19. This fact reinforces my sense that I

20. Other cases are undertaken without

21. In the Minsi case, for ex-

22. The Office of the Judge Advocate

23. Can there be genocidal intent on the

24. Mr. President, there are those

25. The emerging system of international

Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively invests in such activity? Can individuals be held accountable for such actions? This is the question that the United Nations and the international community are currently facing in the context of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

FROM PAGE-4

that it was too far north. Myanmar has never challenged this border since independence in 1948.
10. Britain did not lose control over what

India did not lose control over what

11. Mr. President and Members of the

12. DECEMBER 2019

13. There was

14. It may be worth noting that the use of

15. Mr. President, it cannot be ruled out

16. Please bear in mind this complex situ-

17. Under its 2008 Constitution, Myanmar

18. Crimes against soldiers or officers for

19. This fact reinforces my sense that I

20. Other cases are undertaken without

21. In the Minsi case, for ex-

22. The Office of the Judge Advocate

23. Can there be genocidal intent on the

24. Mr. President, there are those

25. The emerging system of international

Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively invests in such activity? Can individuals be held accountable for such actions? This is the question that the United Nations and the international community are currently facing in the context of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.
Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Justice. International law may well be our only global value system, and international justice a practice that affirms our common values. Leaders of States and relevant inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations should also be cognizant of their responsibility to express and affirm fundamental values. Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.

Feeding the flames of an extreme polarisation in the context of Rakhine, for example, can harm the values of peace and harmony in Myanmar. Aggravating the wounds of conflict can undermine unity in Rakhine. Hate narratives are not simply confined to hate speech – language that contributes to extreme polarisation also amounts to hate narratives.
VP U Myint Swe calls for upscale countering of money laundering, financing of terrorism

The Steering Committee on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism held a discussion at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning and Committee Chairman Vice President U Myint Swe delivered a speech.

Present at the meeting were Steering Committee Vice Chairman Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Office of the Union Government U Min Thu, Union Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Central Bank of Myanmar Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi, Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Aung Thu and Dr Sett Aung, CBM Deputy Governor U Soe Thein, Hluttaw representatives, Japanese Ambassador Mr Ichiro Maruyama, Chief of Myanmar Police Force, directors-general, diplomats from foreign embassies, representatives of UMFCCI, departmental officials and CSOs.

In his speech, the Vice President said this meeting is the Steering Committee’s first meeting which aims for financial sector stability, sustainable development and reducing inflation. He said successive Myanmar governments have handled cases of money laundering and financing of terrorism, which it and the world view as serious crimes. He said countering both issues is one of the main aims of the Myanmar Sustainable Development Programme (MSDP).

The Vice President said they have handled 21 cases under the 2002 Control of Illicit Income Law and has confiscated K 23,166,38 in illicit income and possession into the national treasury. He said they have handled 92 cases under the 2014 Abolishing Money Laundering Law from 2014 to the present, of which 24 cases have been filed, are ongoing and 10 cases settled, resulting in the confiscation of K 6,001 million into the national treasury.

The Vice President said illegal drug trade and transnational crimes are attempts to launder illicit money and preventing them from entering Myanmar’s financial system and countering them requires the cooperation of all government departments, CSOs and the citizens. He said uncovering the illicit money, properties and benefits created from transnational crime and confiscating them into the national treasury is a top priority.

The Vice President said Myanmar has participated in international cooperation such as joining the Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) in 2006 and is endeavoring to implement 40 recommendations from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). He said they have signed MoUs with 15 nations to exchange news and information and for cooperation. He said APG member nations performed mutual evaluations in 2007-2008 and 2017-2018 and the second Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) was published in 2018.

The Vice President concluded his speech by urging attendees to further the discussions for abolishing money laundering and countering financing of terrorism. He then took a documentary photo with all attendees.

Next, Working Committee Chairman Deputy Planning, Finance and Industry Minister Dr Sett Aung explained processes for countering money laundering and financing of terrorism. Police Brig-Gen Kyaw Win Thein explained cooperation with banks and organizations and legal preparation, and IMF’s Mr Neil Saker explained “The Consequences of Greylisting and Next Steps for Myanmar”.

Next, Deputy Minister Dr Sett Aung led the panel discussion on “Challenge for Improving AML/CFT in Myanmar” and was joined by Police Brig-Gen Kyaw Win Thein, CBM Director-General Maj-Gen Than Than Swe, UMFCCI Joint-Secretary Daw Khine Khine Nwe, and U Myo Nyi Nyi from Myanmar Banks Association.

Union Minister U Soe Win then closed the meeting with a concluding speech.

Union Minister U Thein Swe receives Japanese Justice Minister

Union Minister U Thein Swe holds talks with Japanese Justice Minister Ms Mori Masako at the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Thein Swe delivered the speech at the event of Steering Committee on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Thein Swe receives Japanese Justice Minister

Union Minister U Thein Swe received Japanese Justice Minister Ms Mori Masako and party at the former’s office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed visas exemption for Japanese visitors in favour of friendly relations between the two countries, sending skilled workers to Japan, issuing licenses for 34 employment agencies, examinations for hotel jobs and other employment, and scrutinizing of Myanmar embassy in Japan on demand letters submitted by the employment agencies.

Myanmar and Japan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on 28 March to work together in basic framework for information exchange on systematic processes of managing human resources of skilled workers between Myanmar and Japan.

The Union Minister and the Japanese Justice Minister also exchanged views on preventing possible deceitful acts of some employment agencies. PHOTO: MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)
Curbing money laundering, terror financing key to meeting global economic standards

A national organization has warned that Myanmar has a high chance of falling back into the category of countries of “high risk” if it fails to impose and enforce adequate safeguards.

It has warned that Myanmar’s likely return next year to the “gray list” of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) could reduce the investment appetite of risks-averse international financial institutions and give the US more leverage to impose even more restrictive economic measures.

In fighting money laundering, we need to ensure that the Monetary Unit runs its operations independently and efficiently.

Nauru, one of the world’s smallest countries, has a big problem on its hands: it’s running out of money. The country’s financial system is struggling to keep pace with growing demands for funds to support public services and infrastructure projects. The government recently announced plans to introduce new regulations aimed at遏制 money laundering and terror financing in order to meet global economic standards.

Strategies to prevent money laundering and terror financing include:

1. Implementing robust anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CTF) laws to detect and prevent financial transactions linked to illicit activities.
2. Strengthening financial infrastructure to improve transparency and oversight, including the establishment of a national AML/CFT regulatory framework.
3. Enhancing international cooperation by sharing information and intelligence with other countries and international organizations.

In order to meet global economic standards, Myanmar needs to:

1. Strengthen its regulatory framework to prevent money laundering and terror financing.
2. Establish a robust system for monitoring and reporting financial transactions.
3. Increase capacity-building efforts for financial institutions and relevant stakeholders.
4. Enhance cooperation with international partners to combat money laundering and terror financing.

By: Byokether

---

**Ya Myint Daily News Report**

**WEATHER**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

**FAR EAST**

**AE: 10**

---

**Myanmar Daily Weather Report**

**Weather in the coming days**

**Work week will be about 3-4 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.**

---

**Outlook for Subsequent Two Days**: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in Rang, Yangon, Ayeyawaddy and Irrawaddy regions. Keep North ern Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

---

**STATE OF THE SEA**: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-4 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

---

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 11th December, 2019**: Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagain, Magway and Taunggyi regions. Keep North ern Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

---

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th December, 2019**: Generally fair weather.

---

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th December, 2019**: Generally fair weather.

---

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th December, 2019**: Generally fair weather.**
NRPC holds talks with KNU on peacemaking process

DELEGATIONS of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC) and the Karen National Union (KNU) held a meeting on peacemaking efforts at the headquarters in Yangon yesterday morning.

Dr Tin Myo Win, the Vice Chairman of NRPC and the Chairman of the Peace Commission, expressed thanks for meeting to negotiate disputes in the peace-making process.

KNU’s Vice Chairman P’doh Saw Kwe Htoo Win said his organization is implementing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement after they have signed it for the emergence of a Federal Democratic Union and called for serious discussions in peace talks to make a complete trust of people.

The meeting focused on the future peacemaking plans, and it was attended by Vice Chairman of Peace Commission U Thein Zaw, its Secretary (retired) Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, and members of Peace Commission advisory board U Hla Maung Shwe and U Moe Zaw Oo, General Secretary of the KNU P’doh Saw Tah Doh Moo, P’doh Saw Sai Go, P’doh Saw Klu Say and Saw Malar Thaw and Saw Nay Tha Balay.

During the press conference, U Hla Maung Shwe said “The government side discussed the remaining points for further discussions, and preparations for organizing a Joint Implementation Coordination Meeting. The government peace negotiator offered a meeting with the signatories of NCA-S EAO before 25 December, and a JICM after 4 January.”

P’doh Saw Tah Doh Moo also said, “The meeting was very friendly and frankly. Especially, both sides discussed the future plans after the JICM as it is a crucial meeting for implementing NCA. The Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong is also a crucial step for NCA. And that we are completely focusing on these processes.— Ye Gaung Nyunt

(Translated by Aung Khin)

UNION Minister Dr Win Myat Aye discusses socioeconomic, rehabilitation programmes in New Zealand

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye held a meeting with Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr Winston Peters at Wellington in New Zealand yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union Minister talked about Myanmar government’s efforts on the rights of all citizens, including ethnic minorities and especially persons with disabilities, the rights of PWDs, and future plans with the Social Development Ministry of New Zealand.

He also discussed cooperation with New Zealand in socioeconomic development and training programmes for agricultural and renewable energy sectors which are required for resettlement and rehabilitation works at the conflict zones, prevention of landmine risks, social harmony and peace.

The Union Minister met with the Health and Disability Commissioner to exchange views on disseminating knowledge and providing assistance to the PWDs.

He also held talks on the MoveAhead company to use its software for the mentally disabled children with diseases such as syndrome and autism.— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Chief Minister inspects arrangements for youth development festival in Magway

THE Magway Region Chief Minister Dr Aung Moe Nyo inspected the preparations for all-round youth development festival (Magway) at the compound of Magway University in Magway yesterday.

The Chief Minister and party inspected the arrangements for the opening ceremony, talks shows exhibition, competition and booths, and instructed the requirements.— Han Lin Zay

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)
Japanese Princess arrives in Yangon, visits Shwedagon Pagoda

AT the invitation of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, a delegation led by Japanese Princess Yoko Mikasa arrived in Yangon yesterday.

The Japanese Princess and entourage were welcomed by Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Department U Zaw Tun U, Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Department U Zaw Phyo Tun, Deputy Director-General of the Protocol Department U Zaw Tun U, U Myint Oo, Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Zaw Phyo Win, Deputy Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Myint Kyi, and Department U Zaw Tun Oo, U Myint Oo, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Zaw Tun Oo, Deputy Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Zaw Phyo Win, Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Zaw Tun Oo, U Myint Oo, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Zaw Tun Oo, Deputy Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Zaw Phyo Win, Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Zaw Tun Oo, U Myint Oo, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Zaw Tun Oo, Deputy Director-General of Strategic Studies and Training Department U Zaw Phyo Win.

Japanese Princess Yoko Mikasa and her entourage visited the Shwedagon Pagoda.

In the pagoda, she offered flowers, water, lights and incense sticks at the Tuesday corner and walked around the pagoda clock-wise. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Myanmar Pearl Auction (December 2019) held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation is organizing the Myanmar Pearl Auction (December 2019) at the Myanmar Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw.

Union Minister U Ohn Win and officials looked around the sale of pearls which was crowded with locals and foreign pearl merchants.

At the event, 270 pearl lots of the State, 85 lots of Myanmar Andaman Pearl Co., Ltd, 30 lots of Pyae Phyo Tun Co., Ltd, and 30 lots of Annawa Pearl Co., Ltd, totally 415 lots, with the floor price of Euro 1.35 million, will be sold for three days until 13 December.

The pearls will be sold to the local merchants in Myanmar kyat, and they need to make a deposit of K2.5 million, and their foreign counterparts will have to pay a deposit of Euro 2,000.

The tender winner will also have to pay 5 percent commercial tax on the value of the pearl lots.

On the first day, a total of State-owned 100 pearl lots were sold at Euro 583,990.— MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

People rally in support of State Counsellor in towns

PEOPLE rallied nationwide yesterday in support of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who is contesting the case filed by Gambia at the International Court of Justice-ICJ.

Kawthoung

People in support of State Counsellor rallied near the traffic circle in Padauk Wah Ward in Kawthoung Town yesterday.

People holding placards reading “We Stand With Daw Aung San Suu Kyi,” “We Stand With Our Leader,” and “We Stand With the State Counsellor Of Myanmar” rallied near the traffic circle where the billboard poster reading “We Stand With Daw Aung San Suu Kyi” was unveiled by leader of Padauk Shwe Wah Ward U Kyaw Thet Naing by pressing a button.

At the rally, U Myint Oo read the statement related to ICJ released by the Union Government, and people sang the national anthem.

Similar billboard posters supporting State Counsellor were also unveiled in Aye Mya Thar Yar Ward and Thiri Myaing Ward in Kawthoung Town yesterday.

Shwebo

Over 20,000 people holding placards reading “We Stand With Our Leader” rallied at the Bogyoke Square at Yan Gyi Aung Park in Shwebo Town yesterday.

Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr Myint Naing, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Zaw Win, State Auditor General U Myint Kyi, chairman U Khin Maung Shwe and members of NLD party in Shwebo Township, Hluttaw representatives, district departmental officials, teachers, philanthropic organizations, interfaith groups and local people attended the rally.

Kyunhla

About 500 people in Kyunhla Town also held rally in support of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the Shwe Kyuntha Hall in Kyunhla Town, Kanbalu District in Sagaing Region yesterday.

People holding placards reading “We Stand With Daw Aung San Suu Kyi” and shouting the slogans of ‘All people are together with Mother Suu,’ ‘May Mother Suu be successful,’ ‘May the trip of Mother Suu be successful,’ and ‘Let’s us united as it is an important time!’ marched towards the Shwe Kyuntha Hall.

Laymyethna

People in Laymyethna also held a rally in support of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the Nga Wan playground in Laymyethna Town, Hinthada District in Sagaing Region yesterday.

People holding placards reading “We Stand With Daw Aung San Suu Kyi” and shouting the slogans of ‘All people are together with Mother Suu,’ ‘May Mother Suu be healthy,’ ‘May the trip of Mother Suu be successful,’ and ‘Let’s us united as it is an important time!’ marched towards the Shwe Kyuntha Hall.
Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Israeli Ambassador

PYITHU Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein received a delegation led by Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Ronen Gilor at his office of the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to promoting bilateral friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and Israel, Myanmar’s electoral experiences and 2020 General Election, the works of Joint Committee on Amending 2008 Constitution, and exchanging technical experiences related to health, agriculture, livestock and utilization of water resources sectors in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Win, Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Rural Development Committee Chairman U Yan Lin, Secretary U Maung Maung Oo and officials from Pyithu Hluttaw Office. – MNA (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Union Attorney-General opens new law offices in Shan State

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and officials pose for a group photo at the opening ceremony of new law offices in Taunggyi, Shan State. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo attended the opening ceremonies of new law offices in Taunggyi, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone and Danu Self-Administered Zone in Shan State on 9 and 10 December. The Union Attorney-General attended the opening ceremony of a building for Taunggyi District law office, Township law office and housing for governmental employees in Taunggyi in the morning of 9 December, and also attended the opening ceremony of law office in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone in the afternoon. U Tun Tun Oo also attended the opening ceremony of law office in Danu Self-Administered Zone on 10 December.

At the ceremonies, the Union Attorney-General was accompanied by State Chief Minister and State cabinet members, State Hluttaw representatives, State Advocate-General, Chief Justice, Auditor General, State level departmental officials, Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Committee Chairman, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Leading Committee Chairman and members and invited guests. – MNA (Translated by Kyau Zin Tun)

Write for us

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

Due to limitations of space, we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.
Germany on alert as swine fever nears border

BERLIN — Sniffer dogs, drones and electrified fences: Germany is deploying a full array of defences to stop boars from bringing swine fever into the country and averting a disaster for its thriving pork industry.

“The question is no longer if swine fever will come to Germany but when,” Torsten Reinwald, a spokesman for Germany’s hunting federation, told AFP.

The virus is not harmful to human health but can cause deadly bleeding in domestic pigs and boars.

The only way of getting rid of it is through mass culling at farms — a nightmare for German farmers.

Half of Germany’s pork production of five million tons a year goes to foreign markets, making it Europe’s biggest exporter of the meat. It is feared that even a single case could wreak havoc.

“The probability that countries like China impose a total import ban is very high,” said Sarah Dhem, a representative of Germany’s meat products association.

Dhem gave the example of a total Chinese import ban following a few outbreaks in Belgium last year. Losses could run into billions of euros and the European market would be flooded with cut-price pork.

Farmers first began to worry when swine fever was identified at a pig farm in western Poland in November.

Drone patrols

But it was the discovery of a boar with the fever near the town of Nowogrod Bobrzański — just 40 kilometres (25 miles) from the German border — that really raised the alarm.

As a result, German regions are pulling out all the stops. —AFP

Study finds shortage of therapists to treat children with autism

WASHINGTON — A recent study has unveiled a shocking truth about the insufficient supply of certified applied behaviour analysis (ABA) providers to meet the needs of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in nearly every state.

The study, published in the journal Psychiatric Services, found that the rising prevalence of ASD underscores the importance of access to evidence-based interventions such as ABA. An estimated one in 59 children had ASD in 2014, up from one in 125 a decade earlier, according to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

ABA uses behaviour-al learning principles to help children with ASD increase positive behaviors and social interactions and decrease problematic behaviors. It is the recommended treatment for children with autism and is supported by more than 30 years of research. ABA is most effective when it is started in early childhood and the therapy is provided between 20 and 40 hours per week.—ANI

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV B TRADER VOY. NO. (9475/949N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V B TRADER VOY. NO. (9475/949N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-12-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.M.T.T.MT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

The completed RFP Document are required to be submitted to the Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, Phone +95 1 291985 or 291994 or 294352. Detail information has been sent out to the shortlisted potential PASCs.

The GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS MYANMA RAILWAYS PROJECT ASSURANCE SERVICES COMPANY (PASC) FOR INTERNATIONAL HOTEL PROJECT AND LANDMARK PROJECT

Announcement

MR has invited reputable local and/or international Project Assurance Services Companies (PASC) on (23.9.2019) to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) to assist PMU/PAC and to undertake Project Assurance activities for the Landmark Project and International Hotel Project.

Total of (12) twelve Companies EOI’s received from potential local and/or international PASC on the closing date of (29.10.2019).

MR has invited reputable local and/or international Project Assurance Services Companies (PASC) on (23.9.2019) to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) to assist PMU/PAC and to undertake Project Assurance activities for the Landmark Project and International Hotel Project.

U Thant Zin Aung, H.G.P.
For GREEN URBAN VENTURES CO., LTD., C/o Polaris Partners Myanmar Co., Ltd., Unit 19-10, Sule Square Office Tower, Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar polarispartners@polaris.com.mm
Dated 12 Dec 2019

U Thant Zin Aung, H.G.P.
For THE CENTRAL BOULEVARD CO., LTD., C/o Polaris Partners Myanmar Co., Ltd., Unit 15-10, Sule Square Office Tower, Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar polarispartners@polaris.com.mm
Dated 12 Dec 2019
Broadcasting Governing Body meets with private media companies

THE Broadcasting Governing Body held a meeting with the private broadcast media companies at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun, in his capacity as the Chairman of BGB, presided over the 7/2019 coordination meeting of BGB with FM radio channels and broadcasting media groups to discuss their challenges and difficulties in this industry. At the meeting, the Deputy Minister highlighted the importance of media ethics, skills and knowledge, and the need for development of the country’s broadcasting media.

Deputy Director General of Myanmar Radio and Television and Member of BGB Supervisory Board U Myo Myint Aung briefed on the work plans of the governing body. U Saw Myint Zaw, the Director (Admin) from MRTV, presented conclusions on the resolutions of 6/2019 meeting, followed by presentations of officials from respective divisions.

The Deputy Minister coordinated the discussions before the meeting was concluded.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)

Deputy Commerce Minister attends opening ceremony of Myanmar-China border trade fair

DEPUTY Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo attended the opening ceremony of 18th China-Myanmar Border Economic and Trade Fair held at Ruili, China, yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, the Deputy Minister said that the trade fair has reflected friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries, while bilateral border trade volume is increasing year by year. He also added Myanmar is closely working with ASEAN member countries, and Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries, while working for trade promotion of the country.

He said the ministry is also exchanging information about rules for quality of commodities, trade procedures with China, and that people in border areas have secured jobs and enjoyed a better transportation.

The Union Minister also called for ending illegal trade between the two countries. Then, Chinese officials from Yunnan Province also delivered speeches.

The trade fair was opened by the Deputy Minister and Chinese officials before they looked around the booths.

The Deputy Minister also discussed with Chinese officials about investments, trade and economic zones, and visited Youngon (Ruili) Clothing Co., Ltd. in the afternoon.—MNA (Translated by Aung Khin)

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs calls in Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar

U SOE HAN, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar called in H.E. Mr Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, at 0930 hrs on 11 December 2019 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Permanent Secretary and the Bangladeshi Ambassador discussed on matters pertaining to the forthcoming events of a high-level Myanmar Delegation, accompanied by ASEAN-ERAT representatives, to Bangladesh to carry out the Go-and-Tell Mission to explain the preparatory works implemented by the Myanmar Government for repatriation and resettlement of the displaced persons.

Moreover, the Permanent Secretary discussed the matter related to the visit of the Evidence Collection and Verification Team (ECVT) of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) to Bangladesh and handed over the letter to the Ambassador of Bangladesh, written by Mr. Kenzo Oshima, Interim Chair of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE), addressed to Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh.—MNA

Myanmar displays 53 booths at border trade fair in Ruili

THE 18th China-Myanmar Border Economic and Trade Fair opened at the border city of Ruili, which is a county-level city of Dehong Prefecture, in southwest China’s Yunnan Province on 10th December.

Myanmar is displaying its 53 booths at the three-day event, which includes tourism services, traditional medicines, traditional handicrafts, agricultural items, fishery products, finished wood products, banking services, China also exhibits industrial products, household items, furniture and commodities at over 450 booths.

U Aung Than Oo from Amay Hwar peanut oil production said, “We are displaying our export quality peanut oil for market promotion as the customers become interested in our products. We advise to set up a better management at border checkpoints for export of Myanmar commodities.”

Daw Nang Mai from Hla Pyo Phyu Traditional Medicines also said, “We are displaying our six products at the trade fair. As the climate is cold in this area, the customers are interested in our traditional ointment.”

A member of Northern Shan State Chambers of Commerce and Industry also said, “The trade fair is very supporting to Myanmar merchants. We can observe modern technologies for the foreign country at the fair.”

Border trade fairs and meetings of trade coordination committee are alternative held in both country since 2011.—Han Linn Naing

(Translated by Aung Khin)
Myanmar-Korea Agriculture and Rural Development Forum held in Yezin

THE Myanmar-Korea Agriculture and Rural Development Forum was held at Yezin Agriculture Education and Rural Development School in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning.

At the opening ceremony of the forum, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu said the Saemaul Undong (New Village Movement) of Korea has resulted in lasting friendship relations between the two countries, with the infrastructural developments in village roads and bridges, and supply of drinking water and electrification. The project could also develop mindsets and views of local people and strengthen cooperation.

He also confirmed that the ministry will adopt guidelines, policies and strategies for ensuring sustainable results of the project together with the development of other villages.

Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa and Director-General of Department of Agriculture Dr Ye Tint Tun extended greetings at the forum.

The Union Minister also presented gifts to the Ambassador; the Chief Representative of KOICA Ms Lee Yoon Soo and Saemaul Undong Project Manager Mr Lee Song Woo.

Development of project, implementation of project and the future plans were discussed by the project manager, the village leaders and the project director.

A KOICA official also handed over computers and office equipment to the Director General of DOA in honour of the latter’s results.

During the afternoon session of the forum, officials discussed rural development policies, rural fund managements beyond the project period, the role of Yezin Agriculture Education and Rural Development School, cooperation between the ongoing Emerald Project and the Saemaul Undong project, and collecting surveys on the former.

The KOICA and the DOA have signed a bilateral agreement on 29 November 2019 to implement the Capacity Building Project for Myanmar Agricultural Education in 27 townships of 10 States/Regions from 2019 to 2023. —MNA

Japanese film team makes documentary of general manager’s lifestyle in Yangon

A Japanese film crew of Churun Corporation Ltd took the documentary about the lifestyle of a general manager in Yangon at Fujita Cooperation, Shwedagon Pagoda Road and the lifestyles of the people in Yangon at Win Restaurant in 19th Street on 10 December.

The documentary will be showed in the time of staff employment at Fujita Cooperation and its human resources department. —Myo Win Aung (FDC)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Japanese film crew shooting the lifestyle of a General Manager at Fujita Cooperation Office in Yangon. PHOTO: MYO WIN AUNG (FDC)

Singaporean film crew makes documentary of firefly mission project

A Singaporean film crew made the documentary about the firefly mission project since 2008, and documented their activities.

They are the members of “Poe Sone Kyue” (firefly) philanthropic organization who were running “firefly mission” project since 2008, and documented their activities.

— Kyaw Swar Thein (FDC)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)
Myanmar medalists return from SEA Games

WITH the sports events of the 30th South East Asian Games finishing on 10 December, Myanmar athletes came back home from the Philippines on 11 December.

The athletes, including silver and bronze medalists in taekwondo, karate, archery, yachting and sailing, billiards, and track and field, arrived at the Yangon International Airport yesterday.

The athletes were welcomed by officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education, officials from the Myanmar Taekwondo Federation, Myanmar Karate Federation, Myanmar Archery Federation, Myanmar Yachting Federation, Myanmar Billiards Federation, and Myanmar Track and Field Federation, and students from the Institute of Sports and Physical Education and the athletes’ families.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

AFC Cup 2020: Myanmar’s Shan United placed in Group H

SHAN UNITED FC, which is representing Myanmar in the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Cup 2020, has been placed in Group H for the tournament, according to the drawing ceremony held on Tuesday by the AFC at its headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The 48 participating teams have been divided into nine groups, which have been further divided according to five zones: West Zone, Central Zone, South Zone, ASEAN Zone, and East Zone.

Shan United FC has been placed in the ASEAN Zone of Group H with the Philippines’ Kaya FC, and Singapore’s Tampines Rover FC, Geylang International FC, Indonesian PSM amk Assar FC and Timor Leste’s Lalenok United FC.

The preliminary stage of the 2020 season of the AFC Cup matches will start on 22 January.

Before entering the AFC Cup, Shan United, the defending champions of the Myanmar National League, will also compete in the Asian Champion League qualifiers, starting 14 January.

Shan United will play against Ceres Negros FC in the preliminary stage match, and if Shan United win the qualifiers, they will also enter the Asian Champion League, according to the AFC.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

FIFA to take legal action to recover 2 million Swiss francs from Platini

LAUSANNE (Switzerland) — FIFA is to take legal action by the end of the year to force Michel Platini to return two million Swiss francs ($2 million, 1.84 million euros) he received during Sepp Blatter’s reign at world football’s governing body.

FIFA banned Platini, its then vice president, in 2015 over the payment he received, sparking years of bitter recriminations from the Frenchman and a falling out with his former ally Blatter.

In a document seen by AFP on Wednesday, FIFA said it would take action “to recover the money illegally paid by the former President of FIFA to the former Vice President of FIFA.” Platini declined to comment but his lawyer, Vincent Solari, called the development “harassment” of his client. “It is obviously an announcement whose sole purpose is to continue to try to bring discredit on my client,” Solari, who is based in Geneva, said in a statement. FIFA said it planned to sue Blatter at the same time and would be seeking “interest at the appropriate rate” and “disciplinary fines and costs... both ordered but not paid.” Blatter, who authorised the payment in 2011, dismissed FIFA’s new claim.

“This affair has already been settled,” he told AFP on Wednesday. He said that the outstanding fines and legal costs had already been paid.

The Swiss authorities started investigating in 2015 while FIFA’s ethics investigators branded the payment “disloyal” and banned Platini for six years. The Frenchman subsequently appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), which reduced his suspension to four years while ruling that it “was not convinced by the legitimacy of the payment, which was only recognised by Mr Platini and Mr Blatter.”—AFP