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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. VI, No. 278, 11th Waning of Pyatho 1381 ME www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com Monday, 20 January 2020

MSWRR signs agreement with MILK for vocation training cooperation

Director-General of Department of Disaster Management Dr Ko Ko Naing and Director of MILK Mr Tan Pohleng Stanley sign the agreement between Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Mainly I Love Kids (MILK)-Myanmar in the presence of Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement signed an agreement with the Mainly I Love Kids (MILK)-Myanmar at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning for cooperation in vocational training programmes as an initial part of Dreams University project in Rakhine State.

The agreement is aimed to help young people to interact with social communities and to train them for valuing diverse cultures, social harmony, leadership skills and coordination capacities through education programmes.

At the ceremony, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye said that the government is working for internal peace and national reconciliation, and that mutual respects and equality among different communities are crucial for lasting peace.

He continued saying that the government's Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) is being operated with the financial and technical assistance of local and foreign individual donors and organizations, the United Nations and the neighbouring countries. The MILK is one of these organizations.

The Union Minister also called for participation of local people, local government, the State Hluttaw, NGOs and civil societies for the all-inclusive development of region, and the education programme is very instrumental in bringing about a better future for respective communities, including Rakhine State.

The agreement was signed between Director-General of Department of Disaster Management Dr Ko Ko Naing and Director of MILK Mr Tan Pohleng Stanley.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Fire-hit Yadanapon Market to reopen soon: MCDC

TWO days after the Yadanapon Market was damaged in a fire, officials announced yesterday that the market would be reopened soon.

A team led by Mandalay's Deputy Mayor yesterday inspected the market's first floor, which was engulfed by a fire on the night of 17 January. About half of the 150 shops on the first floor were damaged in the fire.

"We have inspected the durability of the building. Now, arrangements are being made by the Mandalay City Development Committee to reopen the market soon," said U Ye Mon, Deputy Mayor of Mandalay.

"Now, engineers are inspecting the market. It could take about four days to complete the checks. When their report comes out, we will arrange the reopening," he added. Shop owners were allowed to enter their shops yesterday so they could check their property.

Smoke from soundproof rooms that caught fire on the first floor had slowed firefighters as they tried to put out the blaze.

Diamond Plaza, which is located next to the Yadanapon Market, has also been closed for an electrical inspection, and it will reopen after the inspection is completed, according to the MCDC.

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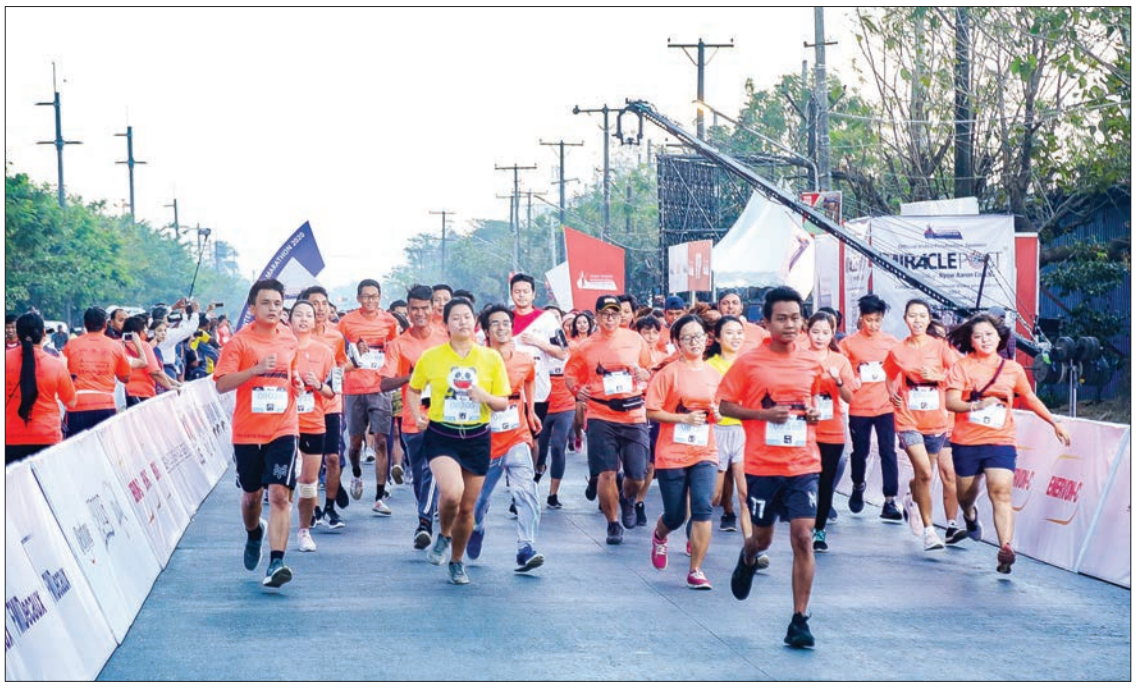
Over 11,000 runners take part in 8th Yoma Yangon International Marathon



Athletes participating in the 8th Yoma Yangon International Marathon. **PHOTO: MNA**

WITH aiming to connect communities both locally and internationally through a mutual passion for running and promoting healthy lifestyles in Myanmar, the 8th Yoma Yangon International Marathon was organized yesterday morning, with the participation of over 11,000 runners from Japan, Singapore, Thailand, China, Malaysia and France, together with the locals.

Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein, Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe, Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister U Zaw Aye Maung, Sports and Physical Education Department Director General U Myo Hlaing opened the event by flagging off the 42-km marathon, the 21-km marathon, the 10-km challenging marathon and 3-km race/walking contests at the Event Park in Thuwunnabhumi.

The participants passed through the significant areas of Botahtaung Pagoda, Shwedagon Pagoda and Inya Lake before reaching the end point Event Park.

Together with the local sports enthusiasts, runners from Japan, Singapore, Thailand, China, Malaysia and France joined the marathon event. —MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi makes working visit to Hawaii

Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi meets with Chairman of the Ethics Commission Mr Reynard D. Graulty and members. **PHOTO: MNA**

Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi made a study tour to Hawaii in the United State of America from 12 to 18 January.

During the visit, he held talks with senators, chief justice, deputy chief judge, members of judge panel, chairman of State Ethics Commission and its members, and officials from the Office of the Attorney General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and also met with the Civil Beat online media team.

The U.S officials shared their experience on fighting against corruption in line with the federal system, techniques and methods in these works.

The entourage of Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman included the representatives from the offices of Chief Justice of the Union, Union Attorney-General, Anti-Corruption Commission, media and civil societies.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Ethnic Affairs Minister attends celebration of Kokang families gathering in Yangon

THE Kokang Ethnic Literary and Cultural Association organized a gathering ceremony of Kokang families at the National Races Village in Yangon yesterday.

Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin attended the ceremony and made an opening remark, saying the government's supports in preservation of ethnic languages, literature and traditional cultures, and protecting the rights of ethnic people in accordance with the 2008 Constitution.

Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister of Yangon Region U Zaw Aye Maung extended greetings, followed by a welcoming speech of a representative from Kokang Ethnic Literary and Cultural Association.

At the celebration, Kokang ethnic people performed with traditional dances.

Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin then proceeded to the Kyaikkasan Sports Ground and inspected preparations for holding the 2020 edition of Myanmar Ethnic Culture Festival which will be jointly organized from 1 to 7 February by the Myanmar Ethnic Entrepreneurs' Association and the Entrepreneurs' Association of Kayah State under that management of Ministry of Ethnic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Hotel and Tourism, Yangon Region Government and Kayah State Government.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin, officials and ethnic youths pose for a group photo at the gathering ceremony of Kokang families at the National Races Village in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

Fire-hit Yadanapon Market to reopen soon: MCDC

FROM PAGE-1

The massive fire at the Mall started on 17 January– fire services personnel with nearly 200 fire engines tried to put out the fire for hours.

The fire was contained at 2:02 a.m. on 18 January and extinguished at 5:03 a.m. Five services personnel suffered minor injuries. Cause of the fire is under investigation, according to the Myanmar Fire Services Department. — Aung Thant Khaing

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"ICJ and Myanmar" panel discussion to be broadcast

A panel discussion titled "ICJ and Myanmar" will be broadcast on MRTV after the weather program of 8 pm and on Myanma Radio (MR) after the news of 8 pm on 20 January 2020.

Union Minister for the Office of State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Permanent Secretary of Union Attorney-General's Office Daw Thida Oo, and Legal Advisors U Thi Han Myo Nyunt and U Kyaw Tin as panellists and U Ko Ko as moderator will participate in the discussion. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Union Day: Proverbs game played at MraukU Community Centre

A proverbs game competition, the celebration to mark and welcome the 73rd Union Day, was held at the Community Centre of Information and Public Relations Department of MraukU District in Rakhine State yesterday.

The purpose of the game is to increase the intelligence quotient of students and to come to know the definitions of the Myanmar traditional proverbs.

At the game, senior clerk of the Information and Public Relations Department U Tin Win explained the rules of the game that should be known by the participated students.

A total of 24 students were grouped into six teams, and each team competed one another.

Winner Team No.3, first-runner up Team No.5 and second runner-up Team No.2 were awarded by the officials. — Khin Maung Tun (IPRD)

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Children participating in the proverbs game competition in Mrauk U yesterday. **PHOTO: KHIN MAUNG TUN (IRPRD)**

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Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe receives Taekwondo Honorary Dan

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe receives the Taekwondo Honorary Dan presented by Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe received the Taekwondo Honorary Dan presented by Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar Mr Lee Sang-hwa yesterday.

The presentation ceremony was held at the Lotte Hotel in Yangon.

The ambassador explained presenting the dan and the plans of Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH) for supporting preliminary healthcare services in collaboration with the Rakhine State's Department of Public Health and Medical Services commencing 2020.

The Union Minister said that his office is promoting physical activities for health, and working for generating excellent sports athletes.

He also expressed his appreciation for the planned healthcare services in Rakhine State. The ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein and officials from the ROK Embassy in Yangon.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Construction Minister opens new tarred road in Myingyan district

Union Minister U Han Zaw and officials open the new tarred road between Natogyi and Taungtha townships of Myingyan District, Mandalay Region yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

A new tarred road between Natogyi and Taungtha townships of Myingyan District, Mandalay Region, was opened yesterday morning.

The Village Development Department under the Ministry of Construction upgraded the stone-surface road to the 17-mile and 4-furlong with 12-ft width tarred road that directly links the two townships as a pilot project in the district, shortening the previous distance from 34 miles without crossing Myingyan Township.

The road will also benefit 24,420 local population from 3,726 households of 28 villages.

At the opening ceremony of the road, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw said the locals to preserve the roads for long-term use, and Acting Chief Minister of Mandalay Region explained the government's infrastructural development works.

The Union Minister, the Acting Chief Minister, Deputy Speaker of Regional Hluttaw Dr Khin Maung Htay, Director General of the Village Development Department U Khin Thet, Pyithu Hluttaw MP of Natogyi Township and Pyithu Hluttaw MP of Taungtha Township U Sit Aye cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the road.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

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BEHS Kywe Pwe gets new school building

A ceremony to hand over a new primary school building for the Basic Education High School in Kywe Pwe Town was held at the school yesterday.

The school building of Kywe Pwe Town in Ottwin Township, Toungoo District, Bago Region, was constructed and donated by Shwe Taung Foundation and Tokyu Construction Co, Ltd.

First, Bago Region Pyithu Hluttaw representative, ambassadors from the foreign embassies in Myanmar, departmental officials and officials from Shwe Taung Foundation and IBPC opened the school building by cutting ceremonial ribbons.

Bago Region Social Affairs Minister Daw Nyunt Nyunt Htay, Director-General U Ko Lay Win, ambassadors and officials open the new school building in Kywe Pwe yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Afterwards, Bago Region Social Affairs Minister Daw Nyunt Nyunt Htay, ambassadors, Director-General U Ko Lay Win of Basic Education Department, Patron of Shwe Taung Foundation U Aik Tun and Tokyu Construction Co, Ltd Chief Representative Mr Toshiaki Kamenoi unveiled the commemorative plaque of the school building by pressing a button.

The Region Social Affairs Minister also delivered a speech, and Patron of Shwe Taung Foundation explained the purpose of donating the new school building.

That was followed by the remarks of Chief Representative Mr Toshiaki Kamenoi, Director General U Ko Lay Win and Israeli Ambassador.

Vice Chairman of Shwe Taung Foundation U Aung Than and the Chief Representative of Tokyu Construction Co, Ltd handed over the school building to U Win Naing, the headmaster of the school, and ambassadors and members of Shwe Taung Foundation and IBPC also donated school accessories and school funds, followed by the headmaster and a town elder expressing thanks.

The 1,800 sq ft school building with two class rooms is 112th school building donated by Shwe Taung Foundation.—MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Me Nu Brick Monastery teeming with locals, tourists on weekends

WITH its rich ancient architecture, Me Nu Oak Kyaug (brick monastery), also known as Maha Aung Myae Bon Zan, is attracting crowds of tourists and locals on weekends and holidays.

"The ancient city of Inwa has seen an increase in tourism in recent days. Me Nu Oak Kyaung is one of the famous destinations in Inwa city for both locals and tourists. They come to explore the ancient architecture of the monastery," said locals.

Holiday makers throng the Me Nu Oak Kyaung (brick monastery) in Inwa. **PHOTO: IPRD**

The monastery was donated by King Bagyitaw of the Konbaung dynasty and Chief Queen Namadaw Me Nu in 1822. It was damaged in an earthquake in 1838 and restored in 1873 by Sinphyumashin, the daughter of Me Nu. The monastery is a 192x112x94 feet brick building, which is markedly different from traditional Myanmar monasteries, which have been constructed with wood. It is among the finest specimens of Myanmar architecture from the Konbaung dynasty (19th century).—IPRD

■ *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

The three short stories of a well-known writer Ma Sandar being discussed in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: YI YI THANT**

Three short stories of Ma Sandar discussed at literature circle

THE three short stories of a well-known writer Ma Sandar were discussed at the fiction writers' literature circle at the Shwe U Daung Hall of the News and Periodicals Enterprise on Theinbyu Road in Yangon yesterday.

This is the 35th colloquy of the second season of fiction writers' literature circle. At the event, female writers together read out the three short fictions of Ma Sandar "A Pain and A Pae Toe Ei Thamine or the history of the thin and the broken", " Kyauk Loe Yae Ma Hote Par Bu or Not being afraid of" and "+ × and ÷". Then, the attended short fiction lovers and author Ma Sandar exchanged views on the aesthetic stories.—Yi Yi Thant *(Translated by Kyaw 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@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com** with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish **"Letter to the Editor"** that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Myanmar-Thailand business matching event held in Myeik

IN a bid to strengthen trade relations between Myanmar and Thailand, a business matching event was held at the Pearl Laguna Resort in Myeik District of Taninthayi Region.

The matching event was jointly organized by the Prachuap-Myeik Trading and Investment Promotion Association (PMTA) and the Myeik District Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCI).

PMTA president Mr. Weera gave the welcoming speech at the event. Afterwards, MCCI officials and businessmen from the two countries discussed matters concerning trade relations at the Mawtaung border gate, the banking system in Prachuap and Myeik, permits for Thai citizens opening bank accounts in Myanmar, and the formation of a working group comprising ten representatives each from Myanmar and Thailand to promote trade. They also talked about the healthcare sector, tourism, and SME development. Later, they exchanged commemorative presents. About 100 PMTA members attended the business matching event. Border trade through Myeik gate was estimated at US$52.9 million in the past three months of the 2019-2020 fiscal year compared with $68.7 million registered in the year-ago period. —Myeik IPRD

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar-Thailand Relationship Business Matching Meeting being convened in Myeik on 18 January. **PHOTO: MYEIK IPRD**

Exports through Muse gate up $430 mln as of 10 Jan

THE value of Sino-Myanmar trade through the Muse gate jumped to US$1.6 billion between 1 October and 10 January in the current financial year, an increase of $520.34 million compared to the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Both exports and imports increased over the past three months of the current fiscal. While exports through the Muse gate rose considerably, crossing $1 billion, imports were valued at $554 million.

Muse is an important border gate in Myanmar and handles 50 per cent of the total border trade, in terms of volume. But, at times, it has witnessed a sharp drop in trade on account of China clamping down on illegal goods, resulting in a halt in trade of agricultural products.

In December, a change in China's import policy led to a decline in border exports of rice, sugar, corn, rubber, and live cattle compared with the year-ago period. In the month of December, Myanmar exported 30,000 tons of rice worth $21 million; 30,000 tons of sugar worth $19 million; over 70,000 tons of corn, valued at $15 million; 9,000 tons of rubber worth $11 million; and 53,700 heads of live cattle worth $64 million.

Meanwhile, the border exports of natural gas, rough jade stones, sesame seeds, fishery products, and watermelons and muskmelons were higher compared to the year-ago period. In the month of December, Myanmar exported natural gas worth $206.88 million, rough jade stones worth $85 million, sesame seeds worth $6.8 million, fishery products worth $3.9 million, and watermelon and muskmelon valued at $1.2 million.

During Chinese premier Xi Jinping's recent visit to Myanmar, Myanmar and China signed MoUs on Local Cooperation under the Framework for Joint Building of the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) between the Yunnan Province of China and the Mandalay Region of Myanmar, Protocol on Plant Inspection and Quarantine Requirements for Exporting Rice From Myanmar to China, Protocol for Heat Processed Cocoons to be imported from Myanmar to China, Protocol on Quarantine Health Requirements for Slaughter Bovine to be Exported from Myanmar to China, Exchange Letter for the Project of Agricultural Product Quality Control Centre, Establishment of the Working Group for the Promotion of Smooth Trade between the Ministry of Commerce of Myanmar and the Ministry of Commerce of China, and many other agreements.

Following the MoUs between Myanmar and China, bilateral trade will grow, said a market observer.

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

(Translated by EMM)

Domestic investments touch K638 bln, $119 mln in current fiscal

DOMESTIC investments by Myanmar citizens, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises, reached K638 billion and US$119 million as of 14 January in the current financial year, according to a press release issued by the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC).

Between 1 October and 14 January in the current fiscal, 26 local enterprises were allowed to invest in various sectors, with an estimated capital of over K549 billion and $102.36 million.

Domestic investments flowed into the real estate, manufacturing, hotels and tourism, construction, industrial estate, energy, mining, livestock and fisheries, agriculture, and other services sectors, according to figures from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

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

While some projects no longer need MIC approval, businesses that are strategic to the government require a permit from the commission. In addition, those businesses that have large capital investments exceeding $5 million and that may have a possible impact on the environment and the local community need to be approved by the DICA proposal assessment team.

With a fast-track way to set up a business in Myanmar having been introduced, investors can apply to the MIC or the state and regional investment committees for getting investment proposals endorsed, depending on the business type.—GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Over 7,800 commercial vehicles imported through Muse gate in Oct-Dec

A total of 7,871 commercial vehicles, worth an estimated US$47.228 million, have been imported between October and December in the current financial year through the Muse 105th border zone, according to news released online by the Ministry of Commerce.

During the October-December period, 705 light trucks, 1,149 brand new dumper trucks, 213 express buses, 295 prime mover heads, 195 wheel-loaders/excavators, 736 trawllergy, 4,578 three-wheeled motorcycles were imported through the Muse gate.

The value of vehicle imports at the Muse gate stood at $151.615 million in the 2018-2019FY, $87.437 million in the 2018 mini-budget period, and $325.366 million in the 2017-2018FY, as per data from the Commerce Ministry.

Imports of commercial vehicles and machinery have been permitted through sea ports and three border gates — Muse, Myawady, and Tachilek.

"Starting from 1 January, imports of commercial vehicles on a company license are not allowed. Importers are required to operate a car showroom in line with the prescribed rules and regulations. However, the new policy can pose difficulties for traders conducting business on a manageable scale," said importers.

A one-stop service has been provided at Muse gate for vehicle inspection and taxation.

Under the 2020 vehicle import policy, passenger vehicles such as mini-buses, city buses, express buses, and commercial trucks manufactured in 2016 and later can be imported. Heavy equipment that cannot be driven on public roads such as excavators, bulldozers, wheel loaders, and tower cranes are allowed to be brought into the country as long as they are 15 years old or less.—GNLM

(Translated by EMM)

TB patients in Kanbalu Township get free medical treatment

A mobile medical team of Sagaing Region Public Health Department has provided free medical treatments to the TB patients at the Basic Education Middle School of Lakehtu Village in Kanbalu Township in Sagaing Region yesterday.

The medical team comprised of medical superintendent Dr Nay Moe and health officials of 100-bed township hospital, heads of laboratories and doctors went to the villages, and gave educative talks on tuberculosis, informing the symptoms of TB.

The medical team also stressed the importance of receiving medical treatments by the TB patients as it could affect the health, education, business and social of their family members, and encouraged that TB disease doesn't need to be worried as it is recoverable if medicines are systematically and daily taken.

Afterwards, members of the TB investigation team and officials from Township Public Health Department took x-ray, checked thick mucus, found out diseases and provided treatment.

Village elders, village leader U Khin Maung Win and team, and teachers of education ministry also cooperated on the treatment activities.

TB patients not only from Lakehtu Village but also from Kaingtaw, Inngyin Su, Inngyin Myaing, Tauka Shark and Seik Phoo Myaing villages came and received the free medical treatment.

The medical team will also provide free TB treatments to the patients of Mae Htae, Htangone, Chatgyi and Koe Htaung Bo villages in Kantbalu Township, according to U Aung Min Naing of tuberculosis elimination department.— Aung Nyein Win (Kantbalu) ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Medical team provide free TB treatments to the patients from villages in Kanbalu Township.
PHOTO: AUNG NYEIN WIN (KANTBALU)

Photo shows the first nursing care workers from Myanmar to participate in Japan's foreign trainee program, pictured before their departure from Yangon on Jan. 6, 2019. **PHOTO : KYODO**

Japan to extend provisional certification for graduate care workers

TOKYO — Japan's welfare ministry plans to extend special transitional measures to fiscal 2026 that grant graduates of elderly care courses provisional certification without the need to pass a national exam, as part of efforts to alleviate a labor shortage in the sector, ministry sources said Sunday.

Officials hope that extending the measures, which were originally scheduled to end in fiscal 2021 through March 2022, will encourage an increasing number of foreigners to work in Japan after graduating from universities and vocational schools that train elderly care workers, the sources said.

The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare will submit a bill on the matter to the ordinary parliamentary session set to convene Monday.

With Japan expected to face a shortage of around 340,000 care workers by 2025, when the minimum age of the baby boomer generation will be 75, the government is pinning its hopes on the workplace-ready skills of graduates from training schools.

Ruling party lawmakers as well as related groups have expressed concern that the number of foreigners applying for elderly care courses will drop if the national exam is made compulsory. Others, however, argue passing the exam is essential to ensuring the quality of care. —Kyodo ■

Taal volcano in Philippines continues to spew ash

MANILA — Philippine authorities said Saturday that weak emissions continue to be observed from a volcano near the capital Manila that erupted last weekend.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said Taal Volcano remains at alert level 4, the second-highest warning, as a hazardous explosive eruption is still possible.

The volcano, located 60 kilometers from Manila on the island of Luzon, suddenly erupted on Sunday morning, sending ash up as high as 15 km into the air. Since then, the ash plumes have generally been under 1,000 meters high.

The number of evacuees from affected areas has surged to more than 160,000, more than doubling in recent days following the implementation of a lockdown in nearby municipalities, according to local media.

Based on data provided by the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council on Saturday, 37,355 families or 162,728 individuals were staying in evacuation centers, according to the Philippine Star. Health management is likely to become an issue as their displacement continues.

According to the Department of Agriculture, it is estimated that damage to agricultural crops such as rice and maize has amounted to over 3 billion pesos (approximately $58.9 million) due to the effects of ash fall.

The volcano, which is just 311 meters high, is one of the most active in the Philippines.— Kyodo ■

People in Tagaytay, south of Manila, look at Taal volcano spewing fumes on Jan. 13, 2020, following an eruption the previous day. **PHOTO : KYODO**

China's ZTE, local telecom firm start 5G technology trial in Uganda

KAMPALA — China's ZTE and MTN Uganda on Friday started 5G technology trial here to be the first who brings the Standalone 5G network into reality in east Africa as the region awaits it commercial roll out.

Uganda's Prime Minister Ruhakana Rugunda, who was the chief guest at the launch, said government supports the development of new technology provided it will solve people's challenges and make life easier and affordable.

He was optimistic that technologies like 5G will have an impact on the economic development of the country. Godfrey Mutabazi, executive director of the Uganda Communication Commission, said that as a regulator of the communications sector, they are working to ensure that there is appropriate infrastructure that supports 5G.

"If we accept this technology, this country will be the best in Africa," Mutabazi said, noting that Uganda is the first country in East Africa to have 5G technology and the third in Africa after South Africa and Nigeria. Wim Vanhelleputte, chief executive officer MTN Uganda, said 5G technology will have increased speeds and capacity with exact wireless connections but similar to fiber optic cable experience.

Vanhelleputte said this will enable easier wireless connections compared to running fiber optic cables to every facility or home.— Xinhua ■

Uganda's Prime Minister Ruhakana Rugunda (C) shakes hands with a robot that uses the 5G network during a 5G technology trial ceremony in Kampala, capital of Uganda, on Jan. 17, 2020. China's ZTE and MTN Uganda on Friday started 5G technology trial here to be the first who brings the Standalone 5G network into reality in east Africa as the region awaits it commercial roll out. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

New study finds why men are more cancer prone

WASHINGTON — While several health studies have indicated that men are at a higher risk of developing cancer as compared to women, a recent study finds the reason behind higher susceptibility towards this deadly disease.

The study has pinpointed the loss of function in certain genes of the sex-determining Y chromosome as a key factor that puts men at higher risk of cancer.

In the study that was published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, scientists used data from 9,000 individuals and studied Y-chromosome gene function in patients with various types of cancer. \

The findings showed that cancer risk increases with loss of function of six key Y-chromosome genes in various types of cells.

"Recent studies have shown that complete loss of the Y chromosome, which is essential to foetal sex differentiation, occurs, with ageing, in the cells of some men," commented Juan Ramon Gonzalez, coordinator of the study and head of the Bioinformatics Group in Genetic Epidemiology at ISGlobal.

"Although the loss of the Y chromosome has previously been associated with a higher incidence of cancer, the causes of this association are poorly understood."

These six Y-chromosome genes are involved in cell-cycle regulation, the failure of which can lead to tumour development.— ANI ■

UK looks to offshore wind for green energy transition

LONDON — Britain, a global leader in offshore wind energy, plans to make the sector one of the pillars of its transition to carbon neutrality in the coming decades.

The country aims to quadruple its offshore electricity production capacity by 2030 by utilising the windswept North Sea and a favourable policy environment.

"It's more conducive to build offshore in the UK than anywhere else in Europe," said James Brabben, of Cornwall Insight energy consultancy.

"There's quite a consensus of support around offshore wind from the public and politics," he told AFP.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government, returned to power with a thumping majority last month, pledged in its election manifesto to increase power from offshore wind from 10 to 40 gigawatts this decade.

It wants Britain to be carbon neutral by 2050, with onshore wind, solar, hydro and biomass also set to contribute to its energy mix.

The country already produces almost 40 percent of its electricity from renewable sources, according to figures published last week for the third quarter of 2019.

Planned expansions

Britain plans to favour the development of colossal offshore wind farms given the country's relatively small land mass.— AFP ■

Offshore wind currently provides about seven percent of British electricity. **PHOTO: AFP**

SpaceX to simulate astronaut ejection in final test

WASHINGTON — SpaceX will on Sunday simulate its emergency abort system on an unmanned spacecraft, the last major test before it plans to send NASA astronauts to the International Space Station.

The space company of entrepreneur Elon Musk, under contract with NASA, will launch its Crew Dragon capsule from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida between 8:00 am (1300 GMT) and 2:00 pm.

This test will check the capsule's ability to reliably carry crew to safety in the event of an emergency on ascent.

One minute and 24 seconds after takeoff, at an altitude of approximately 12 miles (19 kilometers) above the Atlantic, the Crew Dragon will trigger a planned ejection from the Falcon 9 rocket carrying it into the atmosphere.

The capsule's descent into the water will be slowed by parachutes, while the Falcon 9 is expected to break up.

The rocket could explode and possibly create "a fireball of some kind", said Benji Reed, director of crew mission management for SpaceX, at a press conference on Friday.

Originally scheduled for Saturday, the test was pushed back due to high winds and rough seas in the ditching area.

The success of this test is essential for SpaceX and for NASA, which urgently needs to certify a spacecraft to transport its astronauts to the ISS this year.

Since 2011, the United States has been obliged to have its astronauts travel on Russia's Soyuz rockets, the only available spacecraft since the retirement of the American shuttles.

In March 2019, SpaceX successfully made a one-week round trip to the ISS with Crew Dragon.— AFP ■

SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with the company's Crew Dragon attached, rolling out of the company's hangar at NASA Kennedy Space Center. **PHOTO: AFP**

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20 JANUARY 2020
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Improving health through schools

THE Myanmar Global School-based School Health Surveys were conducted twice — in 2007 and then in 2016. The surveys showed overall health behavior and risk factors across spectrums of health in students aged 13-15 years, ranging from dietary behaviors, hygiene, mental health, physical activity, alcohol and tobacco use, to protective factors, knowledge about HIV infection and AIDS, and violence and unintentional injuries.

Generally, students scored well on personal hygiene, including hand-washing before and after meals, as well as after using the toilet, and teeth brushing. The percentage of students who reported they rarely washed hands or cleaned teeth was very low.

> A political and financial commitment to the nationwide school health program would bring huge improvements to child health and education, improving the lives of millions of school-aged children.

The number of students who directly engaged in risk behaviors was also low. However, they were exposed to second-hand tobacco smoke in their environment. Regarding physical activity and dietary behavior, most students were at risk of becoming overweight, as most students were not physically active and did not consume fruits and vegetables on a regular basis.

When it comes to the school health program, approaches to the program in regions and states need to be pragmatic, with setting of priorities, drawing of timelines, and adoption of tasks.

To ensure strong linkages between responsible departments, tasks for the departments should be clearly laid down.

Generally, the School Health Division of the Department of Public Health is responsible for planning and implementation of the school health program in Myanmar. Its state or region directors are also responsible for school health program activities in their states and regions.

But, success cannot be achieved without active participation from school heads, teachers, and parents. As they get increasingly involved in their child's education, parents should support child health and well-being and encourage children to be fit.

A political and financial commitment to the nationwide school health program would bring huge improvements to child health and education, improving the lives of millions of school-aged children.

Such a commitment would ensure minimum standards of school-based health services and a safe environment.

In addition to multi-sectoral collaboration, human resource mobilization and improved teacher and health provider training is required to turn the teaching workforce into low-cost champions of basic child health.

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Geopark: The Relationship between Mt. Tuyin and Bagan Kingdom

Than Htun (Myanmar Geosciences Society)

(CONTINUED FROM ARTICLE ON 18 JAN)

THERE were also tamarind trees along the space taken up by this long line of people to provide shelter from the sun and the tree must have been larger enough to give necessary shade (Dr. Ma Tin Win, 2009). There have been some scholars who maintain that there is no evidence to claim that the Shwezigon was built of stone or that this pagoda is the meritorious deed of King Anawrahta. For many years although history books mentioned that the Shwezigon was built by King Anawrahta the issue remained unsolved for there was no definite knowledge about it. Most history texts also said that Anawratha did not live long enough to see the completion of his work of merit and that he died after three of the terraces had been built and the relics just enshrined. It remained an open question for thousands of years due to lack of evidence. However, when a violent earthquake occurred in Bagan and its environs on 8th July 1975, its tremors revealed hidden historical evidence.

Dammayangyi Temple, the widest temple in Bagan, and its sandstone bricks.

Due to the intensity of the tremors large chunks of concrete as well as gold were dislodged and it was then discovered that the great pagoda had been built entirely of stone bricks from the base, and right up to the level of the decorative inverted lotus and spreading lotus encircling it. In renovating the pagoda after the earthquake the authorities left a two foot square space uncovered at the base on the south-eastern side of the pagoda as indubitable evidence that it had been built of stone bricks. The bricks in the space uncovered had been so skillfully that it is impossible to insert even a pin between two bricks.

Kyaukgu U-min Cave

The cave was built of bricks and rocks and was thus called the Kyaukgu U-min (Rock Cave Tunnel). This is one of the three structures of Bagan built with rocks. Another one was the Sekku Taik near Myakan that can no longer be found today and the third is the Nan Hpaya still standing prominently today. Kyaukgu U-min is therefore one of the more prominent grotto pagodas of Bagan.

There are three terraces in Kyaukgu U-min. Facing the gully, a huge Holy Image with a spacious prayer hall sits facing the entrance archway. At the back of the Image are tunnels. The lower storey of the front part of the structure was built of rocks and the upper storey built of bricks. On the inside wall of the upper storey are niches where there probably were Holy Images originally. The Kyaukgu U-min is located in a peaceful and quiet area suitable used as a recluse for ascetics. Venerable monks had therefore dwelled there since the days of Bagan Period. The place still is very suitable for those who want to meditate (Paragu, 2013).

The Nan Hyapa

When King Anawrahta waged battel against the kingdom of Thaton and he brought back King Manuha to Bagan as captive and kept him under restraint. The Nan Hpaya was built for worship in the locale of King Manuha's residence, hence the name, Nan Hpaya or Palace Pagoda. It could be ascertained that the location of the Nan Hpaya is actually the place where Manuha was held captive, then the king's residence and the Manuha Temple built by him is just within hailing distance. Some historians maintain that Nan Hpaya was also built by King Manuha. It would appear that Manuha had been permitted freedom to certain extent, for not only was he able to build the Manuha Temple, he was also able to build a rather palatial pagoda for worship in the area of his residence. There is a kind of throne room in the Nan Hpaya. Some historians however, are of the opinion that Nan Hpaya was built not by Manuha but by his grandson, Naga Thaman. But some others contend that Naga Thaman was great grandson and not the grandson of King Manuha as some had claimed (Paragu, 2013).

The Nan Hpaya's foundation is squarish in design and is a vaulted temple with the façade of the main prayer chamber facing east. Due to its personalized architectural design it differs greatly from that of the other stupas and temples. The exterior walls are entirely lined with stone bricks. In Bagan, there now remain only two temples with their entire walls lined with stone bricks. One is the Nan Hpaya and the other is the Kyaukgu U-min (Stone Cave temple). You will gaze upon with wonder the marvelous stone sculpture of the Bagan Era.

> Dammayangyi Pagoda is the most intriguing and interesting of all the pagodas in the Bagan vicinity. From which ever direction one looks, there is the Dammayangyi looming up towards the sky.

These stone sculptures have withstood the assault of the elements continuously for 890 years, thus attesting to the artistic excellent of Bagan era stone sculpture. Here again could be seen the best samples of stone sculpture of which the most fascinating are the four large pillars. These stone pillars had been built with arches and on each of the sixteen sides of these pillars had been sculptured the four-faced Brahma holding triangular Kanoke flowers and lotus blooms (Paragu, 2013).

Lokananda chedi

Furthermore, after the author review the construction of Lokananda chedi it is mentioned that the footprint of the Buddha in stone now seen at the Bagan Museum was found on the platform of the Lokananda chedi. The lower part of Lokananda chedi is built of sandstone and the upper level of bricks. There are so many fascinating and interesting facts and features of Bagan that in writing about it one has to be extra careful not to inadvertently leave out what is important.

Dammayangyi

Dammayangyi Pagoda is the most intriguing and interesting of all the pagodas in the Bagan vicinity. From which ever direction one looks, there is the Dammayangyi looming up towards the sky. It is certainly the largest pagoda in the whole of Bagan. Originally there were two ambulatory corridors around the central square block of the building but the entire inner corridor has been filled up with bricks, and the entrance and archways from the outer to the inner corridor have for some unknown reason, been sealed off with bricks. The author excitedly observed left and right sides of the arch wall has been laid three (8inch x 1ft x1ft) pale green sandstone bricks on both sides which are about 6ft high. Those sandstones are identical to the sandstone bricks of Shwezigon Pagoda. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the Tuyin Taung sandstone was used for many buildings and pagodas during Bagan Dynasty before or after building Shwezigon Temple. The relationship between mother Earth and human beings are inevitable since prehistoric days and it is eternal relationship between man and Earth.

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1. **Swezigon Pagoda Trustees,1994. A Guide to Shwezigon Pagoda**
2. **Dr. Ma Tin Win, 2009. The Great donors of Bagan and Their Religious Monuments**
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4. **H.L.Chhibber, 1934. The Geology of Burma**

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 19th January, 2020)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 20th January, 2020: Light rain will be isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, Southern Shan and Chin States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-6) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of isolated rain in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th January, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th January, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 20th January, 2020: Fair weather.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to **ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com** with the following information: **(1)** Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), **(2)** Own name and (if different) your penname, **(3)** Your level of education, **(4)** Name of your School/College/University, **(5)** A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, **(6)** A color photo of the submitter, **(7)** Copy of your NRC card, **(8)** Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— **Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar**

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Ri Yong Ho replaced as N. Korea's top diplomat: report

Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Ri Yong Ho (3rd, L) attends an activity in Hanoi, Vietnam, March 1, 2019. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

BEIJING — North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho, a career diplomat, has been replaced, North Korea-focused news site NK News reported Sunday, possibly signaling a shift in the country's dealings with Washington and Seoul.

Ri, who served as North Korea's top diplomat since 2016, has been succeeded by Ri Son Gwon, head of the Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, a state agency in charge of handling inter-Korean affairs, the report said, citing multiple unnamed sources in Pyongyang.

Ri Yong Ho did not appear in a group photo of top officials of the ruling Workers' Party of Korea following a meeting of its Central Committee at the end of last year, sparking questions about his status. Some speculated whether he was dismissed over the ongoing deadlock in denuclearization negotiations between North Korea and the United States.

North Korean ambassadors including those to China and the United Nations have in recent days returned to Pyongyang, possibly for a meeting of the country's senior diplomatic corps following the change at the top of the ministry.

Ri Son Gwon is a former officer in the Korean People's Army.—Kyodo News

Heavy snow hampers search for missing S. Korean, Nepal trekkers

Helicopters were sent out on Saturday to rescue about 200 people stranded around Annapurna and other nearby mountains after the avalanche. **HOTO: AFP**

KATHMANDU — Avalanches, heavy snow and poor visibility hampered the search Sunday for four South Koreans and three Nepalis caught in an avalanche in the popular Annapurna region of the Himalayas, officials said

Relatives of the missing Koreans have arrived in Kathmandu alongside several officials sent by Seoul to help with the emergency rescue efforts, Ang Dorjee Sherpa of the Korean Alpine Federation told AFP.

The missing group was near the Annapurna base camp around 3,230 metres (10,600 feet) above sea level when the avalanche struck after heavy snowfall on Friday. "Our team reached the area but could not proceed with their search because of more avalanches. We are exploring ways to move the operation forward," said Mira Acharya from Nepal's tourism department.

Rescuers were working with Korean officials to deploy drones in the search on Monday, said Dilip Gurung of the tourism management committee in Chhomrong, which lies on the trekking route.

"It is difficult for people to go. We will try to fly drones to help find something," Gurung said.

Helicopters were sent out on Saturday to rescue about 200 people stranded around Annapurna and other nearby mountains after the incident. Guesthouses and the trekking route were blanketed in a thick layer of snow.

"The snow was very deep and it took us more than double the time to dig through and walk," said Jeevan Dahal, a guide who was rescued by helicopter.

"We saw the avalanche-hit area from the helicopter. Everything was white."—AFP

Helicopters, drones help ease China's travel pressure

GUANGZHOU -- Helicopters and drones are lending a helping hand in easing transportation pressure during China's annual travel rush.

To help guarantee smooth journeys, transportation authorities have begun using drones and helicopters to patrol expressways in the cities of Guangzhou, Zhaoqing and Shaoguan in southern China's Guangdong Province.

The vehicles can track traffic accidents quickly and help assist rescue workers to avoid traffic jams, according to transportation police in Guangdong.

Authorities estimated that about 3 billion trips will be made during this year's 40-day "chunyun," or Spring Festival travel rush from Jan. 10 to Feb. 18, according to the National Development and Reform Commission.—Xinhua

FILE PHOTO: Two traffic police officers prepare a drone to help them monitor highway condition in Guangzhou, South China's Guangdong provinc. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

China reports 17 new cases of mystery virus

BEIJING —China reported 17 new cases of the mysterious SARS-like virus on Sunday, including three people in serious condition, heightening fears ahead of China's Lunar New Year holiday when hundreds of millions of people move around the country.

The new coronavirus strain has caused alarm because of its connection to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which killed nearly 650 people across mainland China and Hong Kong in 2002-2003.

Of the 17 new cases in the central city of Wuhan — believed to be the epicentre of the outbreak — three were described as "severe", of which two patients were too critical to be moved, authorities said.

Those infected range from 30 to 79 years old.

The virus has now infected 62 people in Wuhan, city authorities said, with eight in a severe condition, 19 recovered and discharged from hospital, and the rest in isolation receiving treatment.

Two people have died so far from the virus, including a 69-year-old man on Wednesday after the disease caused pulmonary tuberculosis and damaged multiple organ functions.

Authorities said they had begun "optimised" testing of pneumonia cases across the city to identify those infected, and would begin "detection work... towards suspected cases in the city" as a next step, as well as carrying out "sampling tests".—AFP

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Russian activists take aim at Putin in march against repression

MOSCOW —More than a thousand opposition activists of various stripes marched in central Moscow on Sunday after President Vladimir Putin proposed re-drafting the constitution, unleashing political upheaval.

Protesters -- mostly young anti-fascist activists -- chanted "Revolution" and "No to dictatorship" and some carried copies of the constitution.

The annual sanctioned march was called to commemorate the memory of lawyer Stanislav Markelov and journalist Anastasia Baburova who were gunned down in Moscow by ultra-nationalists in 2009.

A number of independent local deputies including Yulia Galyamin and opposition-minded Russians joined the march, carrying copies of the constitution and chanting "Putin leave!".

Several people including a protester who carried a placard urging Putin to quit power were detained by police.

More than 1,400 people took part in the march, said the White Counter group which monitors political protests.

The march took place after Putin stunned the nation on Wednesday proposing sweeping amendments to the constitution, the first major changes to the country's basic law since it was adopted under Boris Yeltsin in 1993.

The move triggered the resignation of his government.

Many observers have said Putin's proposals are designed to ensure his grip on power after he leaves the Kremlin and his critics have accused him of orchestrating a "constitutional coup".—AFP ■

The march wasn't supposed to be about Putin, but many had a go at him anyway. **PHOTO: AFP**

Bodies of Ukrainian victims of downed plane repatriated from Iran

Relatives and colleagues attend a tribute ceremony and react in front of the flag-draped coffins of the 11 Ukrainians who died in a plane mistakenly shot down by Iran during a spike in tensions with Washington. **PHOTO: AFP**

KIEV The flag-draped coffins of the 11 Ukrainians who died in a plane mistakenly shot down by Iran during a spike in tensions with Washington arrived in Kiev on Sunday.

President Volodymyr Zelensky, Prime Minister Oleksiy Goncharuk and other officials attended the solemn ceremony at Kiev's Boryspil airport to see caskets with the remains of the downed plane's nine Ukrainian flight crew and two passengers being removed from the aircraft.

Ukraine International Airlines staff, some in tears, stood on the tarmac clutching flowers, according to live video footage.

The airline staff and relatives formed two lines to make a corridor through which the honour guard carried the caskets draped in the yellow-and-blue flag of Ukraine.

Some men fell to one knee to honor the victims.

The honour guard also held flags of the countries whose citizens perished in the crash.

The Kiev-bound UIA Boeing 737, crashed shortly after taking off from Tehran on January 8, killing all 176 people on board, mostly Iranian and Canadian citizens.

The caskets were to remain for a while at the airport terminal so that relatives and members of the airline could say their last goodbyes.

The funerals are expected to be held on Monday.

The Boeing crashed shortly after Iran launched missiles at US forces in Iraq in response to the killing of top Iranian general Qasem Soleimani in a US drone strike in Baghdad on January 3.

Tehran admitted it had mistakenly shot down the plane several days later.—AFP ■

World powers seek elusive Libya peace in Berlin talks

BERLIN—World leaders gathered in Berlin on Sunday to make a fresh push for peace in Libya, in a desperate bid to stop the conflict-wracked nation from turning into a "second Syria".

Chancellor Angela Merkel will be joined by the presidents of Russia, Turkey and France and other world leaders for talks from around 2:00 pm (1300 GMT) held under the auspices of the United Nations.

The summit's main goal is to get foreign powers wielding influence in the region to stop interfering in the war -- be it through weapons, troops or financing.

Leaders of both warring factions -- strongman Khalifa Haftar and the head of Tripoli's UN-recognised government Fayez al-Sarraj -- are also expected at what is the first such gathering since 2018.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday said the summit could be "an important step on the way to cementing the ceasefire and a political solution" in Libya.

But pro-Haftar forces upped the ante ahead of the talks by blocking oil exports at Libya's key ports, crippling the country's main income source in protest at Turkey's decision to send troops to shore up Sarraj's Tripoli-based Government of National Accord (GNA).

The move underlined the devastating impact of foreign influence in the crisis, in which Sarraj's GNA is backed by Turkey and Qatar while Haftar has the support of Russia, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates.—AFP ■

Fears are growing that Libya could become the theatre of a proxy war fought by several international powers. **PHOTO: AFP**

China launches new system for credit records

BEIJING — China's central bank on Sunday launched a new system to better disclose credit records of both individuals and enterprises.

The new system will provide more details of the credit status in a better format, such as co-borrowing records and loan repayment records, according to the People's Bank of China (PBOC).

The system update, reflecting recent developments in financial technologies, came in response to increased public demand for more effective credit information and service improvement, said the PBOC.

Other details to be added to the individual's credit report include employment status, nationality and credit agreement information. For enterprises, inquirers will obtain further information like revolving overdraft and late payments.

The new system has also intensified the management and protection of user identity and information transmission to ensure information security, said the PBOC. China first launched its credit record system in 2006. By the end of 2019, the system had kept records for more than 1 billion individuals and 28.34 million enterprises and organizations. Some 2.5 billion inquiries have been conducted with the system so far, according to the central bank.— *Xinhua*

The new system will provide more details of the credit status in a better format, such as co-borrowing records and loan repayment records, according to the People's Bank of China (PBOC). **PHOTO: XINHUA**

US crop futures mixed in week of trade deals

Aerial view of trucks lining up near the border fence to cross to the United States at Otay Commercial port of entry in Tijuana, Baja California state, Mexico, on December 10, 2019. **PHOTO: AFP**

CHICAGO —Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) crop futures ended this past week mixed as the United States signed or passed important deals with its key trading partners including China, Canada and Mexico.

The most active corn contract for March delivery was up 3.5 cents, or 0.9 percent week on week, to close at 3.8925 U.S. dollars per bushel. March wheat was up 6 cents, or 1.1 percent, to settle at 5.705 dollars per bushel. March soybeans were down 16.25 cents, or 1.71 percent, to close at 9.2975 dollars per bushel.

China and the United States signed their long-awaited phase-one economic and trade agreement in Washington on Wednesday. The U.S. Senate on Thursday passed a sweeping economic pact with Canada and Mexico following House approval in December 2019.

Market participants generally expect that the China-U.S. trade deal will significantly increase U.S. crop sales to China.

Yet CBOT crop futures failed to post further gains immediately after the signing ceremony. Some analysts said the big event was already priced in.

According to CBOT data, Chicago soybean futures gained some 70 cents in the previous six weeks. A double-digit plunge on Wednesday in soybean prices offered a chance for bargain hunters.

"We're at the bottom end of the range, which I think might represent a decent buying opportunity," said Oliver Sloup, vice president of Blue Line Futures.

Some others cited competition from South American crops, expressing doubts about the scale of the Chinese purchases of U.S. soybeans, especially when new crop supply from Brazil becomes available in February.— *Xinhua*

Yangon Sailing Club
Annual General Meeting

All members of Yangon Sailing Club are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held as follows:

Date : 26 January 2020
Place : Yangon Sailing Club
Time : 10:30 hrs

Hon. Secretary
Yangon Sailing Club

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICTY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(31/2019)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-192(19-20)	Electrical Accessories for Oil and Gas Field (1) Lot	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-193(19-20)	Mud Chemicals (4) Items	Ks
	{Retender for DMP/L-035(2019-2020)}		

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from **20 January 2020** at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No. (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **14:00 pm** on **20 February 2020**.
4. Tender Closing Date & Time – **20-2-2020, 14:00 pm**

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph No. + 95 67 – 411206

Lotte Group founder Shin Kyuk Ho dies

SEOUL — Shin Kyuk Ho, the founder of Lotte Group, one of South Korea's biggest and best-known conglomerates, died Sunday, Yonhap News Agency reported. He was 99, according to the report.

Shin, whose Japanese name is Takeo Shigemitsu, was born in South Korea and moved to Japan in the early 1940s when the Korean Peninsula was under Japanese colonial rule.

After World War II, he started manufacturing cosmetics in Tokyo, and went on to found Lotte in Tokyo in 1948 as a chewing gum maker and distributor. It later expanded into South Korea.

The company now makes confectionary and operates hotels, golf links and restaurants as well as professional baseball teams in Japan and South Korea.

In Japan, he became chairman of Lotte Holdings Co. in 2009, effectively leaving the front lines of management. In 2015, he became the company's honorary president.

While Yonhap reported his age as 99, Lotte said in an obituary he was a year younger, while his family registry put his age at 97.—*Kyodo News*

This file photo shows a general view of the Lotte tower (front C) and Namsan tower (rear C) amid the Seoul city skyline and Han river during sunset. **PHOTO: AFP**

Law on compulsory receipts sets Germans grumbling

BERLIN— In January it became law in Germany that retailers must print a receipt for every last transaction in a bid to fight tax evasion, but shopkeepers, customers and industry groups are already bucking against the scheme.

"Small shops' cash registers already have electronic chips that tax officials can read any time. Why should we go back to the old system?" asked Christian Koch, owner of Hammett, a specialist crime novel shop in Berlin.

"It's a pain, of the 50 tickets I print each day I'll throw 49 straight in the bin," he added.

Even bakers selling rolls for a few dozen euro cents each must now print a receipt for every transaction—even when their customer doesn't want one.

With their high numbers of small sales each day now generating reams of unwanted documentation, bakeries and snack stands are especially outraged by the change in the law.

"I've already emptied this once," said a worker at Frankfurt sausage stand "Best Worscht in Town", pointing to a bin overflowing with discarded slips of paper during the busy lunch hour trade.

"It's a really stupid idea for the environment."

German retailers and customers are unhappy with the requirement that a receipt must be printed for each transaction. **PHOTO: AFP**

Tax evasion

Obligatory receipts were voted through in 2016, but the law slipped under the public radar until shortly before it came into effect on January 1.

Economy Minister Peter Altmaier asked Finance Minister Olaf Scholz to give up on the plans, especially because receipts printed on thermal paper cannot be recycled.

Since then, retailers' federation HDE has also written to Scholz, asking him to exempt businesses that issue more than 500 receipts per day on average.

"That's one receipt per minute for a shop open nine hours a day," the group said in the document, seen by AFP.

Until now Scholz has resisted all such calls, saying the fight against tax evasion—estimated at around 10 billion euros by tax officials—must include preventing shops and restaurants from failing to record transactions properly.

"I don't think small shops are really trying to get out of paying their taxes," said Sarah, a shopper at Hammett.

"They should worry more about people like Amazon, make them pay their taxes in Germany," she added.—AFP

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK WOLGAST VOY.NO. (001S/003N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK WOLGAST VOY.NO. (001S/003N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20-1-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/TMT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Trade Mark Ads Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355,09974424848

Invitation for Bids

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
National Electrification Project
Credit No 5727-MM

Date: 20th January 2020

Contract Title: Installation of Distribution Lines and Transformers for Magway, Naypyitaw, Rakhine and Chin

Reference No: MOEE-NEP-P2/C1-W1/2020

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the National Electrification Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for **Installation of Distribution Lines and Transformers for Magway, Naypyitaw, Rakhine and Chin**
2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for **Installation of Distribution Lines and Transformers for Magway, Naypyitaw, Rakhine and Chin in the following locations**
The number and identification of lots comprising this bidding process is:
Lot 1: Magway Region – 60 Villages
Lot 2: Magway Region & Naypyitaw – 59 Villages
Lot 3: Magway Regoin & Rakhine State – 63 Villages
Lot 4: Magway Region – 66 Villages
Lot 5: Magway Region – 55 Villages
Lot 6: Magway Region – 41 Villages
Lot 7: Magway Region – 40 Villages
Lot 8: Magway Region & Chin State – 40 Villages
3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers* ("Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Management Office (National Electrification Project), Project Manager *and* nep.pmomoee@gmail.com] and inspect the bidding documents during office hours [09:30 to 16:00 hours] at the address given below.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below. The Bidding Documents will be issued through email only.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **18th February 2020**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below.
7. All bids must be accompanied by "Bid-Security"
8. The address (es) referred to above is (are):
Attention: **Project Manager**
Project Management Office (National Electrification Project)
Office Building No.27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy
City: **Nay Pyi Taw**
Country: **The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
Zip Code: **15011**
Telephone: **+95 67 3431175**
Facsimile number: **+95 673431176**
Electronic mail address: **nep.pmomoee@gmail.com**

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION OT OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr No	Tender No	Description
1.	12(T)30/MR(MC/MIT)	Wheel Steel Solid Type (Y) (600) Nos
	Euro/ 19-20	Wheel Steel Solid Type (YD) (1500) Nos
	Closing Date & Time-	17.2.2020 (Monday) (14:30) Hrs

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 17.1.2020 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 291994

Renovation Plan of Kayin State Medicinal Plant Resource Center (KSMPRC), Hpa-an

Kayin State Medicinal Plant Resource Center based in Hpa-an, Kayin State is seeking expression of interest from private sector to develop a basic design to renovate the facility to meet the requirement of HACCP.

The facility of agro-processing and related activity was established in 2016, and now willing to upgrade its facility and hygiencial to the level of HACCP requirement.

The interested companies may sent a letter expression interest on Company on letterhead together with a copy of company registration as well as a record of professional work related to the development of design of agro-processing factory. The letter should be titled "Expression of Interest: KSMPRC" and please send it to following address by 31.Jan.20.
Mail Address: chawsulynn@ksmprc.com
Yangon Office: No.2-10, Union Business Center (UBC), Nat Mauk Road, Bo Cho Quarter, Bahan T/s.

A trending travel destination in Northern Myanmar

By Kyaw Htike Soe

THE years-long armed conflicts, poor infrastructure and transportation network, and fewer investments have impeded Kachin State's development. Kachin State is famed for its abundant natural resources such as gold, timber, amber and jade. In addition, Kachin State has many unspoiled tourist attraction spots such as Mt Hkakaborazi, which are the only snow-capped mountains to be found in Southeast Asia and the Indawgyi Lake, one of the largest inland lakes in Southeast Asia.

With its mix of culture, history, and undamaged natural beauty, Kachin State can become one of Myanmar's top emerging tourist destinations. Local visitors are allowed to freely travel to Myitsone, the confluence of May Kha and Malikha Rivers, the snow-capped mountains in Putao Township, the Hukaung tiger sanctuary in Tanai Township, and Lido Road built in the Second World War. The Indawgyi Lake is famous for the Shwe Myintzu Pagoda and it takes four hours from Myitkyina to Indawgyi by car. The Indawgyi area is being conserved with the help of a German development partner, and majority of foreign visitors come from Germany, said an administrator of the Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary. Two towns and 33 villages are located within the Indawgyi area, which was designated an ASEAN Heritage Park in 2013, a Ramsar Site in 2016, and a Biosphere Reserve in 2017.

Over 10, 000 international travelers visited the Indawgyi Lake in Mohnyin Township in 2019, according to the figure from the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre. The tourists enjoy boat rides in the lake, trek the mountain near the lake, and observe bird species and monkeys, and traditional customs of indigenous people, said an official from the Indawgyi Wetland Education Center. Meanwhile, tourist arrivals to Kachin State declined to 12,000 in 2019, a sharp drop in numbers of tourists visiting Myanmar's northernmost state. But the number of Chinese visitors who came to Kachin State through the land borders with border passes is skyrocketing. Chinese tourists who visited Kachin State by using border passes rose to around 165,000 in 2019.

Despite the number of Chinese travelers to Kachin State is on the rise significantly, there is a lot of room for improvement of tourism industry. "Kachin State is a very promising area for the businessmen who want to operate tourism industry. Kachin State has plenty of natural resources including fantastic natural scenery, social status and traditional culture of the ethnic people. If tourism industry is developed in Kachin State, there will be more job opportunities for local people inevitably," said an official who declined to be identified from the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism. He continued that the DHT has been conducting hotel service training courses in Kachin State due to its potential tourism industry development. The DHT turned out roughly 1,000 trainees during the period from January 2016 to November 2019, creating many job opportunities for local people.

The DHT also conducts language proficiency courses and basic tour guide training courses for human resource development. In addition, the local government is attempting its utmost to woo more tourists to the area by organizing invitational sports events and showcasing natural sceneries and traditional food. At the same time, the local government has been creating new destinations and ecotourism for globetrotters. Local authorities are exerting efforts to further expand travel routes and promote ecotourism industry in Kachin State. Tourists travel to Kachin State to enjoy the natural scenery of riverbed villages, visit elephant camps and observe living style of marine workers. The local government is very interested in promoting the ecotourism and community-based tourism in the area.

The number of hotels in Kachin State has increased to 29 with a capacity of 860 rooms

A visitor enjoys boat ride in the Indawgyi Lake in Mohnyin Township. **PHOTO: WIN NAING – KACHIN LAND**

Photo shows one of the newly-built hotels in Kachin State's capital Myitkyina. **PHOTO: IPRD**

in 2018 from 26 with a capacity of 714 rooms in 2017. There are five hotels under construction in Kachin State, according to the DHT. More than 24,000 tourists visited in 2018, an increase of the number of globetrotters over 10,000 compared with the same period previous year. Nearly 109,000 travelers including 13,563 foreigners visited Kachin State in 2017 whereas 103,972 visitors including 24,421 globetrotters traveled to the area in 2016.

Tourists visit the Indawgyi Lake, one of the largest inland lakes in Southeast Asia. **PHOTO: DHT**

Useful Information

JAPANESE CUISINE

AJISHIN

No.192, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Myanmar Plaza, 4th Floor, Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar. *Ph; 09-970890390*, Time- 10:00 to 23:00 (Open Daily)

ANAIMO

No. 300, Mahabandula Park Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. *Ph; 01-378022.*Time- 11:30-14;00/ 17;30-22;00
(Saturday only evening and Sunday off)

BIKKURA SUSHI & SASHIMI JAPANESE RESTAURANT

No. 16, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.*Ph:09-799566917, 09-36714873.* 10:30-22;30 (Open Daily)

BUSHIDO

No. 75/ AB Boyar Nyunt Street, Dagon Township, Yangon.*Ph:09-260031197/ 09- 420231330.* 10:00-22:00 (Sunday Off)

CHO JAPANESE DINNING & BAR

Level (1), Garden Wing, Beside Lobby Lounge.(Inside Sedona Hotel), Yangon *Ph:09-258322223/ 09-261322223.* Lunch 11:30-14:30/ Tea Time 14:30-18:00/
Dinner 18:00-23:00(Open Daily)

DINNING FUKUROU

No. 37, Kabar Pagoda Road, Inside of Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon. *Ph:09-260031197 09-420231330.*11:00-22:00 (Open Daily)

EDOZUSHI

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon.*Ph:056-23150-53/ 056- 23313-318(Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020.*11:00-21:00(Open Daily)

(3) YAKINIKU FUKAGAWA

A-1, Star City, Kyaik Khauk Pagoda Road, Thanlyin Township, Yangon.*Ph: 056-23150-53/ 056- 23313-318(Ext-1183)/ 09-2560-75020,*11:00-21:00(Open Daily)

FUJINOBO

(Cherry Hill Hotel) No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon.*Ph: 09-450067052,* 06:00-09:30/ 11:30-14:00/ 17:00-22:30 (Open Daily)

FURUSATO

No. 137, West Shwe Gone Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon.*Ph: 01-556265/ 09-73081914.* 11:00-14:00/ 17:00-22:00(Open Daily)

GEKKO

535, Merchant Street, Kyauktada Township, 4th Quarter, Yangon.*Ph: 01-386986,* 09:00-23:00(Open Daily)

HIMARI MYANMAR

Pearl Condo, Block D, Ground Floor, Units-G-10, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon,*Ph: 09-775330494.* 11:30-14:00/ 14:00-22:00(Open Daily)

HOKKAIDO JAPANESE RESTAURANT

No. 24/ 26, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Golden Hill Tower(A), Bahan Township, Yangon.*Ph: 09-250537315.* 11:00-14:00/ 17:00- 21:30 (Open Daily)

HOT POT KING and Hot pot and BBQ

Buffet Restaurant

No - 26/27, Thitsar Road and Corner of Wai Za Yan Dar Road, South Okkalapa, Yangon.*Tel - 09 777777 008, 09 09 777777 009, 09 777777 883.*

Hot Pot City 8 Miles

No(33), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road (7.34 km) 095 Yangon,*Ph:09 797 799111,*11:00-22:00(Open Daily)

101 Hot Pot & Sushi

No.141, West Shwegondaing Road,Bahan T/s. near Yuzana Hotel. (1.78 km), 11201 Yangon. 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Little Sheep Hot Pot Myanmar

14/14B Kanbawza Street Golden Valley (1) Bahan Township (1.71 km),Yangon.
Ph: 09443399701, 09443399702, 11:00-23:00

HOTEL

BELMOND GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

No. 35, Taw Win Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-229860 01-229861.*

CHATRIUM

No. 40, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-544500/ 01-544244.*

CHERRY HILLS HOTEL

No. 520/4 A, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Shwe-gon Daing, Bahan Township, Yangon.
Ph:01-559722.

HOTLE 51

No. 154/ 156, 51st. Upper Pazundaung Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-200823/ 09-429918554.*

HOTEL KAN KAW

No.93(A), Hnin Si Gone Road, Ahlone Township, Yangon.
Ph: 01-228566/ 01-2301700/ 01-1221731.

HOTLE SIDNEY

No. 8L/Mindhama Road, Between Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road and Parami Road, Mayangone Township.
Ph: 01-655770/ 01-9669600-02.

INYA LAKE HOTEL

No.37, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon.*Ph: 01-9662866/ 01-9662857-9.*

LOTTEE HOTLES AND SERVICED APARTMENTS YANGON

No.82, Sin Phyu Shin Avenue, Pyay Road, 6 mile, Hlaing Township. *Ph: 01-9351000.*

MERCURE HOTEL

No.17, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01- 650933.*

NOVOTEL YANGON MAX

No.459, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-2305858.*

PAN PACIFIC YANGON

No. Corner of Bogyoke Aung San Road and Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Yangon,
Ph:01-9253810.

PARK ROYAL

No.33, Alan Pya Phaya Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, *Ph: 01-250388.*

PULLMAN YANGON CENTREPOINT

No.65, Corner of Sule Pagoda Road and Merchant Street.*Ph: 01-382687.*

ROSE GARDEN HOTEL

No.171, Upper Pasodan Road, Yangon.
Ph: 01-371992/09263440500.

SAVOY HOTEL

No.129, Corner of Dhammazedi Road and Inya Road, Yangon.
Ph: 01-526289/ 01-526298/ 01-526305.

SEDONA HOTEL

No. 1, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-8605377.*

SULE SHANGRI-LA

No. 223, Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-242828.*

SUMMIT PARTVIEW HOTEL

No. 350, Ahlone Road, Dagon Township, Yangon. *Ph: 01-211888/ 01-211966.*

SUPER HOTEL

No. 51/ D, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, 10th Quarter, Mayangone Township, Yangon.
Ph:09-797109000/ 01-658210/ 01-658220.

Myanmar National League: Yangon leads post 3-1 win over Zwekapin

Yangon United's Aung Kyaw Naing prepares to kick the ball during the match against Zwekapin United yesterday at the Yangon United Sports Complex. **PHOTO:YUFC**

YANGON United is now leading the Myanmar National League with a 3-1 victory over Zwekapin United yesterday at the Yangon United Sports Complex.

Zwekapin United, on its part, put up a tough fight and managed a draw result against Yangon United in the first half.

Yangon United was in attack mode from the kick-off, with the help of strikers Than Paing and Emmanuel.

Yangon missed the leading goal at 11 minutes when a header from Than Paing, off an assist from Kaung Htet Soe, went over the goal post.

Zwekapin United scored their opening goal at 18 minutes when Emerson delivered a free kick, and the ball landed directly in the net.

Zwekapin United got a penalty, but Yassan feinted to take a penalty kick, and it was not allowed as a goal by the referee.

At 38 minutes, Yangon United expatriate player Emmanuel equalized the goal, and the score changed to 1-1.

In the second half, Yangon United substituted Aung Kyaw Naing and Kyi Lin in the place of Than Paing and Kaung Htet Soe, and that make the team midfield more active.

Yangon United was awarded a penalty at 80 minutes, but Mg Mg Lwin's kick landed the ball to the right post of the keeper and bounced back. Meanwhile, Aung Kyaw Naing kicked the ball towards the goal, but it was blocked by the keeper. Then, Yangon's Mg Mg Lwin used the best opportunity to turn it into a second goal.

Again, just before the match ended, Yangon United's Emmanuel scored the third or winning goal against Zwekapin United, giving his team a 3-1 victory.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Myanmar defender Kyaw Thu Tun undergoes surgery

DEFENDER of the Myanmar U-22 national football team and Magwe F.C., Kyaw Thu Tun, underwent surgery for an ankle injury yesterday at Thonburi Hospital in Bangkok.

His operation was successful and he will be discharged from the hospital soon, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

"He is feeling well. He had an operation and was administered an anesthetic. He will be discharged from the hospital soon. Now, a plaster cloth wrap has been placed on his ankle. It will be removed in two weeks," said the MFF doctor who accompanied the Myanmar defender.

Myanmar defender Kyaw Thu Tun seen during an earlier training session. **PHOTO: MFF**

Kyaw Thu Tun was injured during a friendly match between the Myanmar U-22 team and the Nepal U-23 team in Qatar in October, 2019. The young defender will undertake light training after resting for one and a half months, and will resume normal training after three months of the operation, according to the Myanmar Football Federation.

"My operation was successful. After the operation, I'm okay. My doctor said that after three months, I can join my team for training," Kyaw Thu Tun said.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Myanmar Futsal League: VUC leads with no losses

THE Victoria University College (VUC) Futsal Club is still leading the Myanmar Futsal League with a no-loss result at the conclusion of the Week-14 matches, played on 18 January at the National Indoor Stadium in Yangon.

In Week-14, the VUC Futsal Club scored a big 8-0 win over Do Do Ko Ko Futsal Club.

The Myanmar Imperial University (MIU) Futsal Club is currently trailing VUC Futsal Club with same points and no-loss result, but with difference in goals.

The Week-14 match of the MIU Futsal Club ended with the team scoring seven consecutive goals over the Myanmar Football Federation's U-19 futsal team.

GV Futsal Club is now standing in the third place, with three points less than the top two teams.

The GV Futsal Club managed a 3-2 win over On Doctor Futsal Club in the Week-14 match.

In other matches, AMM Brothers beat Let Wel Thone Nara by 5-2, Winner defeated Futsal Chit Thu team by 4-2, and Dream Team dominated Myoma JY by 3-1.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Benjamin Mendy expects Manchester City to enjoy a strong second half of the season. **PHOTO: AFP**

Title is gone but Man City can still thrive, says Mendy

LONDON—Benjamin Mendy is adamant Manchester City can still enjoy a successful season despite their failure to defend the Premier League title.

Pep Guardiola's side are trailing well behind Liverpool after Saturday's 2-2 draw with Crystal Palace dealt another blow to their faint hopes of catching the runaway leaders.

Hampered by injuries, City have been unable to match the consistency of their past two title-winning seasons.

Guardiola accepted last month his side could no longer catch Liverpool, but City defender Mendy knows there are still three other trophies to play for, including the Champions League, which his team have never won.

City hold a 3-1 League Cup semi-final first leg lead against Manchester United, host Fulham in the FA Cup fourth round next weekend and are due to play Real Madrid in the Champions League last 16.

"When you start the league you try to win, to do your best and you have to say the truth, which is that Liverpool have done very, very well and are a good, strong team - everybody can see that," Mendy said.

"We deal well with it. When another team is doing well you can't be upset or angry. This is the truth, no one can complain. So in our dressing room we try to focus on us. "All the people say Man City are finished. They can say what they want, we will just keep focusing on us, play our football, win the games, to fight until the league is finished.

"We have seen other teams who have won the title have not reached the Champions League the season after — they were in the Europa League.— AFP ■