INTENSIFY PREPARATIONS TO PREVENT SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS PAGE-8 (OPINION)

NATIONAL
VP U Henry Van Thio visits significant Seoul landmarks
PAGE-3

NATIONAL
YUPT to appease disgruntled shareholders over lack of profits
PAGE-4

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor receives MEDEF Int'l business delegation from France

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for documentary photo with business delegation from France. **PHOTO: MNA**

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received the MEDEF International business delegation from France led by Mr Christian Lechervy, Ambassador of France to Myanmar at 10:00 am on 5 February 2020 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on the investment climate and economic reforms in Myanmar. They also discussed matters relating to the investment opportunities for French companies in Myanmar, as well as, potential cooperation between the two countries in the areas of economic, trade, agriculture, energy and infrastructure.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister for Planning Finance and Industry U Soe Win, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations.

The MEDEF International is a non- profit organization representing French business confederation. The visiting French business delegation included 28 members representing various prominent French international companies interested in doing business in Myanmar. —MNA

MoHS sustains momentum for prevention of 2019-nCoV

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe urged his staff to continue raising high alert on the prevention of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

Senior health officers and officials from relevant state departments held their daily coordination meeting 9/2020 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they discussed the WHO's latest announcements, ongoing situations of 2019 Novel Coronavirus in China and other countries, treatments for suspected/ confirmed patients in isolation rooms, requirements of health declaration cards for all the visitors at border gates, screening procedures for passengers from China at Yangon and Mandalay international airports, information networks, medical treatments to persons under investigation and suspected patients at Waibargi hospital in Yangon, good health conditions of 59 Myanmar students who were brought back from Wuhan city (until yesterday's morning), accumulation of medicines and medical equipment, readiness of new health facilities in states and Regions and sharing information about the disease.

SEE PAGE-4

INSIDE TODAY

NATIONAL
Fruits, flowers contest planned in Monywa to mark 73rd Union Day
PAGE-6

LOCAL BUSINESS
AMCHAM, MRCCI organize US business showcase
PAGE-7

LOCAL BUSINESS
Stock trades on YSX cross K1.25 bln in Jan
PAGE-7

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw convenes 4th day meeting of 15th regular session

PYITHU Hluttaw held the 4th day meeting of 15th regular session yesterday.

MP U Sai Tun Aye from Mongshu constituency asked about enforcing arm acts in Shan State and drafting such new laws that can cover the entire country.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Thu replied the Arms Act (1878) came into effect on 1 October in 1878 in Taunggyi, Kalaw, Lashio, Thipaw, Aungpan, Nyaungshwe, Loilem, Kyaukme, Panglong, Mongnai, Kengtung municipal areas under its Act No. 246, land areas of Myanma Railways and Loimwe.

Under the Kachin Hill Tribe Regulation1895, the Arms Act covered local tribes living in Lashio district, northern Hsenwi and Mongmit areas.

The Shan States Arms Order also started to apply on 1 September 1924 in 39 townships which have not been included in the list of 11 townships covered by the Arms Act (1878).

Firearm cases in these 11 townships were handled by the Arms Act (1878), those cases in the remaining 39 townships were solved by the Shan States Arms Order.

Stealing, conspiracy to such crime or selling out state-owned or private-licensed firearms or ammunition in the entire Shan State are applied by the Arms (Temporary Amendment)Act 1949. Accumulation of big arms and ammunitions with the intentions of high treason would be charged with the Arms (Temporary Amendment)Act 1951.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Deputy Minister added the existing arm laws and orders are appropriate with the prevailing situations, the Myanmar Police Force is drafting a better arms law that can cover the entire country.

MP U Win Min from Hlinethaya constituency asked about placing a station police post in Shwelinban Industrial Zone in his constituency.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Thu replied that it will be implemented in accordance with regulations.

MP Daw Aye Aye Mu (a) Daw Sha Mee from Kalay constituency asked about plans for restoration of degraded agricultural lands and irrigation canals in her constituency.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw answered the Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department will implement these projects with the Union budget and funds for regional government.

MP U Khin Maung Thein from Sagaing constituency asked for household water supply for Sataung town in his constituency by developing Theinchaung creek into a reservoir.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw replied that there is no development fund for this project so far, and that the ministry will conduct feasibility study for it. Based on the results, the funds would be allocated through the budget of Sagaing Region government, and the ministry will provide technical assistance in implementing the project. U Lagan Zal Joine from Waingmaw constituency asked about issuing farmland permits in three villages and one residential ward in his constituency. Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw replied the permits have been issued to a total of 9,308 acres of land. Out of remaining 4,904 acres, some 4,860 acres have been designated for project zone in 2013.

From these 4,860 acres, the previous Kachin State government has given some 1,000 acres to the local farmers. And that the Kachin State government has remarked the remaining, 3,860 acres should be kept for the project area. However, about 40 acres which are not included in the project area will be managed by the local administrators to issue permits.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Thu replied the question of Dr Zaw Win Myint from Singu Township about amending or annulment of the Arms Act 1878.

Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw answered the question of MP U Win Win from Minbu constituency about seeking approval from locals when farmland permits in Pantaung village of his constituency are applied by the non-native people. Member of Bill Committee U Zaw Win tabled a motion for 135 amendments in the Microfinance Bill submitted by the Pyithu Hluttaw's Banking and Financial Development Committee. The Hluttaw approved the amendments with the consent of the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry. Tatmadaw representative Lt-Col Htin Lin Oo and the Bill Committee tabled their amendment motions to article 58 of the bill, the proposals were approved with the agreement of the Ministry. The Pyithu Hluttaw then unanimously approved all the amended articles and sub-articles of the bill.

The 5th day meeting of Pyithu Hluttaw will be held on 7 February.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw holds 4th day meeting of 15th regular session

THE Second Amyotha Hluttaw organized the 4th day meeting of 15th regular session yesterday.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced substitutions of two Hluttaw committee members with the approval of Hluttaw: to substitute Major Zawana with Brigadier General Zaw Myint San for Amyotha Hluttaw International Relations, Inter-parliament Friendship and Cooperation Committee, and Colonel Kaung Kyaw with Brigadier General Nay Myo Aung for the Amyotha Hluttaw Public Complaint Committee.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker also sought approval of parliament for expanded authorities of Amyotha Hluttaw Committee on Immigration and Myanmar Internal and Migrant Workers.

MP U Pu Gin Kam Hlyan from Chin State constituency 5 asked about implementation of border markets in Fhratalang village (Ywathit) and Khinman village in Tiddim Township.

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo replied that discussions are underway to construct the market in the second village with India, and the first one will be negotiated with the west neighbouring country after completing construction of a bridge.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. **PHOTO: MNA**

MP U Mahn Law Maung from Chin State constituency 8 asked about promotion of staff on daily basis at the reception counter of Mindat People's Hospital to the permanent staff.

Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr Mya Lay Sein replied that it will be done at the hospitals under the Department of Medical Services in 2019-2020 financial year.

MP U Win Aung from Sagaing Region constituency 3 asked construction of new buildings and large scale renovation for Shwekyunmyay indoor stadium and related buildings in Kyunhla Township in Sagaing Region.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein replied it will be implemented with the Union budget which has been proposed for 2020-2021 financial year.

MP Daw Khin Swe Lwin from Chin State constituency 9 asked employments of medical doctors and a medical lab expert and construction of a maternity ward at the 50-beds Sankite hospital in Kanpetlet Township in 2020-2021 financial year.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein replied the ministry will employ 88 assistant doctors for Chin State in 2020, and the employment will be prioritized, together with one medical doctor for Kanpetlet hospital, together with employment of one lab expert.

MP Dr Kyaw Than Tun from Mandalay Region constituency 3 asked about the use of herbal Noekiyu (Liquorice) in medical treatments. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Lay Sein replied that an approved medicine can be used for treatments with the prescription of medical experts.

MP U Hla Oo from Sagaing Region constituency 4 asked about giving permissions for roadside vendors only after completing training course for hygienic and healthy practices.

The Deputy Minister also answered the ministry is conducting such course, making inspections in their observance of rules, distributing pamphlets of compulsory rules for them and rubbish collection system with respective township development committees.

Regarding an asterisked question on conducting training courses and only the certificate holding vendors could be allowed for business, the Department of Consumer Affairs is not ready for this programmes and relevant departments should implement it in line with rules and regulations.

Deputy Minister for Health and Sports submitted the Health Assistant Council Bill to the Hluttaw. Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Hla Htay (a) Daw Ohn Kyi read out the committee's report on the bill.

The Speaker invited the names of MPs who want to discuss the bill.

The 5th day meeting of Amyotha Hluttaw will be organized on 7 February.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

VP U Henry Van Thio visits significant Seoul landmarks

VICE President U Henry Van Thio visited Gyeongbokgung Palace, NamSan Seoul Tower, Seoul Waterworks Authority and Waterworks Museum as part of his visit to Seoul, the Republic of Korea, yesterday and also met with staff of the Myanmar Embassy.

The Vice President was accompanied by Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko and officials as they made their way to Gyeongbokgung Palace by motorcade in the morning. They were given a tour of the palace by an expert.

Gyeongbokgung Palace was the first and largest palace constructed during the Joseon dynasty in 1395. Although there were the Gyeonghuigung Palace, Deoksugung Palace, Changdeokgung Palace and Changgyeonggung Palace, Gyeongbokgung Palace remained the main royal palace. It is located in Seoul (formerly Hanyang).

Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits Gyeongbokgung Palace in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Next, the Vice President arrived at Namsan Seoul Tower and observed the city's scenery. The tower is 236.7 meters high and was initially built as a communication tower in 1969 before it was opened it to the public in 1980.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio observes the water distribution control room at Seoul Waterworks Authority in Seoul, the Repblic of Korea yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

From there, the Vice President traveled to Seoul Waterworks Authority where Deputy Mayor Park Ho and officials explained water distribution to the city, water reservation, water purification systems, and possible assistance with water-related technology.

The Vice President asked questions, observed the water distribution control room and heard an official explaining the distribution system. He also looked around inside the factory.

Seoul Waterworks Authority collects water from the Han River and purifies it through multiple processes before distributing it throughout Seoul.

Next, the Vice President visited the Waterworks Museum where he received a tour from a museum official. The museum was built in 1908 and is preserved as a cultural heritage of Seoul.

Afterwards, the Vice President arrived at the Myanmar Embassy in ROK, toured the embassy building and met the embassy staff.

During the meeting, Myanmar Ambassador U Thant Sin explained embassy matters and Myanmar-ROK relations to the Vice President, who asked some questions and then instructed promotion of cultural cooperation and tourism between the two nations. After this, the Vice President met with the Myanmar community in ROK.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Coordination meeting held for ministries' Htamane making competition

A SECOND coordination meeting to successfully convene the 2nd Htamane making competition and fun fair between ministries was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun of Ministry of Information, in his capacity of the Competition Steering Committee Vice Chair, said at the meeting that the 1st Myanmar traditional Htamanel making competition and fun fair between ministries was held in Nay Pyi Taw last year.

This is the second coordination meeting to ensure a successful event and the first meeting, held on 24 January, designated the date of 21 February to convene the competition.

You all should openly raise and discuss the matters as regards setting the competition rules and scoring schemes and others to be completed, he urged.

Next, Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung of the Ministry of Information, the Competition Steering Committee Secretary briefed on the decisions made by the first coordination meeting, participating teams, decisions to be made in this second coordination meeting, and the competition rules.

Meeting participants then discussed and suggested the necessary work to be carried out for ensuring a successful 2nd Myanmar traditional Htamanel making competition and fun fair.

Deputy Minister U Aung Hla Tun gave a concluding remark following the competition activity and time scoring sub-committee chairperson, the competition taste and quality scoring sub-committee chairperson, and meeting participants raised their general views.—MNA

(Translated by Aungthu Ya)

Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun addresses the second coordination meeting for holding the 2nd Htamane making competition in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Sons and daughters of the Union

All ethnic national brothers and sisters are all sons and daughters of the Union. We can get unity only with Union spirit. We should strive to live in unity although there may be differences in race, language and religion. It is of utmost importance for all of us who live in this Union and love her land and waters to cherish the task of building a strong, peaceful, united and developed Union.

[Excerpt from a speech given by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the opening ceremony of the Ethnics Culture Festival - 2020 held on 1 February 2020]

MoHS sustains momentum for prevention of 2019-nCoV

FROM PAGE-1

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe also discussed the ongoing spread of 2019 Novel Coronavirus in Asia, ASEAN and other countries, screening passengers at the airports, current estimates of the incubation period of the virus range from 2-10 days and crucial period at the moment.

He also advised to analyze news on social media pages and international media organizations, and to watch internet web pages of WHO, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States and official Chinese media.

The Union Minister also called for publishing update news about the disease at the Ministry of Health and Sports website www.mohs.gov.mm.

It is also required to keep on searching information of new trial therapies in China and other countries, and allowing patients to leave the hospitals only when they have fully recovered.

The Union Minister added to take high priority not to allow transmission of 2019-nCoV into Myanmar despite consideration for neighbouring countries.

He also suggested to make preventive measures based on the situations of geographical conditions, transmission rate in the region and social, economic and trade sectors.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe holds a coordination meeting with senior health officers and officials from relevant state departments in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

YUPT to appease disgruntled shareholders over lack of profits

By Nyein Nyein

YANGON Urban Public Transportation company (YUPT) is working in line with its financial rules and regulations to address the wishes of its shareholders, Joint-Secretary U Hla Aung of Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA) has said.

"YRTA officials acknowledge the reports from YUPT shareholders and have notified them that action will be pursued to fulfill their requests. Our Chairman and shareholder representatives have already met at the YRTA office, however, as it is company-owned finances, we must ensure any step taken meets the financial rules and regulations of the relevant company," said U Hla Aung.

He added that they will systematically resolve the difficulties YUPT shareholders are facing in addition to any public inconvenience regarding the Yangon Bus System (YBS) as a result of YUPT's management. He said it will all be done according to the rules and regulations laid down for the development of YUPT.

U Hla Aung said, "The Yangon Region Government is providing assistance to resolve the challenges regarding YUPT and thus, we will make prearrangement to ensure the issues do not affect our operation of public transportation. We always consider possible public inconvenience on YBS routes. That is why we have said we will resolve the issues submitted by the shareholders and we will work hard to improve YUPT."

YUPT is currently the largest operating bus network among the YBS companies and has over 280 shareholders in its company, including the Yangon Region government.

Shareholders had demanded their dividends be paid and the resignation of certain members of the YUPT's board of directors, who were directly appointed by the Yangon Region cabinet, during the company's second annual general meeting on 30 October last year.

Disputes rose between the company and its shareholders and this lead to the Regional Minister Daw Nilar Kyaw holding two meetings with representatives of the company shareholders, where the company stated they would buy back the shares but have yet to do so.

YUPT shareholders recently held a press conference at the Myanmar Press Freedom Center on 4 February and announced they would pursue legal action as there has been no share of profits for three years and the company has yet to fulfill their promise to buy back the shares.

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

YUPT joint secretary U Hla Aung delivers the speech during the media conference in Yangon. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

PFI Union Minister U Soe Win receives French business Delegation

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win received Mr Francois Corbin, the Special Advisor to the Chairman of Michelin for International Affairs of the MEDEF International that represents the French Business Confederation, at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed Myanmar economic progress, opportunities of economic cooperation, French businesspersons' intent to invest in Myanmar industrial zones and special economic zones, potential investment in infrastructure, insurance, finance, and industries, development aid, cooperation in retail banking, export financing, SME financing and access to credit, investment taxation and among others.—MNA

(Translated by Aungthu Ya)

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye receives LIFT delegation

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye poses for a documentary photo together with a delegation led by LIFT Fund Director Katy Weblay in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye welcomed the delegation of Livelihoods and Food Security Project (LIFT) led by Fund Director Katy Webley at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, they discussed the maternal and child cash transfer (MCCT) programme in Chin State by the Department of Social Welfare with the support LIFT began in 2017-2018 financial year and the expansion of project by the government, implementation of similar projects in other areas of the country, cooperation plan between the ministry and the LIFT team and participation of ministerial representatives in Fund Board as the financial assistance of LIFT is largely related to the ministry.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Plane skids off runway in Istanbul, breaks into three

ISTANBUL — A plane carrying 177 people skidded off the runway at an Istanbul airport and split into three after landing in rough weather on Wednesday.

Officials said no-one had lost their lives in the accident, but dozens of people were injured.

Live images broadcast on Turkish television showed several people climbing through a large crack in the plane and escaping on one of the wings at the rear of the aircraft.

The Boeing 737 operated by Turkish low-cost carrier Pegasus Airlines had flown into Istanbul's Sabiha Gokcen airport from the Aegean port city of Izmir in very wet weather, NTV broadcaster reported.

Fifty-two people were injured and taken to hospital, Istanbul governor Ali Yerlikaya said on Twitter.

"Efforts to evacuate those affected continue," he added.

Turkish television NTV showed images of the badly damaged plane and a fire inside, which was later put out by firefighters. The plane had 171 passengers on board and six crew members, the governor said.

Turkish media said there were 12 children among the passengers.

- 'Strong landing' -

Turhan said there were no deaths, and that the majority of passengers were able to get off the plane themselves.

Some passengers were believed to be stuck inside the aircraft but local media reported that emergency workers are currently helping them.

After darkness fell, television footage showed dozens of rescue workers in high-visibility jackets surrounding the plane with flashlights.

Some sprayed water jets onto the severed body of the aircraft, while others could be seen climbing up onto the plane to comb through the cabin.

Turhan said the plane broke after a "strong landing," according to NTV. Prior to the accident, there had been very strong winds and rain. Several firefighters and health workers were sent to the scene, state news agency Anadolu reported.

Planes were being redirected to Istanbul's main airport from Sabiha Gokcen, NTV said.

The Istanbul public prosecutor has launched an investigation into the incident. The plane had landed at the airport at 1518 GMT, the private DHA news agency reported.—AFP

Myanmar trade value for Oct-Nov, 2019-2020 FY

MYANMAR normal export value for November, 2019-2020 financial year, reached US$943.42 million and border export value reached $ 856.87 million, with total export value coming at $1,800.29 million as a result.

Meanwhile, normal import value for the same period reached $1,291.35 million and border import reached $274.23 million, reaching a total of $1,565.58 million.

As a result, Myanmar total trade value for November 2019-2020 FY reached $3,365.87 million, creating a trade surplus of $ 234.71 million.

From October to November of the current 2019-2020 FY, Myanmar normal export value generated $1,851.59 million and border export reached $1,479.88 million, totaling at $3,331.47 million.

Normal import value for the same period reached $2,571.88 million and border import reached $525.74 million, bringing the total to $3,097.62 million.

Consequently, the total trade value of Myanmar for October to November of 2019-2020 FY reached $6,429.09 million, generating a trade surplus of $233.85 million, according to the monthly trade report by the Central Statistical Organization.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Seven killed, 21 injured in 25 traffic mishaps in Jan

SEVEN people were killed and 21 others injured in 25 accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway in the month of January, according to the Highway Traffic Police.

The number of accidents in January showed a significant decline compared to the year-ago period.

Reckless driving, over-speeding, defective vehicles, and flat tires were identified as the main causes of accidents on the highway.

A total of 108 persons were killed and 1,019 injured in 514 accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway last year.

Although the total number of traffic accidents has decreased in January, the number of deaths has not declined significantly when compared to last year.

Aiming at ensuring better traffic safety along the highway, the highway authorities have increased the number of road safety police stations and have been providing 24-hour services for travellers since 2012.

The authorities are also installing speed measuring devices at mile posts. They have been urging people to cooperate in implementing safety measures as well as comply with traffic rules and regulations.—Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Correction

Please read "(2) U Myint Kyaing" in the Order 5/2020 of the Office of the President on page-5 of the 5 February Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. We regret the error— Ed

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITOR
Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT
Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS
Aungthu Ya
Zaw Htet Oo
Aung Khin
INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR
Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS
Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

TRANSLATORS
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTER
Nyein Nyein Ei,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER
Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar
Kyaw Zeya

COMPUTER TEAM
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe,
Nyi Lin Thu

EDITORIAL SECTION
(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/TheGNLM

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

LIP Union Minister meets delegation of Chiba Prefectural Govt

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received a delegation from the Chiba Prefectural Government, Japan, led by Assistant Director-General Mr Eguchi Yo at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed arranging apprenticeships to Chiba Prefecture and providing them with monetary support whilst there, issuing certifications, acquiring long-stay work permits, networking with Japanese language schools in Myanmar, signing an MoU between Myanmar and Japan to arrange apprenticeships between the two countries, Myanmar's programmes of sending workers overseas and ensuring their comfort and security, opening Japanese language centers, including Myanmar workers in Chiba Prefecture and Viet Nam's programme to call caregivers for the elderly and cooperation in this purpose as well.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Union Minister U Thein Swe holds talks with a delegation from the Chiba Prefectural Government, Japan, led by Assistant Director-General Mr Eguchi Yo in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Fruits, flowers contest planned in Monywa to mark 73rd Union Day

A FRUITS and flowers competition will be organized from 10 to 12 February at the gallery of the Agriculture Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation in Monywa, Sagaing Region, to commemorate the 73rd anniversary of the Union Day, according to the Sagaing Region Agriculture Department.

"The three-day competition will be held from 10 to 12 February to allow local farmers to observe flowers and fruits grown by themselves and others. This year, local farmers from Sagaing Region can compete using local and foreign species of plants. They can also display special fruits, leaves, and trees. The prize ceremony will be held at 8 am on 12 February at the gallery of the Agriculture Department," said U Win Hlaing Oo, head of the Sagaing Region Agriculture Department.

Fruit and Flower Competition to mark 73rd anniversary of Union Day to be held in Monywa. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Local farmers wishing to participate in the competition are required to send fruits grown by them by 5 pm on 10 February. The farmers will have to bring one each of self-planted calabash, yellow pumpkin, cucumber, and cabbage; five each of white radish, carrots, beets, and aubergines; three each of pitaya (dragon fruit) and papaya; five each of lemons and lime; 10 each of chili, 10 each of prunes and tomatoes; five each of potato, sage, and elephant foot yam; one bunch of bananas, coconuts, and areca nuts, according to the Sagaing Region Agriculture Department.
—Win Oo (Zayyartine)

(Translated by Hay Mar)

15 human trafficking cases reported in January

FIFTEEN cases of human trafficking were reported across the country in January, according to the anti-trafficking police.

Officials booked 28 offenders and rescued 27 victims — 10 males, 14 females, and three children, according to official statistics provided by the anti-trafficking police.

Of the total cases, three were from Ayeyawady, two each from Mandalay and Yangon, one each from Bago and Nay Pyi Taw regions, and three each from Shan and Kachin states.

There were 10 cases involving forced marriage to Chinese men, one case of forced labour, and four cases of domestic forced labour.

About 239 cases of trafficking-in-persons were reported in 2019, and most of them concerned forced marriages to Chinese men, according to the anti-trafficking police.

Between January and December, 2019, about 732 offenders were booked and 358 victims were rescued in 239 cases of trafficking in persons.

Shan State and Yangon Region topped the list with 65 human trafficking cases each, followed by Mandalay and Ayeyawady Regions with 28 cases each, Kachin State with 25 cases, Bago Region with 12 cases, Mon State with four, Sagaing Region and Kayin State with three each, Nay Pyi Taw and Taninthayi Region with two each, and Magway Region and Chin State with one each.

According to the 2005 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, those found guilty of trafficking women and children shall face a minimum 10-year imprisonment or a maximum life imprisonment, or a fine. Any money or property received through trafficking will be confiscated by the government.

The government has also deployed an anti-human trafficking police unit in the border areas. The police unit has been taking action against traffickers under the 2005 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law.—Aye Cho

(Translated by Hay Mar)

AMCHAM, MRCCI organize US business showcase

THE American Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar (AMCHAM Myanmar) and Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI) jointly organized the US Business Showcase yesterday at the Mandalay Convention Center to help build a network between American and Mandalay entrepreneurs.

Officials from the Mandalay Region government, the US Ambassador to Myanmar, a delegation of 13 companies from the US, and MRCCI representatives attended the event.

MRCCI officials discussed matters related to food consulting, fitness, mining, real estate, banking, and finance businesses at the event.

The US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Scot Marcial and U Zarni Aung, Mandalay Region Minister for Electricity, Energy and Construction, gave a speeches at the event. Afterwards, MRCCI Chairman U Kyaw Min explained the objectives of the US Business Showcase and officials observed the products on display.

Between 1988 and December last year, 22 enterprises from the US have brought in foreign direct investments of over $530 million into Myanmar, according to data on existing enterprises provided by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. —Then Zaw Min IPRD

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

US Business Showcase jointly organized by American Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar and Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI) held on 5 February in Mandalay.
PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Stock trades on YSX cross K1.25 bln in Jan

Visitors seen outside Yangon Stock Exchange in Yangon. **HOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

IN the month of January, 196,836 shares worth around K1.25 billion were traded on the Yangon Stock Exchange, according to the monthly report of the YSX. Currently, shares of five listed companies are being traded on the exchange.

The five companies listed on the exchange are: First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), and TMH Telecom Public Co. Ltd.

Last month, the price per share closed at K11,500 for FMI, K4,000 for MTSH, K8,400 for MCB, K23,000 for FPB, and K2,850 for TMH on the exchange.

A total of 2.4 million shares worth K13.39 billion were traded on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) in 2019, a significant increase compared to the previous year, according to the annual report released by the exchange.

The YSX was launched four years ago to improve the private business sector. It disseminates rules and regulations regarding the stock exchange and knowledge of share trading through stock investment seminars.

In 2018, the exchange increased the stock trade matching time from two to four per day. In addition, it held a promotional event for investors in order to increase the number of new investors and encourage existing investors to trade more actively by offering financial reviews and information on the future prospects of YSX-listed companies.

The YSX has also sought the government's support to get more public companies to participate in the stock market and to help more institutional investors, such as financing companies, investment banks, and insurance companies, to emerge.

In 2016, shares of only three companies were traded on the YSX — FMI, MTSH, and MCB. One more public company, FPB, was listed on the exchange in 2017. TMH debuted on the exchange in 2018.

More than 2.5 million shares of three listed companies were traded on the YSX in 2016, and their value was estimated at K70 billion. In 2017, despite an increase in the stock trading volume to 2.6 million shares, the trade value was only K22 billion. In 2018, 2.3 million shares of five companies, worth K11.5 billion, were traded on the exchange, according to the annual report of the YSX. — Htet Myat

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Myanmar exports over 1 mln tons of rice worth $300 mln as of 17 Jan

THE volume of rice and broken rice exported between 1 October and 17 January in the current financial year is estimated at over 1.04 million metric tons, worth $300.36 million, according to an announcement from the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

In the current financial year, Myanmar has shipped rice to 56 foreign markets. China is the main buyer of Myanmar rice, followed by Madagascar and the Philippines. Guinea is the fourth-largest and Mozambique the fifth-largest buyer of Myanmar rice. The European Union countries account for 12.4 per cent of rice exports, while 39 per cent of rice grown in Myanmar goes to African countries.

Meanwhile, Myanmar has exported broken rice mostly to Indonesia, followed by Senegal, Belgium, Guinea, and the Netherlands. Broken rice has been placed in 45 foreign markets.

In the current financial year, border trade has dropped, and currently, it accounts for just 14.4 per cent of the total rice exports, while maritime trade constitutes 85.59 per cent.

Rice exports through the border gates have earned an estimated $39.6 million, whereas maritime trade has generated an income of $260.7 million, data from the Commerce Ministry shows.

Additionally, the prices of low-quality rice varieties Ngasein and Aemahta are rising in the market. The prices increased by K10,000 per 100 baskets during the week ended 17 January. Similarly, the price of quality rice varieties Myaungmya Pawsan and Shwebo Pawsan was up K30,000 per 100 baskets, according to the local market.

Myanmar shipped 3.6 million tons of rice in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which was an all-time record in rice exports. The export volume plunged to 2.29 million metric tons, worth $691 million, in the 2018-2019FY. — GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Trade Mark Ads
Call Thin Thin May, Ph-09 251 022 355

6 FEBRUARY 2020
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Intensify preparations to prevent spread of coronavirus

THE number of deaths and infections from coronavirus is on the rise in China with no signs of a slowdown. The situation calls for speedy efforts for the prevention of coronavirus infection in Myanmar.

As the viral infection has been recorded mostly in Asia and the ASEAN countries, we should increase surveillance — which has played an important role in the prevention of coronavirus — at international airports and border gates.

The new coronavirus's incubation period (the time it takes for people infected with the virus to start showing symptoms) is assumed to be about 14 days. Symptoms to watch for include fever, cough, shortness of breath, trouble breathing, body aches, sore throat, or vomiting and diarrhea.

> We must approach the prevention of the coronavirus infection from public health, epidemic, laboratory, and treatment points of view and consider the geographical situation with neighboring China and other ASEAN countries affected by the virus.

Those who may have been exposed to the illness need to monitor themselves for 14 days. Hence, from the outbreak point of view, the incubation period can be considered crucial.

Though no infections have been reported yet in Myanmar, the health authorities and the general public must remain on the alert as the viral infection spreads quickly.

Those who have close contact with patients under medical supervision need to be monitored closely, too.

Meanwhile, we need to be wary of inaccurate information on social media about the coronavirus infection. We must take care to check facts with their original source and other official sources in China, and curb the spread of misinformation.

Although there are no coronavirus infections in Myanmar at present, we must not forget that the incubation period for the virus is about two weeks.

To prevent the respiratory viral infection, all suggestions are being welcomed, but the decision must come after all suggestions are considered. In case any patients who are being monitored currently test positive for the virus, we must be prepared to give effective treatment to them by learning about therapies being provided in China and other countries.

We must approach the prevention of the coronavirus infection from public health, epidemic, laboratory, and treatment points of view and consider the geographical situation with neighboring China and other ASEAN countries affected by the virus.

It is the duty of the health authorities, government departments, and people to make more efforts towards the prevention of the coronavirus infection.

■■■

Xi stresses law-based infection prevention, control

New outbreak death toll nears 500, as confirmed cases pass 24,500, with majority of infections and deaths in China.

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping on Wednesday called for greater legislative, law enforcement, judicial and law observance efforts to strengthen the capacity to carry out law-based infection prevention and control.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the statement when presiding over the third meeting of the Commission for Overall Law-based Governance of the CPC Central Committee. Xi is the head of the commission.

Members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu and Wang Huning, who are deputy heads of the commission, attended the meeting.

Documents including the commission's guidelines on practicing law-based infection prevention and control of pneumonia caused by the novel coronavirus were adopted at the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, Xi said the infection prevention and control is at a critical moment and stressed the utmost importance of carrying out the work in a law-based, scientific and orderly manner.

Xi spoke of the need to improve legislation related to epidemic prevention and control, strengthen the building of supporting institutions and improve punishment procedures.

Laws and regulations on epidemic prevention and control and emergency response must be strictly enforced, risk assessment be improved and decisions be made prudently and in accordance with the law, Xi said.

He also stressed strict enforcement of law on prevention and control of infectious diseases and the regulation regarding its implementation, laws on wildlife protection and animal quarantine, as well as the regulation on public health emergency response.

Xi called for a severe crackdown on illegal activities and crimes ranging from resisting epidemic prevention and control efforts, assaulting medical workers, manufacturing and selling fake products, to rumor-mongering that undermines epidemic prevention and control efforts.

Donations and receiving donations should be carried out according to the law, Xi stressed, noting that all donated funds and goods should be used for epidemic prevention and control in a timely manner.

Xi also stressed timely and accurate release of the epidemic information in accordance with the law, as well as strengthened public legal education and legal services related to the epidemic prevention and control.

Xi told Party committees and governments at all levels to improve law-based governance through coping with major emergencies.

The meeting stressed implementing judicial reforms, strengthening rule of law in rural areas and reforming the system of administrative reconsideration.

Chinese socialist rule of law is the most basic, stable and reliable guarantee to the governance of systems, said the meeting, adding that law-based governance should be advanced to boost the role of rule of law in modernizing China's system and capacity for governance.

Travel restrictions go into effect. **PHOTO: AFP**

Here are the latest updates: China coordinates resources to ensure mask supplies

China has actively coordinated resources under a joint prevention and control mechanism to address the shortage of masks amid the novel coronavirus outbreak, an official said Wednesday.

Hao Fuqing, an official with the National Development and Reform Commission, told a press conference held in Beijing that efforts have been made to support production resumption by enterprises to improve production capacity and increase supply.

As of Monday, daily production of masks exceeded 14.8 million by factories in 22 provincial-level regions, up 3.1 percent from the previous day, Hao said.

The output of masks has shown a continuous upward trend in general, especially medical N95 masks, which are urgently needed on the front lines of the battle against the epidemic, according to Hao.

As long as they are meeting standards, enterprises can go full steam ahead in production without worrying about the surplus, which will be purchased and kept in reserve by the government after the epidemic, Hao stressed.

The cured patients (2nd r to 3rd l) pose for photo with medical staff in the First Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University in Zhengzhou, central China's Henan Province, Feb. 4, 2020. Five pneumonia patients infected with the novel coronavirus were cured and discharged from the hospital on Tuesday. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

WHO issues appeal for $675m to fight coronavirus

The World Health Organization on Wednesday called for $675 million (613 million euros) in donations for a plan to fight the novel coronavirus, mainly through investment in countries considered particularly "at risk".

"Today we're launching a strategic preparedness and response plan…. We're requesting $675 million to fund the plan for the next three months," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said at a news conference in Geneva.

The WHO says there is a "window of opportunity" to stop the deadly new coronavirus becoming a broader global crisis.

Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said the steps China took to fight the virus at its epicentre were a good way of stopping its spread.

The praise comes as Chinese officials have been widely criticised for their initial handling of the outbreak.

On Tuesday alone, nearly 4,000 new cases were confirmed in the country.

The death toll has now risen to 490, an increase of 65 deaths in mainland China in one day, the latest figures from the country's National Health Commission (NHC) said. All the new fatalities were in Hubei province, the centre of the outbreak.

Hong Kong to impose a 14-day mandatory quarantine

Hong Kong will impose a 14-day mandatory quarantine on all travelers coming from mainland China to contain the epidemic as three more cases of the new coronavirus were confirmed in the territory on Wednesday.

Leader Carrie Lam said that beginning Saturday, all travelers, locals and foreigners alike, arriving in Hong Kong from mainland China will have to undergo a two-week quarantine and will be barred from leaving.

"The epidemic in the mainland is continuing, the number of infected cases is on the rise, and the situation in Hong Kong is worsening with three more new confirmed cases that are believed to be local infections," Lam told reporters. "The possibility of community spread is worrying."

Confirmed cases in Hong Kong grew to 21, including one who died Tuesday and two who remain in critical condition.

Japan to send a fourth charter flight to Wuhan

Japan will send a fourth charter flight to Wuhan, the Chinese city at the center of a deadly coronavirus outbreak, on Thursday to evacuate its citizens, Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi said Wednesday.

Some 200 people, including Chinese and other foreign family members of Japanese nationals, are expected to board the plane when it returns from Wuhan. Many of them reside in parts of Hubei Province outside of Wuhan, the provincial capital.

REFERENCES
Xinhua; Kyodo Daily News Updates

Myanmar Gazette

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Htun Zaw Deputy Director-General Financial Regulatory Department Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry	Director-General National Archives Department Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry
(2) U Win Zaw Aung Deputy Director-General Immigration Department Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population	Director-General Department of Population Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population

2020, 73rd Anniversary Union Day National Objectives

1. All ethnic nationals to preserve and protect for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of National Unity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty.
2. To work on the peace process till success is achieved based on Union spirit.
3. To strive with the collective strength of all ethnic nationals for rule of law, a fair justice system and the security and safety of all citizens.
4. To prevent/protect all people from the danger of narcotic drugs as a national duty and thereby uplift their standard of living.
5. Emergence of a Constitution which will be in alignment with a genuine Democratic Federal Union.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 5th February, 2020)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 6th February, 2020: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State. Degree of certainty of (60%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Sagaing, Magway and Tanintharyi Regions, Shan (North and East), Chin, Rakhine and Mon 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 (4-8) feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated light rain in Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th February, 2020: Fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th February, 2020: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th February, 2020: Generally fair weather.

Greenpeace activists launched the afternoon protest in central London over BP's impact on climate change. **PHOTO: AFP**

Nine arrested in Greenpeace protest at BP in London

LONDON — British police arrested nine Greenpeace campaigners on Wednesday who blockaded BP's London headquarters with solar panels and oil barrels to mark the new boss's first day at the energy giant.

The Metropolitan Police said the arrests were made outside the firm's building in St James' Square, central London, as part of a "proportionate policing plan".

They were detained for aggravated trespass, highway obstruction and conspiracy to commit a public nuisance.

Around 100 activists launched the afternoon protest over BP's impact on climate change, locking themselves to dirty oil barrels and unloading 500 solar panels at the site.

The campaign group said they were promptly met by a "40-strong, heavy-handed police presence" but had managed "to peacefully block all six office doors around the building, preventing staff from entering".

BP said it temporarily closed the office as a precaution.

New chief executive Bernard Looney, who spent his first day in the role visiting employees in Germany, "understands the frustration and anger of protesters in London", the company said.

"He shares their deep concern about climate change and will set out his low carbon ambition for the company next week.

"He hopes that what he has to say then will give people a sense that we get it and are very serious about working to address the problem."

But demonstrator Immy Done, 22, who travelled from Bristol in western England to take part in the action, appeared unconvinced.—AFP ■

US working with drug firm on new coronavirus treatment

WASHINGTON — The United States is working with a pharmaceutical company to develop a treatment for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, using a class of drug that has boosted survival rates among Ebola patients, officials said Tuesday.

The partnership between the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Regeneron will develop monoclonal antibodies to fight the infection, a different line of treatment to the antiretrovirals and flu drugs that have also emerged as possible defenses against the disease.

Nearly 500 people have died as a result of the virus since it emerged in a Chinese live seafood and wild animal market at the end of last year.

"Emerging infectious diseases can present serious threats to our nation's health security," said Rick Bright, an official at the HHS.

"Working as public-private partners like we have with Regeneron since 2014, we can move rapidly to respond to new global health threats."

Monoclonal antibodies are lab-produced copies of a single type of antibody and are a form of immunotherapy.—AFP ■

UK regulator bans Ryanair's 'misleading' green adverts

LONDON — A British regulator on Wednesday banned advertisements by Ryanair that gave "misleading" claims over the Irish airline's "low" level of carbon emissions — a move welcomed by environmental campaigners.

The Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) ruled that the no-frills airline's September radio, television and print advertisements broke the UK regulator's rules on environmental claims and on misleading consumers.

Ryanair boasted that it "has the lowest carbon emissions of any major airline".

ASA said it had called on Ryanair "to ensure that when making environmental claims, they held adequate evidence to substantiate them and to ensure that the basis of those claims were made clear".

In reaction, Ryanair said it was "disappointed and surprised" and maintained that it is the "greenest" airline in Europe — adding that it had successfully run the same advertisement in ten European nations.

FILE PHOTO: Ryanair boasted that it "has the lowest carbon emissions of any major airline". **PHOTO: AFP**

Environmental pressure group Transport & Environment slammed Ryanair for so-called greenwashing — a term used by critics to describe corporate efforts to mislead consumers to believe a company's products or practices are more environmentally sound or friendly.

"Ryanair should stop greenwashing and start doing something to tackle its sky-high emissions," said the campaign group's aviation manager Jo Dardenne.—AFP ■

African swine fever kills hundreds of pigs in Bali

BALI — Hundreds of pigs have died from African swine fever in Bali, authorities said Wednesday, marking the Indonesian holiday island's first recorded outbreak and after the virus claimed some 30,000 hogs in Sumatra.

Ida Bagus Wisnuardhana, Bali's agriculture and food security agency chief, said nearly 900 pigs succumbed to swine fever since mid-December.

"The results are positive for African swine fever," Ida told reporters, referring to tests performed on the dead animals.

The string of deaths had appeared to stop over the past week, Wisnuardhana said, adding Bali would go ahead with a pork festival on Friday in a bid to ease concerns over the outbreak.

The announcement comes after Indonesia said this week it would temporarily ban some livestock imports from China over fears about the coronavirus, which has killed almost 500 people in China, where it originated.

In December, Indonesian officials said tens of thousands of pigs died from African swine fever in North Sumatra province.

While Indonesia is the world's most populous Muslim nation — and eating pork is forbidden by the Koran — the country also boasts a small Christian majority in North Sumatra and Bali is a Hindu island whose signature dish is roast pig.

Swine fever cannot be transmitted to humans, but it is almost 100 percent fatal in pigs and has devastated swine herds in China and elsewhere in Asia.—AFP ■

Balinese men preparing pork sate for a traditional wedding on Indonesia's resort island of Bali. Hundreds of pigs have died from African swine fever on the island. **PHOTO: AFP**

Top Democrat Pelosi rips up Trump speech

WASHINGTON — House Speaker Nancy Pelosi ripped up her copy of Donald Trump's State of the Union address Tuesday, in a pointed political gesture after listening tight-lipped to the president tout his achievements to Congress.

The tension between Trump and his Democratic nemesis was palpable from the outset, as Pelosi extended her extended her hand for a handshake — and the president failed to return the favor.

Seated in silence behind the president in the House of Representatives, Pelosi frowned, repeatedly shook her head and smiled disbelievingly until he finished speaking and Republicans erupted in applause — at which point she rose and very visibly tore up the papers in front of her.

Asked afterwards by a reporter to give a reason for her gesture, Pelosi replied: "Because it was the courteous thing to do, considering the alternatives."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi tears up President Donald Trump's speech after he delivers the State of the Union address. **PHOTO: AFP**

And in a follow-up tweet, the 79-year-old Pelosi said Democrats would "never stop extending the hand of friendship to get the job done."

Trump was impeached by the Democratic-controlled House six weeks ago, and the flashpoint with Pelosi comes one day before the US Senate is all but certain to vote to acquit him on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of justice.

During the impeachment crisis, Trump, 73, has repeatedly assailed the speaker for her impeachment "hoax," branding her "nervous Nancy" and "crazy Nancy" on Twitter.

Pelosi's gesture capped a night where the country's bitter political divide was on full display, as Trump's address earned a triumphant reception from the Republican half of Congress — but sullen silence, boos and jeers from the Democrats present. — AFP ■

CHANGING DISTRIBUTOR OF REGISTERED PESTICIDE

This is a notification of the change of distributor of below herbicide, registered by Bayer AG, under the Myanma Pesticide Registration Board, from AGT (Agro Tech Co., Ltd.) to Myanma Golden Farm Co., Ltd. Any objection to this change can notify to Joint Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein, within 14 days.

Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Reg. Type	Reg. Number
Tiller Gold 90OD	Fenoxaprop-p-ethyl 6.9% + Ethoxysulfuron 2.1%	Full	F2011-748

Bayer Thai Co., Ltd. (Myanmar Branch)- PH : 01-8382710 (Ext. 40600)

Wedding Announcement

Both parents are pleased to announce the marriage of

KYAW KYAW SAN

Son of U Maung Sun and
Daw Ar Shin,
3150, Lawton Street, San Francisco
CA 94122

To

AYE MYAT MON

Daughter of U Myint Shwe @ Law Myint
and Yin Yin Nu
No 85, Min Yat Ward,
Myitkyina, Kachin State.

The couple signed the marriage certificate at the Yangon West District Court on 5th February 2020 and got married.

TRADEMARK CAUTION

EZAKI GLICO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (also trading as Ezaki Glico Co., Ltd.) a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 6-5, Utajima 4-chome, Nishiyodogawa-ku, Osaka, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

Pocky

Reg. No.4/29770/2019 (19.12.2019)

In respect of "Application software; computer game programs downloadable via the Internet; electronic game programs; interactive multimedia computer game programs" included in **International Class 9** and "Game services provided online from a computer network; organization of games and competitions" included in **International Class 41.**

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw La Min May, *H.G.P*
For **EZAKI GLICO KABUSHIKI KAISHA**
(also trading as Ezaki Glico Co., Ltd.)
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated **6th February 2020** lmm@kcyangon.com

Trade Mark Ads Call Thin Thin May, 09251022355,09974424848

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V DECENT

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V DECENT VOY. NO. (2002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT-2 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 GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING
Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LUCY OCEAN

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V LUCY OCEAN VOY. NO. (19197) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 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 GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING
Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V JITRA BHUM VOY. NO. (299W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V JITRA BHUM VOY. NO. (299W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (203 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KUO TAI VOY. NO. (203 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of TMIT 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 CONTAINENTAL SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HAN YI

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V HAN YI VOY. NO. (2003) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of IBTT 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 HANSSY SHIPPING PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301928

Campaigning reaches crescendo as parties hold rallies across Indian capital to woo voters

NEW DELHI — Campaigning for upcoming local elections here in the Indian capital reached a crescendo on Wednesday as different political parties are trying hard to woo voters to their side.

Thursday will mark the last day of campaigning for the elections in the city.

Almost all the top leaders of contesting parties like Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Congress are addressing roadshows, public meetings and rallies, besides making door to door campaigns in the city seeking support from voters.

Last week witnessed some acrimonious speeches from the BJP leaders while canvassing for votes, following which the Election Commission of India barred them for a brief time from addressing election rallies.

On Tuesday Indian Prime Minister and BJP leader Narendra Modi, Congress leaders Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi addressed election rallies in the capital.

During the city's previous elections held in 2015, AAP swept polls and registered a landslide victory by winning 67 of 70 seats. The BJP won just three, while as India's grand old Congress party failed to win even a single seat.

—Xinhua ■

Notice for Change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor have been changed for the following insecticides manufactured by Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.

Sr	Trade name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Sumi-alpha 5EC	Esfenvalerate 5% EC	Full	F2009-036
2	Sumithion 50EC	Fenitrothion 50% EC	Full	F2009-002
3	Danitol 20EC	Fenpropathrin 20% EC	Full	F2009-058
4	Detrans 1209 TG	Dimefluthrin 95%w/w (min) TG	Full	F2018-1418
5	Gokilaht-S 5EC	d-d-T cyphenothrin 5% EC	Full	F2018-1415
6	Sumione 5EC	Metofluthrin 5% EC	Full	F2011-686
7	Sumione TG	Metofluthrin TG 93% TG	Full	F2011-685
8	Sumithion 20CS	Fenitrothion 20% CS	Full	F2018-1416
9	Sumicidin 20EC	Fenvalerate 20% EC	Full	F2009-001

Bentz Jaz Myanmar Co., Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

Bentz Jaz Myanmar Co., Ltd. No. 507/14, Pyi Yeik Thar Street, 8 Ward, Kamayut Township, Yangon.

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(Front View)

(Perspective View)

Reg. No.4/29769/2019 (19.12.2019)

In respect of "Biscuits covered by chocolate; pretzels covered by chocolate; chocolate confectionery; confectionery; pastries; cakes; rice cakes; biscuits; cookies; crackers; chocolate; chewing gum; candy; caramels (candy); popcorn; fruit jellies (confectionery); bread; rusks; waffles; pancakes; pies; pizzas; sandwiches; puddings; ice cream; sherbets (ices); sorbets (ices); frozen yogurt (confectionery ices); edible ices; cocoa; coffee; coffee-based beverages; cocoa-based beverages; chocolate-based beverages; tea-based beverages; tea; iced tea; curry (spice); curry pastes; cereal-based snack food; rice-based snack food; chips (cereal products); noodles; corn flakes; tapioca" all included in **International Class 30**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said three-dimensional mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw La Min May, *H.G.P*
For **EZAKI GLICO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (also trading as Ezaki Glico Co., Ltd.)**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
lmm@kcyangon.com

Dated **6th February 2020**

TRADEMARK CAUTION

EZAKI GLICO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (also trading as Ezaki Glico Co., Ltd.) a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 6-5, Utajima 4-chome, Nishiyodogawa-ku, Osaka, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following three-dimensional mark:

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(Perspective View)

Reg. No.4/29768/2019 (19.12.2019)

In respect of "Biscuits coated with a cream or cream-like coating; pretzels coated with a cream or cream-like coating; biscuits covered by chocolate; pretzels covered by chocolate; chocolate confectionery; confectionery; pastries; cakes; rice cakes; biscuits; cookies; crackers; chocolate; chewing gum; candy; caramels (candy); popcorn; fruit jellies (confectionery); bread; rusks; waffles; pancakes; pies; pizzas; sandwiches; puddings; ice cream; sherbets (ices); sorbets (ices); frozen yogurt (confectionery ices); edible ices; cocoa; coffee; coffee-based beverages; cocoa-based beverages; chocolate-based beverages; tea-based beverages; tea; iced tea; curry (spice); curry pastes; cereal-based snack food; rice-based snack food; chips (cereal products); noodles; corn flakes; tapioca" all included in **International Class 30**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use, or actual or colourable imitation of the said three-dimensional mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw La Min May, *H.G.P*
For **EZAKI GLICO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (also trading as Ezaki Glico Co., Ltd.)**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
lmm@kcyangon.com

Dated **6th February 2020**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TRIESTE TRADER VOY. NO. (004S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TRIESTE TRADER VOY. NO. (004S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT/MIP 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (057N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V IAL 001 VOY. NO. (057N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT 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 INTER ASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (148N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (148N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6-2-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

Distribution of following pesticides registered by Syntech International Co., Ltd is transferring from Agro Tech Co., Ltd to Farm Link Co., Ltd. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein Township within (14) days.

Sr	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration	
			Type	Number
1.	Kent 80 WDG	Sulfur 80% WDG	Provisional	P-2017-3386

circulation order is in easier way.
Hot Line : 09974424114
Advertise with us/
Hot Line : 018604530

Toa Corporation (Myanmar Branch Office)
Notice of Closure of Final Closing Down

This is to inform the general public that Myanmar Branch Office of Toa Corporation is being finally closed down with effect from 13th February, 2020 as the closing down proceedings have been completed.

Daw Thaung Mya Wai, Liquidator
LL.B, DA, DCA, ACCA, CPA
Room No. 2D, Rose Condominium,
No. 182/194, 1st Floor,
Botahtaung Pagoda Road,
Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

TRADEMARK CAUTION

NIFCO INC., a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 5-3 Hikarinooka, Yokosuka-shi, Kanagawa Prefecture, 239-8560 Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

NIFCO

No.4/30592/2019 (30.12.2019)

In respect of "Machines and machine tools for treatment of materials and for manufacturing; moulding machines; Filtering machines, separators and centrifuges; Cartridges for filtering machines; motors and engines (except for land vehicles); coupling machines; machine coupling and transmission components (except for land vehicles); Fuel filters; Fuel filters for vehicle engines; fuel valves; dampers [parts of machines]; bearings; Anti-friction bearings for machines; dispensing machines; atomisers [machines]; Agricultural implements, other than hand-operated; Automatic vending machines; washing machines [laundry]; dishwashers; handles being parts of mechanically operated tools, machine tools; Clack valves [parts of machines], clutches other than for land vehicles, couplings other than for land vehicles, filters [parts of machines or engines], universal joints [cardan joints], moulding machines, pressure regulators [parts of machines], pressure valves [parts of machines], reduction gears other than for land vehicles, riveting machines, steam/oil separators, shaft couplings [machines], valves [parts of machines], fuel filters for automobile, fuel cut valves for automobile, fuel vent valves for automobile, dampers [parts of machines], anti-friction bearings for machines, atomisers [machines], cartridges for filtering machines, door closers (hydraulic -) [parts of machines], door closers (pneumatic -) [parts of machines], hand-held tools, other than hand-operated, lifting apparatus, pulverisers [machines], pumps [parts of machines, engines or motors], separators, spraying machines, spray nozzle" included in **International Class 07**;

"Vehicles; apparatus for locomotion by water; apparatus for locomotion by air; apparatus for locomotion by land; caps for vehicle petrol [gas] tanks, sun-blinds adapted for automobiles, special fixing devices for vehicle exteriors (bumpers, mouldings, front grilles, license plates), special fixing devices for vehicle interiors (trim panel, roof liner, carpet, sun visor, assist grip, insulator, coat hook, foot rest), storage devices for vehicles, cup-holding devices for vehicles, ashtrays for vehicles, special fixing clips for vehicle weather strip, card holding devices for vehicles, pedals for vehicles, fuel sub-tanks for vehicles, glasses holding devices for vehicles, linkage bushings for vehicles, hood bumper rubbers, seat retaining devices, trays for vehicles, oil filters for vehicles, gasoline filters for vehicles, hole plugs for vehicles, gasoline tank valves for vehicles, oil level gauges for vehicles, rod holders for vehicles, pipe clamping devices for vehicles, coat hooks for vehicles, assist grips for vehicles, hooks of luggage net for vehicles, luggage hooks for vehicles, belt buckles for vehicle parts, head rest pole guide for vehicles, locking device of lid for vehicle interior, window washer nozzles for vehicles, dampers for vehicle parts (glove boxes, assist grips, cup holders, ashtrays, storage boxes, door handles, coat hooks), clips for wind shield mounting, safety belts buckles for baby carriers" included in **International Class 12**;

"Backpacks; purses; wallets; shopping bags; grips for holding shopping bags; bags for sports; Trunks and travelling bags; Umbrellas; Parasols; Walking sticks; Bags with buckles, bags with cord adjusters, bags with tape adjusters, knapsacks with buckles, knapsacks with cord adjusters, buckles for bags and cases, hook for bags and cases, tape adjusters for bags, cord adjusters for bags, plastic handle for bags and cases, plastic handle for suitcases, stick handles, leather shoulder belts, animal collars, briefcase, wheeled shopping bags with buckles, dog collars with buckles, bags [envelopes, pouches] of leather for packaging with buckles, card cases [notecases] with buckles, bands of leather with buckles, leather shoulder belts with buckles, briefcases with buckles, handbag with buckles" included in **International Class 18**;

"Furniture; Picture frames; goods of plastics, namely latches, pins, dampers, clothing hooks, door fittings, binding screws for cables, clothing-pegs, clothing-pins; Furniture and furnishings; Non-metal rivets; Threaded rivets of plastic; Non-metallic nuts [fasteners]; Nuts, not of metal; Wing nuts (Non-metallic -); Non-metal door bolts; Self-tapping non-metallic bolts; Non-metal latches; Non-metal door latches; Non-metal latch bars; Curtain pins; Non-metal cotter pins; Non-metallic pegs [pins]; Tent pegs, not of metal; Dowels not of metal; Lockers; Non-metal hinges; Door hinges (Nonmetallic -); Threaded screws of plastic; plastic wall plugs; Fasteners of plastic; clothing hooks; screw grommet; Binding screws, not of metal, for cables; Edgings of plastic for furniture; plate racks; cord locks; cord stoppers; Casters, not of metal; bed fittings, not of metal; binding screws, not of metal, for cables; bolts, not of metal; bottle caps, not of metal; bottle closures, not of metal; cable clips, not of metal; pipe clips, not of metal; clothing hooks, not of metal; curtain hooks; door fittings, not of metal; furniture fittings, not of metal; hinges, not of metal; latches, not of metal; locks [other than electric], not of metal; locks, not of metal, for vehicles; nuts, not of metal; pegs, not of metal [pins]; plugs [dowels] not of metal; screws, not of metal; sealing caps, not of metal; window fittings, not of metal; fasteners, not of metal; rivets, not of metal; screw grommets, not of metal; dampers, not of metal; clamps, not of metal; rod holders; wind shield mounting clips; clutches; torque limiters; supporting legs for furniture; cable and pipe straps; binding device not of metal for file; caps, not of metal (sealing -); closures, not of metal, for containers; fittings, not of metal (bed -); fittings, not of metal (door -); fittings, not of metal (window -); valves, not of metal, other than parts of machines; valves of plastic (waterpipe-)" included in **International Class 20** and

"Lace; Embroidery; Ribbons; Braids; Needles; Hooks and eyes; Pins; artificial flowers; Buckles for clothing [clothing buckles]; Hook and eye fastening tape; Snap hooks; Belt clasp; Suspender ends [fasteners]; Clothing hooks [fasteners]; Snap hooks [fasteners] for clothing; Accessories for apparel, sewing articles and decorative textile articles; plastic eyelets; plastic buckles; Bag buckles, portfolio buckles, tape adjusters for bags, dress fastenings, snap fasteners, belt clasps, fastenings for suspenders, slide fasteners, slide fastener knobs, buckles (clothing accessories), shoe buckles, spring hooks, clip buckles, buttons, tape adjusters, cord locks, cord adjusters, rotary spring hooks, cord end buckles, belt buckle, belt adjuster for bag, tape buckles, loops, snap hooks, hooks, eyelets for clothing, shoe eyelets, fastening for hat strap, shoulder pads for clothing, shoe string adjusters, buckles for wheeled shopping bags, buckles for sling bags for carrying infants, buckles for sports bags (bags for climbers, bags for campers, golf bags, ski bags, shoe bags, surfbags), buckles for tool bags, buckles for animal collars, buckles for bags [envelopes, pouches] of leather for packaging, buckles for card cases [notecases], buckles for bands of leather, buckles for leather shoulder belts, buckles for briefcases, buckles for handbag frames, buckles for traveling bags" included in **International Class 26.**

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Htoo Htoo, *H.G.P*
For **NIFCO INC.,**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon.
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
hh@kcyangon.com

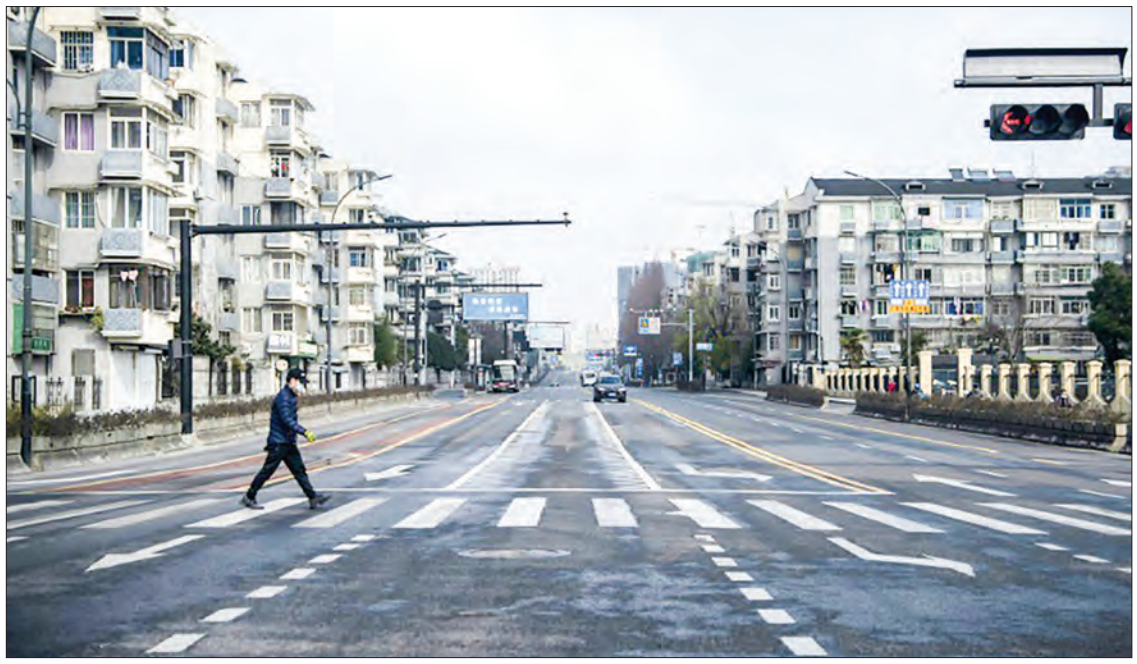
Dated **6th February 2020**

In Alibaba's hometown, a grim message: 'don't go out'

HANGZHOU — A loudspeaker broadcast ominous instructions across the deserted streets of Hangzhou, the eastern Chinese city that is home to e-commerce giant Alibaba: "Please don't go out, don't go out, don't go out!"

Hangzhou is famous for being where tech tycoon Jack Ma founded his online shopping business in an apartment two decades ago, a one hour journey on a bullet train from Shanghai.

But as large parts of China come to a standstill in a bid to end the spread of the deadly novel coronavirus, green fences and "no entry" signs blocked streets near the headquarters of one of the world's most valuable companies. Alibaba's headquarters are inside one of three Hangzhou districts where some three million people were told this week that only one person per household would be allowed outside every two days, to buy necessities.



The city of Hangzhou is on an extended Lunar New Year holiday as part of efforts to keep people indoors. **PHOTO: AFP**

The city is on an extended Lunar New Year holiday as part of efforts to keep people indoors and a temperature check had been set up outside the Alibaba office, near a "2020 Happy New Year" sign in English and the company's logo. Nobody was seen coming in or out, and a security guard told AFP that the company's parks across the country were closed.

Several roads in closed-off Yuhang district were sealed and manned by security personnel. —AFP ■

Italy's three-wheeled newsagent revs up against crisis

MILAN — Every morning, the instantly recognisable whirr of Andrea Carbini's three-wheeler fills this Milan square, where he throws open his mobile newsagent's doors for a news-hungry and largely elderly clientele.

"Corriere della Sera!" "That's two euros, have a nice day, see you tomorrow!" says Carbini, with the cheerfulness of newspaper sellers of yesteryear.

He promises a customer to put aside a newspaper, to find a certain book, he asks for news about the family.

There is so much demand that the yellow and white Ape (Bee) three-wheeled van will be late for its next rendez-vous in another nearby piazza.

"I come every day. The newspaper kiosk closed in July and fortunately the Ape has been coming for a month," Maria Ricciardi, 77, told AFP. "I don't like the Internet. It may be necessary, but real culture is in books and newspapers."

Since the local kiosk closed, "I've had to go for a long walk" to get a paper, notes 72-year-old Maria Malzani.

She and her typographer husband, who have always read newspapers, say the initiative is "fabulous". Carbini, 52, came up with the mobile newsagent's idea to counter the disappearance of newsstands. "Ten years ago there were still 650 in Milan, now there are only 450," says Diego Averna of the Cisl trade union, pointing out that many are "just about surviving" thanks to the sale of public transport tickets or snacks.—AFP ■

For now, Carbini has only one route, stopping in four neighbourhoods where newspaper kiosks have recently closed. **PHOTO: AFP**

A file photo of the Tata Steel plant in Jamshedpur. **PHOTO: AFP**

India ranks as second largest steel producer of crude steel: Pradhan

NEW DELHI — India now ranks as the second-largest producer of crude steel after China, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Wednesday.

India's crude steel production in 2018 was at 109.3 million tonnes, up by 7.7 per cent from 101.5 million tonnes in 2017. This moved up to 111.2 million tonnes in 2019, Pradhan told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply quoting data from the World Steel Association.

On the other hand, Japan ranks third globally with 104.3 million tonnes of crude steel production in 2018 and 99.3 million tonnes in 2019.

In contrast, China remains number one with 920 million tonnes of production in 2018 and 996.3 million tonnes in 2019. The United States and South Korea rank fourth and fifth respectively.

Pradhan said the government does not set any annual targets for steel production as it is a deregulated sector. "The decision on the quantity of steel production is taken by individual companies based on commercial considerations and market requirements," he said.—ANI ■

NEWS In BRIEF

Climate takes centre stage at Siemens shareholder meet

MUNICH — Under fire from climate protesters over his company's part in a massive coal mine project, Siemens chief executive Joe Kaeser hammered home the group's green credentials at its annual general meeting Wednesday.

Siemens "did not see the whole picture correctly and in time" when agreeing to supply rail signalling equipment to the planned Carmichael mine in Australia, Kaeser told shareholders in Munich, as the chants of activists outside could be heard.

Kaeser said the company would make one billion euros ($1.1 billion) available between now and 2025 to identify and reduce greenhouse emissions in its supply chains. But he complained about the company being the focus of "agitation", warning demonstrators and activists that "protest alone offers no solutions". "Those who persist in rejecting dialogue and cooperation on solutions lose the moral right to discredit" companies and leaders who are taking climate action, Kaeser said.— AFP ■

Bank of Thailand cuts rates to record low on coronavirus concerns

BANGKOK — Thailand's central bank on Wednesday cut its key interest rate to a record low, as concerns mount over the impact of the coronavirus epidemic.

Bank of Thailand Monetary Policy Committee members unanimously decided to lower the benchmark rate by 0.25 percentage point to 1 percent, the lowest since the committee was instituted in 2008. The central bank said a more accommodative monetary policy stance is warranted to alleviate the negative impact of the coronavirus, the delayed enactment of the annual budget expenditure act and a prolonged drought. The rate cut is the first this year and follows two cuts last year. Titanun Malikamas, assistant governor of the Bank of Thailand, said the move would support liquidity provision and debt restructuring for businesses and households severely affected by the economic slowdown.—Kyodo News ■

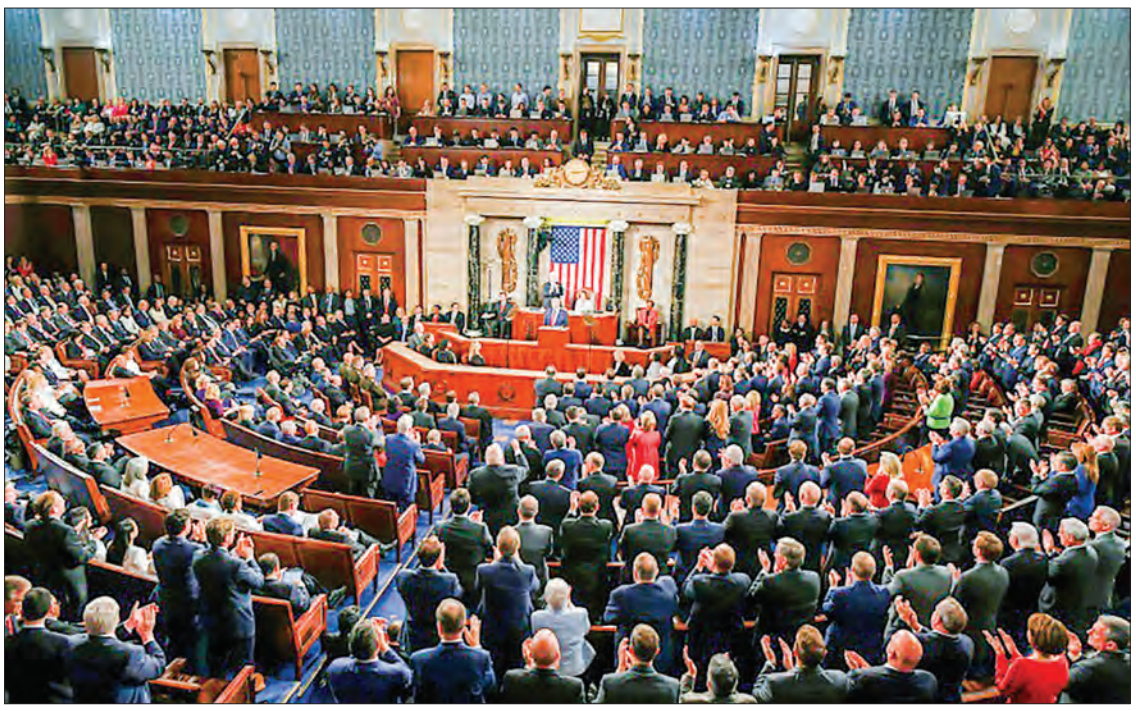
Trump set for Senate acquittal in boost to reelection campaign

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump was set to win acquittal from impeachment in the Senate on Wednesday, hours after his partisan State of the Union speech triggered unprecedented protests from Democrats in a seething display of US political divisions.

The Democratic-led House of Representatives impeached Trump for abuse of office and obstructing Congress back in December, after weeks of investigations into his alleged corruption.

But far from being forced from office like Richard Nixon, Trump is set to see himself declared not guilty by his Republican party majority in the Senate.

The finale to the trial won't mean an end to Democratic-led investigations, but it gives Trump momentum in his bid to win another four years after a tumultuous, scandal-filled first term.



US President Donald Trump delivered a State of the Union address that the stage for his re-election bid later this year. **PHOTO: AFP**

Although he has never got approval ratings over 50 per cent during his presidency, this most polarizing of politicians was able to celebrate a personal best on the eve of the impeachment verdict — 49 per cent, according to Gallup.

With a ferociously loyal right-wing base packing his frequent rallies around the country, Trump thinks he has enough strength to win.

And he got more encouragement when the fractured Democratic party messed up its first battle in the primary season, held in Iowa, with results being held back for a full day due to technical glitches.

Political war

America's pre-election divisions were on excruciating display in Congress during Trump's annual State of the Union late Tuesday.

After an address of one hour and 18 minutes, filled with Trump's boasts and claims of a "great American comeback," the Democratic speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, ripped up her copy of the speech live on television.— AFP ■

Buttigieg takes lead in chaotic Iowa vote, Sanders second

Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg claimed victory in Iowa although full results have not yet been released. **PHOTO: AFP**

DES MOINES, IOWA — Democratic White House candidate Pete Buttigieg seized a shock lead in the chaotic Iowa caucuses, closely trailed by leftist senator Bernie Sanders, according to partial returns released on Tuesday after an embarrassing delay in reporting the results.

Progressive standard-bearer Elizabeth Warren was in third place followed by Joe Biden, a disappointing showing for the former vice president who has claimed he is best positioned to defeat Donald Trump in November. Buttigieg, the 38-year-old former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, who has been battling Biden for the moderate wing of the party, hailed what he called an "astonishing victory" in the midwestern farm state which kicks off the presidential nominating process.

"I have never been more confident in our campaign, in our team, and in the vision that brought to us this point," Buttigieg told ecstatic supporters in New Hampshire, which holds the next nominating contest on 11 February. With polls still mixed on whether Americans would be comfortable with an openly gay president, Buttigieg also made a rare, though implicit, reference to his sexuality — and the added significance it gave the Iowa outcome. "It validates for a kid, somewhere in a community, wondering if he belongs, or she belongs, or they belong in their own family, that if you believe in yourself and your country there's a lot backing up that belief," he said with a catch in his voice. According to the partial results, Buttigieg, unknown nationally a year ago, leads with 26.8 per cent followed by Sanders, the 78-year-old self-described democratic socialist, with 25.2 per cent, followed by Senator Warren with 18.4 per cent, and Biden with 15.4 per cent. The centrist senator from Minnesota Amy Klobuchar was in fifth place on 12.6 per cent, with 71 per cent of the precincts reporting.— AFP ■

US deploys new type of nuclear weapon seen as key to countering Russia

WASHINGTON — The US military has deployed a new low-yield submarine-launched nuclear weapon, something that the Pentagon is viewing as critical to counter the threat posed by Russia's arsenal of smaller tactical missiles.

Several former high-ranking administration officials, however, said that the new weapons may increase the potential for confrontation, CNN reported. "The US Navy has fielded the W76-2 low-yield submarine-launched ballistic missile warhead," John Rood, the under secretary of defence for policy, said in a statement on Tuesday (local time).

The new nuclear weapon is a modification of the pre-existing W-76 warhead, which is used to arm submarine launched Trident II (D-5) missiles, so the new weapon does not add to the total number of nuclear weapons in the US stockpile.

The nuclear launch codes and nuclear options in the so-called football for the President have now been updated to reflect this weapon, a US official confirmed to CNN.

The new warheads were first produced in February of last year.

The less powerful weapon was invoked in the Nuclear Posture Review 2018 of the Trump government, warning that opponents could believe they could use a smaller nuclear weapon against the US or their allies without fear that the US would have nuclear retribution would launch because American weapons are disproportionately more destructive.

Russia is believed to maintain a large stockpile of "tactical" nuclear weapons, which are less powerful and destructive than those possessed by the US.— ANI

A US submarine at sea: the Pentagon has for the first time deployed a submarine carrying long-range ballistic missiles with low-yield nuclear warheads. **PHOTO: AFP**

Thet Htar Thu Zar to compete seven events to qualify for 2020 Olympics

Myanmar badminton star Thet Htar Thu Zar seen at the Egypt International Badminton Championship in Cairo in 2019. **PHOTO:THET HTAR THUZAR'S FB**

MYANMAR badminton player Thet Htar Thu Zar will compete seven international events in 50 days to qualify for the 2020 Olympics.

She will compete in the first two events in Uganda and Kenya this month in defence of her championship title.

Uganda International Series will be held from 20 to 23 February and the Kenya Future Series from 27 February to 1 March. She is the champion of the two events last year.

The Myanmar's badminton celebrity must try to improve her ranking before the end of the qualification deadline period which is 26 April, 2020.

The next contests will be in Portugi, Czech, Switzerland, Poland and Finland.

HSBC BWF World Tour Super 300 in Portugi will be held from 17 to 22 March while the International Challenge Badminton from 26 to 29 March in Poland.

International Challenge in Finland will be held from 2 to 5 April. —Shine Htet Zaw

Myanmar Women's Team to face Vietnam in third round Group-A Olympic Women's C'ship

THE Myanmar National Women's Team, which is competing against Vietnam in the third round Group-A of the Olympic Women's Football Championship, organized a training program yesterday.

The third round Group-A of the Olympic Women's Football Championship is scheduled to take place in the evening of today (February 6) at 4:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time in Jeju, the Republic of Korea.

Vietnam is trying for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics qualification bid when the sides meet in their Group A tie at the Jeju World Cup Stadium in Seongwipo on Thursday.

Players from the Myanmar Women's National football team. **PHOTO: MFF**

Myanmar side are aiming to bounce back from their 7-0 defeat to Korea on Monday. The top two teams from Group A will advance to the play-offs with the Group B sides, with the winners to join hosts Japan in the Olympics.—Lynn Thit (Tgi)

Women's football Olympic qualifiers rescheduled again amid Team China quarantine

SYDNEY —Football Federation Australia (FFA) confirmed on Wednesday that the Olympic women's football qualifying Group B matches have been rescheduled for a second time, as the Chinese team are being quarantined in Brisbane until February 5 amid concerns over the coronavirus outbreak.

According to the new schedule, the four matchdays of Group B, which features China, Australia, Chinese Taipei and Thailand, were set to be February 3, 6, 9 and 12. The FAA said that the final three matchdays will now all be postponed for one day following Chinese Taipei's 1-0 victory over Thailand on Monday.

When Team China's quarantine ends on Wednesday, the Steel Roses will play their first group match against Thailand on February 7, and then take on Chinese Taipei and Australia on February 10 and February 13 respectively.

FFA Chief Executive Officer James Johnson said that the delay would now be actioned after a period of positive negotiations and goodwill among all stakeholders including FIFA, the Asian Football Federation (AFC) and the Chinese Football Association (CFA).

China Women's football team's fixture in the 2020 Olympic Qualifying is rescheduled: China vs Thailand, Feb 7. China vs Chinese Taipei, Feb 10. China vs Australia, Feb 12. 3 matches within 6 days. Due to quarantine, Chinese players have to train in hotel corridors after arrival. **PHOTO: TWITTER**

"Over the past few days we have been engaged in positive and ultimately fruitful discussions with numerous organizations and clubs with interests in these qualifiers," Johnson explained.

"This outcome will ensure that there are three full days between matchdays three and four, guaranteeing that the health and safety of all participating players is put first, which is a priority for FFA," he added.

Group B matches were originally set to be held in Wuhan, the epicenter of the 2019-nCoV virus outbreak. The tournament was moved to Sydney on January 26 in a joint decision by the AFC and the CFA.

The 32 members of the Chinese team arrived in Brisbane last Wednesday and have been placed in a week-long isolation in their hotel by local authorities since their arrival, due to the fact they trained in Wuhan until January 22, before the epidemic worsened and the city was locked down.—Xinhua ■