State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi wrote that after half a year of the COVID period, everyone at home and abroad should continue their cooperative efforts to show that we are stronger than COVID and that we are endowed with superior strength to survive on her Facebook page yesterday. This was what she wrote:

According to the latest data received since yesterday, there are (24,304) persons still under quarantine; all over the country there are (6,195) quarantine centres; those who are coming back from abroad: Kachin, Kayah, Taninthayi, Shan, Yangon airport, still continue to make up a total of over (1,000) per day.

We understand that those who are living abroad wish to return quickly; however, if we permitted them to return “en masse” without proper arrangements, we would not be able to provide them with the necessary health care. Because infected persons are included among the returnees, we not only have to make arrangements for monitoring and inspection but also have to consider providing treatment if needed. As more persons return home, not only do we have to consider the fact that there might not be enough quarantine centres, we also have to make preparations to ensure that we have sufficient hospitals, medicines, medical staff and healthcare workers.

In the interest of everyone, we have restricted the number of flights coming into the country. Those citizens who are waiting to return please be patient. Don’t think that the rules are too restrictive. In some countries, they still have infected persons to the tune of 10,000 per day.

We have passed half a year of the COVID period. Everyone at home and abroad should continue their cooperative efforts to show that we are stronger than COVID and that we are endowed with superior strength to survive.

(Translated by Kyaw Myaing)
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Notification (124/2020)
2nd Waning of First Waso, 1382 ME
(G6th July 2020)
Public Announcement for dissolution of political party

1. The Union Election Commission permitted the 88 Generation Brotherhood Party to register as a political party with Registration No. 127 of Notification (74/2020) on 24-3-2020.

2. The 88 Generation Brotherhood Party was unable to legally organize the required number of party members in the allotted period of time and thus failed to meet provisions in Section 12, Sub-section (a-vii) of the Political Parties Registration Law.

The Union Election Commission, in its plenary meeting (20/2020) held on 2-7-2020, made the decision to terminate the registration of the party as a political party and also dissolve it, in line with Section 12-(b) of the Political Parties Registration Law.

3. It is hereby announced that the 88 Generation Brotherhood Party has been terminated and the party has been dissolved as of 6 July, 2020.

(Hla Thein)
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Tatmadaw takes action against officials responsible for deadly landslide in Phakant

THE Tatmadaw has filed charges against officials responsible for the security measures of mining sites near Wheykha Village, Phakant Township, where landslide occurred on 2 July, according to a press release of the Tatmadaw True News Information Team.

The press release also said authorities are continuing the search for people missing in the accident that left 172 workers dead and 54 injured.

The Tatmadaw has already recalled a commander tasked with security issue and the Minister for Security and Border Affairs of Kachin State to their military duties since 3 July.

The Tatmadaw is pursuing all necessary course of action and working in line with regulations to replace the vacant minister position. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

COVID-19 figure in Myanmar reaches 316 after three new cases reported on 6 July

FROM PAGE-1

Three more cases of COVID-19 on 6 July 2020: updated at 8 pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case No</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact with positive patient</th>
<th>Oversea travel history</th>
<th>Hospital for medical treatment</th>
<th>Lab result</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>314</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Tamway Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, UAE</td>
<td>South Okkalapa Specialist Hospital</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)</td>
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<tr>
<td>315</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, UAE</td>
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<td>Positive</td>
<td>Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)</td>
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<tr>
<td>316</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Sangyaung Township, Yangon Region</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, UAE</td>
<td>South Okkalapa Specialist Hospital</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>Held under quarantine (Kamayut Township)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ministry of Health and Sports
CTU Chairperson receives delegation from International IDEA Myanmar

CHAIRPERSON of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Myo Nyunt received the delegation of International IDEA Myanmar led by the Head of Mission Mr Mark McDowell in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed cooperation between the CTU and the International IDEA Myanmar; increasing capacities of researchers at the tribunal, plan to use electronic technology to hold online meetings, promoting electronic judicial system, possible signing of MoUs, and collaboration on conducting researches.

The meeting was also attended by members of CTU, the permanent secretary and the deputy permanent secretary, and the deputy director-general. — MNA
(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Info for those who want to work abroad

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, in accordance with the Law Relating to Overseas Employment (1999), allows licensed overseas employment agencies to send Myanmar workers to foreign countries.

Those who want to work abroad need to meet the requirements and must avoid illegal brokers. They need to directly contact licensed overseas employment agencies to work abroad legally. They can ask for relevant information at Labour Exchange Offices under the Department of Labour, and the township offices of Migrant Workers Resource Centres.

Only the overseas employment agencies that hold licence from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, and their legal agents can send Myanmar workers to foreign countries. Apart from them, legal actions will be taken against anyone who recruits workers for overseas employment or anyone who operates illegal overseas employment agency.

Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population
(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses animal health bill

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discussed the controversial bill for the animal health and development yesterday.

The meeting was attended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and Joint Bill Committee Chairman U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein, the deputy chairperson, the joint-secretary, committee members, the chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development Committee, the chairman and secretary of the Amyotha Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery Development Committee, and officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, and officials from Union Attorney-General Office and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. — MNA
(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)
1,142 Myanmar nationals come back home via Myawady border bridge on 6 July

A total of 1,142 Myanmar nationals returned home from Thailand through No.2 border bridge in Myawady Town, Kayin State, on 6 July. Kayin State Hluttaw MP U Thant Zin Aung, Myawady District Administrative Office U Tay Zar Aung and local officials helped the returnees with medical tests and other supplies. The number of migrant workers who returned home from abroad through this border has been 42,230 until now. The latest group of returnees included 690 males and 452 females from different regions and states.—Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)  (Translated by Aung Khin)

More Myanmar citizens return home through Chinese border

MYANMAR citizens continue to return from China through the border crossing at Chinshwehaw Town in Laiukai Township, Kokang Self-Administered Zone. Local authorities helped the repatriations of 37 person on 1 July and 24 persons in the following day, providing them with facemasks, arranging transportation to each of their homes, and transferring them to Lashio. These people—32 men and 29 women—were from Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, Bago Region, Magway Region, Ayeyawady Region, Shan State and Nay Pyi Taw. From 30 April to 2 July, the local COVID-19 committee has transferred 6,992 men and 5,638 women to the officials in respective areas. —Zin Zin (IPRD)  (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

Compare of foreign tourist entry from international airports and border checkpoints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>International airports and border checkpoints</th>
<th>June 2018</th>
<th>June 2020</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yangon Airport/ Sea Port</td>
<td>36,011</td>
<td>14,765</td>
<td>1 267</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mandalay Airport</td>
<td>24,004</td>
<td>3,705</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw Airport</td>
<td>1,882</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>0 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Myeik Airport</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tachileik</td>
<td>4,153</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Myawady</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>2,638</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kawthoung</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Htooikhoe</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tamu</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Reedhorda</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>65,879</td>
<td>21,714</td>
<td>1 278</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note – Although international inbound flights are being suspended as from 30 March 2020, the foreign visitors entered Myanmar by special flights for COVID-19 measures.

Compare of foreign tourist entry from international airports, sea ports and border crossings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2018-2019 financial year</th>
<th>2019-2020 financial year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>52,647</td>
<td>21,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>77,498</td>
<td>21,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>82,474</td>
<td>19,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>93,125</td>
<td>18,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>102,016</td>
<td>24,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>95,332</td>
<td>23,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>71,148</td>
<td>22,848</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>67,410</td>
<td>22,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>64,876</td>
<td>21,714</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>708,129</td>
<td>195,704</td>
<td>903,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note – Although international inbound flights are being suspended as from 30 March 2020, the foreign visitors entered Myanmar by special flights for COVID-19 measures.

—MNA
India’s low demand slashes black bean prices in domestic market

INDIA’s low demand on pulses and beans has brought down the black bean prices in the domestic market, said an official of Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

Regarding the importation of 400,000 tonnes of black beans for the next fiscal year, India has narrowed the import deadline by August-end. It has also granted import licences to some companies. However, due to the spread of coronavirus infection, India’s companies reduced the import volume.

The prevailing prices of black bean stand at around K85,000 per tonne, whereas the price jumped to above K1 million per tonne in June-end. The domestic market witnessed a sharp fall of K25,000 per tonne with the drop in India’s demand.

The traders are closely observing the market with the changes in India’s policy on bean importation. Now, the growers have already sold out the beans and they are in the hands of traders. It is really hard to meet the import deadline.

“The changes of policy reflect on the unguaranteed market for the domestic growers. The sudden change in policy burdens the growers, raising confusion,” said an official of the association.

“The country has around 250,000 tonnes of black bean stocks. It is unlikely to export the entire quota of 400,000 tonnes to India, he continued.

“The supply chain of Myanmar’s beans — the growers and traders are facing hardships due to short period of rapid change.

“The country lays down policy for its national interest. India’s move is possible to protect their farmers as India’s beans will be harvested in September. This is why they shrink the deadline to August-end 2020. If the yield is not good in September, they will surely make an extension for the import period. If not for poor yield, the import period will end as scheduled,” the traders guessed.

Myanmar is the top producing country of black bean that India demands. Besides Myanmar, other beans such as pigeon peas, green grains and yellow peas, are also grown in Australia and Africa, the association stated.

Voluntary surrender of business licences approved for 43 petrol stations

By Nyein Nyein

The business licences of 43 petrol stations have been invalidised as they wanted to stop running the operations, according to an announcement of Petroleum Products Regulatory Department under the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MoEIE).

They are located in Nay Pyi Taw; Yangon, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady regions; and Mon and Shan states, according to data of the department.

They submitted the business closure reports within four years (from 2017 to 2020) to revoke the licence.

They all are voluntarily willing to withdraw their business licences, said Chairperson Dr Win Myint of Myanmar Fuel Oil Importers and Distributors Association.

“Some petrol stations reported surrendering their licence as they want to close their businesses. Some stations have been suspended their licence for three months to a year as they are incoherent with the rules. Most of them are fined. The voluntary surrender of the licence means they are hard to keep running the businesses,” he added.

Some of them with voluntary surrender are famous stations in Yangon Region.

At present, a total of 2,725 private fuel oil stations have been opened in the regions and states.

Myanmar’s external trade tops $27 bln as of 26 June

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

The country’s export sector relies more on the agricultural and manufacturing sectors. Export earnings from CMP (cutting, making, and packing) garment businesses are rising, while reliance on natural resources, such as natural gas and jade, is lessening.

The government is trying to reduce the trade deficit by screening luxury import items and boosting exports.

At present, CMP garment sector which contributes to 30 per cent of Myanmar’s export sector is struggling because of the cancellation of order from the European countries and suspension of their trade by western countries amid coronavirus consequences. As a result of this, manufacturing export, mainly CMP garment, showed a drop amid the pandemic shock, the businesspersons pointed out.

— Ko Khant
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)
Pilgrims to Bagan-NyaungU surpass over 1,000 on weekends

BAGAN cultural heritage zone, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was eerily empty due to the tight restriction period of the pandemic and it has now received about 450 pilgrims per day on average, according to Shwezigon Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Earlier, the historical temples in the ancient city were packed with a large number of pilgrims and tourists throughout the year. The temples and religious buildings in Bagan-NyaungU cultural zone were closed to contain the spread of coronavirus disease. Now, the temples are reopened between 9 am and 4 pm. About 450 pilgrims come to the zone per day in the weekdays, and more than 1,200 were seen at the weekends.

Over 1,000 visitors are seen in the famous historical temples of Bagan city; Shwezigon Pagoda, Lawkananda Pagoda, Tuyintaung Pagoda, Thatkyitaung Pagoda, Hiłominio Temple, Ananda Pagoda, Bua Pagoda, Thatbyinyu Temple, Dhammayangyi Temple, Sulamani Temple, Payathonezu Temple, Mahabodhi Temple, Manuha Temple, Gawdawpalin Temple, Myazedi Temple, Nannaypa Temple, and other famous pagodas during the weekends, according to the board.

The pilgrims are registered on the data of the pagoda trustees’ board. The visitors must wear masks and wash hands, in line with health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports, said U Tin Hla Oo, secretary of Trustees Board.

Earlier, during the high season from November to April, Bagan is packed with local pilgrims and tourists. They used to visit Bagan to observe the temples and stupas and view the sunsets. The horse-riding businesses, motorcycle and electric bike rental businesses, hotels, motels, and guesthouses were earning well in the high season, along with souvenir businesses. Those businesses created jobs for residents.

The local tourism industry is battered by coronavirus pandemic and those engaged in local transport rental businesses (sidecar, boat, horse-riding, car, e-bike, cycle, motorcycle), hotels and guesthouses, restaurants and souvenir shops are suffering from this. The businesses relying on tourism are nearly closed amid coronavirus negative impacts.—GNLM

(Translated by El Myat Mon)
This is the time we should be on our guard

In our country we haven’t even reached three months from the time we started imposing health rules and regulations to protect ourselves from COVID. I can see some people who have lost their patience. In this type of situation, we should be scared because we need to be scared; this is the time we should be on our guard. In some countries where they have announced that they have overcome the COVID challenge, they are facing COVID cases again. This is really scary.

Let me remind you again. Researchers are of the opinion that the second COVID wave is more likely to be worse than the first wave. We did not overcome the first wave easily. We had to invest in financial resources, human resources, and spiritual energy and will power. All types of energy. We need to come up with spiritual energy and will power continuously so that the investments we have made so far don’t turn out to be for nothing.

(Excerpt from State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s Facebook post on 17 June 2020)

Japanese man donates 100,000 yen for Myanmar citizens

A Japanese man donated 100,000 yen for Myanmar citizens stranded in his country amid the outbreak of COVID-19.

Mr Kamiura Naoki from Toride city of Ibaraki prefecture presented the cash to Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Myint Thu on 3 July.

The Japanese well-wisher conducted workplace safety trainings at the Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa for six years and has friendly relationship with the people from host country.—Aung Thura

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Fossil thought to be animal head discovered in Yenangyaung

A goatherd discovered a fossil thought to be an animal head near an oilfield in northwest of Thwingone Ward in Yenangyaung Township, Magway Region.

The local ward administrator, U Yan Khaing, said on 6 July that the goatherd Ko Maung Maung Han discovered the fossil while he was tending goats about one and half months ago. The ward administrator and members of Yenangyaung Chitthu Group visited the goatherd to see the fossil, and they thought it might be a remain of an animal head. Then they informed the Township Administrator and relevant officials about the fossil.

Magway Region Archaeology Department Deputy Director U Myint Thein, Yenangyaung Township Administrator U Man Ko Haw, relevant officials, and lecturers from Geology Department of the Yenangyaung Degree College inspected the fossil at around 2 pm on 6 July.

Samples of the fossil will be sent to the Magway Geology Department for examination, and authorities and experts will dig for more fossils.—Ko Soe Gyi

(Translated by Maung Maung Swe)
AIDS fight failures show need for ‘fair’ COVID-19 response: UN

Millions have died needlessly from AIDS, which could have been avoided due to a lack of access to existing therapies, the UNAIDS chief said, calling for a faster response to tackling the coronavirus pandemic.

Winie Byanyima recalled with anguish how two decades ago in Botswana, she accompanied others who struggled to scrape together funds to help a close friend who was suffering from HIV, to obtain the antiretroviral treatments she needed.

“At that time it was about $800 a month. Her salary was less than $200 a month,” Byanyima told AFP in an interview, describing how her friend June would sometimes come together enough for one month of treatment, only to be forced to skip the next one.

“She died six months before the price came down from $100 a year to $10 a year.”

Byanyima, 61, took the reins nearly a year ago at UNAIDS, the Geneva-based Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS.

Speaking on her organization’s annual report, Byanyima heralded the “immense progress” in the fight against HIV/AIDS since the pandemic began four decades ago, including more than halving annual deaths from the peak of 1.7 million in 2010 to 0.69 million last year.

But she decried that since the beginning, the development of treatments and the ongoing search for a vaccine had largely been left to the private sector, culminating in a call for a dramatic shift in tactics as the world faces the towering challenges of the COV-ID-19 pandemic.

“People’s vaccine”

The urgent attempts to learn from the bad experience from AIDS, when medications were found, but it took 10 years before people in our region in Africa could benefit.

“If you count in terms of years how many lives were lost, we’re still talking of millions of people who have been lost at risk but have not been richly vaccinated, she said.

She condemned reports that the United States and some European countries were booking out supplies of one of the most advanced candidate vaccines, being developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University.

“Teaching as has also announced that it has bought up more than 90 percent of the global stock of the anti-viral drug remde-sivir to treat COVID-19,” she said.

“This is not fair. This virus is hitting everybody.”

Byanyima said: “We need global solutions. Not a me-first solution.”

“Offtrack”

The rush to find vaccines and treatments against COVID-19, in which governments are pumping billions into the drug race, exposes the “failure” of the old model of letting phar-maceutical companies drive for profits lead the way on medical research and development, Byanyima said.

And changing the models to address the coronavirus could have far reaching benefits, including perhaps a research to find a drug for an HIV, she said.

“We can align the world behind a new model for developing and distributing health technologies, definitively this will impact solutions for HIV as well as for others,” she said.

Byanyima pointed to a large number of diseases affecting poor countries that have no treatments because companies have determined that investing in their development would not pay off financially.

“There have to be come before profits,” she said.

The coronavirus pandemic, meanwhile, risks significantly worsening the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Byanyima warned that the world was “already off track” and would miss the target of bringing AIDS-related deaths below 200,000 by 2030, as the 38 million people living with HIV have not received treatment.

“Coronavirus is threatening to throw back a decade. If we do not move, she said, pointing to her agency’s warning that that the number of new AIDS cases could double within 10 years.

Byanyima said against mother-to-child transmission could be set back 10 years. This is “totally unacceptable,” she said.

Byanyima called for a “fair” response to the coronavirus pandemic, including of treatments and testing, which she said should be available to all, even wealthy countries. But she decried that since the beginning, the development of treatments and the ongoing search for a vaccine had largely been left to the private sector, culminating in a call for a dramatic shift in tactics as the world faces the towering challenges of the COV-ID-19 pandemic.

“In a bid to prevent fish resources from extinction in the Ayeyawady River but also in other rivers nationwide.

Although the situation has shown that it would be too difficult for villagers who are not able to go fishing for their livelihood to avoid illegal or legal fishing if they could not get income from other sources.

Just education is not enough to fight illegal fishing. Violators will be thinking about their jobs and the sustainability of fishing stocks in rivers and creeks.

A bid to prevent fish resources from extinction in the country the district and township fisheries departments should draw up projects to eliminate illegal fishing methods along with livelihood programs for those who are relying on fishing for income.

Before alarming bells, the authorities should step up efforts to enforce laws not only the Ayeyawady dolphins but also the country’s fish resources.

If the numbers of fish decline, it will threaten the dolphins too.
Coronavirus: latest global developments

PARIS (France) — Here are the latest developments in the coronavirus crisis:

531,789 dead

The pandemic has killed at least 531,789 people worldwide since it surfaced in China late last year, according to an AFP tally at 1900 GMT on Sunday based on official sources.

More than 11 million people have been infected in 196 countries and territories.

The United States is the hardest-hit country with 129,718 deaths. It is followed by Brazil with 64,265, Britain with 44,220, Italy with 34,861 and Mexico with 30,366 fatalities.

Toll record

Iranian health authorities announce 163 new deaths, the country’s highest official single-day toll since the outbreak began in the country in February.

Morocco surge

Morocco reports 698 additional infections, its highest one-day increase, with numerous cases discovered in a fish canning factory in the southern port city of Safi, which is quarantined overnight and its some 300,000 inhabitants are placed under total lockdown.

South Africa’s military response

Dozens of military medics are deployed to help combat the pandemic in South Africa’s third most affected province, where there has been a surge in infections.

The deployment to East Cape province comes a day after the country recorded more than 10,800 new cases, its biggest single-day jump.

The deployment

The deployment to East Cape province comes a day after the country recorded more than 10,800 new cases, its biggest single-day jump.

Sharp rise in India

India adds a record number of cases in a day, closing in on Russia as the world’s third-most-infected nation.

The health ministry reports just under 25,000 cases and 613 deaths in 24 hours -- the biggest daily spike since the first case was detected in the country late January.
Israel launches new spy satellite

Southwestern Japan hit by more heavy rain as death toll rises to 44

Chinese troops seen withdrawing from flashpoint Himalayan valley: Indian army

NEW DELHI (India) — Chinese troops have started removing tents and other structures from a contested Himalayan valley where they fought a deadly battle with Indian soldiers last month, Indian army sources said Monday.

Twenty Indian soldiers were killed in brutal hand-to-hand fighting on June 15 in the Galwan Valley in Ladakh, sending tensions soaring between the nuclear-armed neighbours. China has acknowledged it suffered casualties but not given figures.

“China has acknowledged the toll suffered by its troops but not given numbers,” an India military official said on condition of anonymity.

The two sides have since held military and diplomatic talks and said they want a negotiated settlement. —AFP

KUMAMOTO (Japan) — More torrential rain struck Japan’s southwestern region of Kyushu on Monday, causing flooding and mudslides in areas other than Kumamoto Prefecture, where at least 44 people have been confirmed dead, with rescuers racing against the clock to save others still missing following the weekend’s deluge.

The weather agency issued its highest-level warning on heavy rain for parts of Fukuoka, Nagasaki and Saga prefectures, urging people to take all possible measures to protect their lives.

It also said residents in those areas should be on high alert through Tuesday morning. As of 6 pm, more than 330,000 people from about 142,500 households were ordered to evacuate, according to a Kyodo News survey based on information provided by local authorities.

As for Kumamoto, Miyazaki and Kagoshima prefectures, about 224,000 residents were instructed to evacuate as of early Monday afternoon.

Of the 44 fatalities in flood-ravaged Kumamoto, 14 were from the Senjuen nursing home near the Kuma River, which overran its banks at 11 locations and broke one levee, according to the prefectural government.

Ten people remain missing, and one is feared dead, it added. About 6,100 homes along the river were submerged, and roughly 1,060 hectares of land were flooded, the infrastructure ministry said, adding that 11 bridges were destroyed.

A number of communities are isolated due to severed roads, among other damage, with more than 80 schools being closed in Kumamoto Prefecture.

Kyushu Electric Power Co. said about 4,000 homes in the prefecture continued to be without electricity as of Monday afternoon.

Some 1,500 people had taken shelter at 86 evacuation centers across the prefecture as of Sunday afternoon as the downpour caused mudslides and floods, severing roads and leaving many houses without water or power.

“The water level of rivers suddenly rose in the Saturday rain. I am worried because I don’t know how the rain is today,” said Shoko Matsunaga, 49, who has been staying at an evacuation center in Ashikita since Sunday evening with her 2-year-old grandchild.

— Kyodo News

People rest at a temporary evacuation centre in the flood-ravaged city of Hitoyoshi in Kumamoto Prefecture, southwestern Japan, on July 6, 2020, after deadly torrential rain.

PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MCC MERGUI VOY. NO. (027W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC MERGUI VOY. NO. (027W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2020 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.

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For: M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V HTK NEPTUNE VOY. NO. (08-20)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V HTK NEPTUNE VOY. NO. (08-20) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2020 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-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.

Phone No: 2301928

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For: M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S’PORE) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SEACON NINGBO

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SEACON NINGBO VOY. NO. (08-2008) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2020 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.

Phone No: 2301928

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For: M/S WILHELMSEN SHIPS SERVICE(S) PTE LTD
Stock markets rally on economy recovery hopes

LONDON (United Kingdom) — Stock markets rallied Monday, with further signs of economic recovery resonating with investors more than a surge in coronavirus infections worldwide.

The easing of lockdowns is providing hope the global economy will bounce back from an expected recession this year, with England's pubs reopening at the weekend and tourist attractions around Europe now either open or planning to.

Better-than-forecast data on US jobs creation and factory activity have also provided a boost to confidence, as have hopes for a vaccine, which observers say is key to kickstarting any recovery.

"European markets have taken their lead from China, which is the world's second largest economy seeing a huge uptick" with its main stocks index closing up nearly six per cent, noted Joshua Mahony, senior market analyst at IG trading group.

Traders "are going well" and analysts "are taking a more optimistic view" for the rest of the world.

"The new offer will be made known today. It will be open until the end of August, said Axicorp's Stephen Innes.

Shanghai led the gains, soaring to its highest level in more than two years, while Hong Kong finished up 3.8 per cent at levels not seen since early March. But there remains trepidation on trading floors as new infections spike around the world.

Some US states are reporting record daily increases, with a number of officials considering reimposing lockdown measures, while Brazil and India are also seeing worryingly large rises. And Australia said it would effectively seal off the state of Victoria from the rest of the country as authorities struggle to control a surge in cases.

For the first time since the global pandemic began, the border between Australia's two most populous states - Victoria and New South Wales - will be closed, beginning midnight Tuesday, officials from both states said.

The outbreak sent Sydney falling 6.7 per cent.

"For now the positive data surprises and huge fiscal and monetary stimulus are the overwhelming forces," National Australia Bank's Rodrigo Catril said in a note.

"But the increase in COVID-19 infections, not just in the US, means that they need to be closely monitored — the introduction of more severe containment measures has the potential to derail the positive vibes in markets."

—AFP

Argentina to renew offer to creditors, extends negotiation: president

BUENOS AIRES (Argentina) — Argentina will make creditors an improved offer and extend negotiations on restructuring $66 billion in debt through the end of August, President Alberto Fernandez said Sunday.

"The new offer will be made known today. It will be open until the end of August. It is an enormous effort we are making," Fernandez told radio Milenium.

The deadline for concluding the negotiations with bondholders had been set for July 24, but will now be pushed back to August 28 in an effort to reach an agreement to restructure $66 billion in bonds issued under foreign law.

The bonds represent roughly a fifth of the country's $324 billion debt, which amounts to around 90 per cent of its GDP.

The government's latest offer should be published in its official bulletin and then presented to the Securities and Exchange Commission in New York.

A government source told AFP the new proposal would be for "close to $33" for every $100, compared to the original offer of $39 per $100, which was rejected by a majority of the bondholders.

Fernandez said the conversations with creditors "are going well" and expressed hope "they will end well." 

Argentina has yet to reach an understanding with creditors over interest rate reductions or grace periods.

In recession since 2018, the Argentine economy has been further punished by the coronavirus pandemic. The International Monetary Fund estimates the economy will contract by 9.9 per cent this year.

With the backing of the IMF, Fernandez has insisted that any deal with creditors be sustainable so that the country can meet its obligations over the long term.

"If this is analyzed rationally, what we are asking is not that (the creditors) lose, but that they stop earning what they earned in excess," Fernandez said, accusing his predecessor Mauricio Macri's government of agreeing to terms not seen anywhere else.

—AFP

File photo taken on 10 December 2018 shows a trader walks past a display showing financial data at the offices of CMC Markets in the City of London. PHOTO: AFP

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- Myanmar citizen, graduate, not older than 35 years. Full personal essentials to be stated with Testimonials from Ward Administrator and Police Station concerned to vouch for good character and that no crime has been committed.

Recruited applicants will be trained as Assistant Managers to write Reinsurance and Marine insurance and required to appear for insurance exams: held by foreign insurance institutes. They will also enjoy other fringe benefits including Lunch Allowance and Ferry Service. With Knowledge, experience and services thus gradually gained and accumulated in addition to passing the said exams: further promotions are almost guaranteed. For those who prove well-versed in English age limit may be relaxed. Appointees are also required to contract to work for at least 2 years.

Every application which must reach the FNI [G] HO not later than 21.7.2020 must be accompanied by a Deposit of Ks 30,000/- (Kyats thirty thousand only). It shall not be returned to the candidate (applicant) who scores less than 40% of the marks given in the Competitive Exam to be held.

Those applicants who cannot come to the FNI [G] HO may send the Deposit by any ways and means. A photo static copy of the receipt therefor must be attached to the application.

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Oscar-winning composer Ennio Morricone dead at 91

Composer Ennio Morricone poses with the Oscar for Best Original Score, “The Hateful Eight,” in the press room during the 88th Oscars in Hollywood on 28 February 2016. PHOTO: AFP

ROME (Italy) — Ennio Morricone, one of the world’s best-known and most prolific film composers, died in Rome on Monday at the age of 91.

Tributes poured in for the man who composed the music for about 500 films, including his old childhood friend Sergio Leone’s 1966 spaghetti western “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly” and Quentin Tarantino’s “The Hateful Eight” for which he finally won an Oscar in 2016.

Morricone died in hospital where he was being treated for a fractured femur following a fall, according to a statement from lawyer and family friend Giorgio Assuma.

Morricone “passed away in the early hours of July 6 with the comfort of his faith”, the statement said.

He remained “fully lucid and with great dignity right until the end,” it added.

“He made us dream”

Tributes began pouring in for the maestro soon after his death was announced.

“We will remember forever and with infinite gratitude the artistic genius of maestro EnnioMorricone,” Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte said.

“He made us dream, he moved us and made us think, writing unforgettable notes that will remain forever in the history of music and cinema,” he said on Twitter.

Italian film actress Monica Bellucci said of Morricone that “there are people who have the ability to make the world better because they know how to create beauty,” while Gilles Jacob, the former head of the Cannes film festival, described him as the “emperor” of film music.

Famed Italian conductor Riccardo Muti called Morricone “a master for whom I nurtured friendship and admiration,” describing him as an “extraordinary musician” who could jump with ease from film scores to classical music. — AFP

France’s Louvre reopens after 16-week virus shutdown

PARIS (France) — The world’s most visited museum, the Louvre in Paris, reopened Monday after nearly four months of coronavirus closure, with a restricted number of visitors enjoying a rare chance to view the “Mona Lisa” without the usual throngs.

Several dozen visitors queued outside the vast former palace of France’s kings, eagerly awaiting the opening at 9:00 am (0700 GMT) as the famed museum hopes to start recuperating losses estimated at more than 40 million euros ($45 million) due to the lockdown.

The museum’s most popular drawings, including Leonardo’s Mona Lisa, the Venus de Milo, and the Louvre’s vast antiquities collection will be accessible.

But galleries in which social distancing is more difficult, about a third of the total, will remain off-limits and visitor numbers were capped at 500 per half hour in a bid to reduce contact between people and lower coronavirus transmission risk.

Face masks are compulsory and no snacks or cloakrooms were available.

Tickets must be bought beforehand online, and were sold out for the first day of reopening after the Louvre’s longest closure since World War II.

“Some 7,000 people have reserved tickets, normally we host about 30,000 people” per day, said museum director Jean-Luc Martinez, who expects tough months and years ahead.

The museum will not get any anywhere near the 9.6 million visitors it hosted last year — down from a record 10 million in 2018. Nearly three-quarters of its visitors in a normal year are from abroad.

Solidarity

For Nicole Lamy, a 21-year-old visiting from Brussels, the limit on ticket sales was “an opportunity to see the Mona Lisa up close and not in a crowd. It’s a bit selfish but I think I’m lucky with my first visit to the Louvre.”

Also in the queue was Arzel Bertrand from Maisons-Alfort southeast of Paris, who said he and his friends also came early seeking a more solitary museum experience.

“We thought it was the first day of the reopening, that there might be fewer people than usual, and we wanted to walk around the Louvre without anyone.”

But they also came in a show of cultural solidarity.

“It is very important that cultural establishments can welcome the public because we need it, and they need the public, too, to survive. So we’re here for that, too,” said Bertrand.

Several measures were put in place to allow ticket holders to keep a safe distance from one another.— AFP

UK flights to Greece resume July 15

ATHENS (Greece) — Direct flights from Britain will resume on July 15, the Greek government said Monday in a bid to reopen the country to one of its leading sources of tourism income.

“In cooperation with the British government and following expert recommendations... direct flights from the UK to all Greek airports will resume from July 15,” government spokesman Stelios Petsas told reporters. Some 3.5 million travellers from Britain visited Greece in 2019.

In line with EU recommendations, Greece is currently accepting direct flights from 14 non-EU countries — including Australia, Canada, Japan and Uruguay.

But Britain, in addition to the US, Russia, Turkey and Sweden, have so far not been deemed safe enough for visitors to be allowed back.— AFP

Kenya to reopen to international flights

NAIROBI (Kenya) — Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta on Monday announced a “phased reopening” of the country, with the resumption of international flights from August 1 as well as the lifting of internal travel restrictions.

The move comes as pressure mounts to kickstart the country’s ailing economy after nearly four months of coronavirus restrictions that have devastated key industries such as tourism. Kenyatta said in a televised address that “international air travel into and out of the territory of Kenya shall resume effective 1 August 2020.”

He also announced the lifting of a ban on movement in and out of the capital Nairobi, the port city of Mombasa and northeastern Mandera.

However, a curfew from 9 pm to 4 am will remain in place for another 30 days, effective immediately.— AFP

People arrive at the Louvre pyramid designed by Chinese architect Ieoh Ming Pei, the entrance to the Louvre Museum in Paris, on 6 July 2020, on the museum’s reopening day. PHOTO: AFP
China warns Canada of ‘consequences’ over Hong Kong interference

BEIJING (China) — China warned Canada on Monday that it would retaliate over Ottawa’s response to a new national security law in Hong Kong, threatening to sink their troubled diplomatic relations to new lows.

Canada last week suspended its extradition treaty with Hong Kong and halted exports of sensitive military gear to the financial hub as Western nations voiced concern about the legislation’s impact on the city’s special rights. “China strongly condemns this and reserves the right to make further response. All consequences arising therefrom will be borne by Canada,” foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said at a regular briefing.

“Any attempt to put pressure on China will never succeed,” Zhao said. “China urges Canada to immediately correct its mistakes and stop interfering in Hong Kong affairs and China’s internal affairs in any way, so as to avoid further damage to China-Canada relations.”

Relations between Beijing and Ottawa have deteriorated since Canadian authorities arrested top Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou in December 2018, and China later detained two Canadians, including a former diplomat.—AFP

India becomes third hardest-hit country for virus cases

NEW DELHI (India) — India announced Monday that it has nearly 790,000 coronavirus cases, taking it past Russia to become the third hardest-hit nation in the global pandemic.

The health ministry said 697,358 cases had now been recorded, a rise of 24,000 in 24 hours, while Russia has just over 681,000.

The United States and Brazil have the highest numbers of cases but India’s tally is not expected to peak for several more weeks and experts predict the one million figure will be passed this month.

India has registered 19,693 deaths from the virus, a much lower number than many other badly hit countries.

India’s major cities have been worst hit by the pandemic. New Delhi and Mumbai each have about 100,000 cases, with 3,000 dead in the capital and nearly 5,000 in Mumbai.

New Delhi has opened a new 10,000-bed temporary virus hospital while other cities are tightening restrictions on movement to head off a new surge in cases.

The Kerala state capital, Thrivananthapuram imposed a new lockdown from Monday with public transport shut and only pharmacies allowed to open. The clampdown came after hundreds of new cases were reported across the state, which had been praised for its action to curtail the pandemic.—AFP

S. Korea court rejects child porn site operator’s US extradition

SEOUL (South Korea) — A South Korean court on Monday rejected an extradition request by the United States for a man convicted of running one of the world’s biggest child pornography websites.

Son Jong-woo, the operator of the South Korea-based dark web child porn site “Welcome to Video”, sold the content for digital cash around the world.

He was convicted of violating South Korean child protection laws and completed an 18-month sentence in April but remained in custody after he was also indicted on US federal charges in Washington, DC — where he could face a much longer punishment.

Son’s sentence was in marked contrast to several 15-year terms handed out to users convicted in the US, prompting calls to bolster South Korea’s laws against child pornography.

The Seoul High Court denied the US extradition request, saying that sending Son overseas could “hamper South Korea’s own investigation into sexually exploitive content”, Yonhap news agency reported.

“The decision should not be interpreted as exonerating him,” the court added, according to Yonhap.

But South Koreans reacted with disgust to the ruling.

“I think I can hear the cheering from various sex criminals over today’s news,” said one Twitter user.

Another wrote: “South Korea must be the only country that lets child sex abusers go free.”

The US Justice Department said last year that 338 people linked to the site had been arrested around the world, including in South Korea, the US, Canada, Spain and Brazil.

Son’s site was “the largest child sexual exploitation market by volume of content”, it said, and relied on bitcoin cryptocurrency to sell access to 250,000 child porn videos.—AFP

Kyrgyzstan confirms 314 new COVID-19 cases

BISHKEK — Kyrgyzstan confirmed on Monday 314 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the total confirmed cases in the country to 7,691.

The country’s Deputy Health Minister Mademin Karataev said that all the new cases are contacts of confirmed patients, and there are no imported cases.

Among the newly infected, 50 are medical workers, bringing the total number of contracted medical workers to 1,147, including 581 recoveries, Karataev said.

The number of patients discharged from hospitals rose by 41, bringing the total recoveries to 2,843.

Karataev reported four new virus-related deaths, raising the total number of fatalities to 92.

Meanwhile, 625 people remained hospitalized, with 22 patients in intensive care, and another 4,131 asymptomatic patients are in home quarantine.

Karataev noted that the situation in the country related to the coronavirus remains difficult.—Xinhua

IN Picture

Students attend open-air class in Indian-controlled Kashmir

Students attend an open-air class in Srinagar city, the summer capital of Indian-controlled Kashmir on 6 July 2020. The classes began at sunrise in open ground in accordance with the precautionary rules of social distancing to fight COVID-19. PHOTO: XINHUA

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The file photo taken on 5 December 2017 shows Chinese and Canadian flags taken prior to a meeting with China’s President Xi Jinping and Canada’s Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. PHOTO: AFP

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Win Theingi Tun hopes for establishing women's football academy

MYANMAR striker Win Theingi Tun expressed her hope of helping with women's football development in the country in a recent interview with FIFA's website.

A 25-year-old said: “Our people love football and the women's game is growing fast in Myanmar these years, particularly since the launch of the women's league. It provides young girls with the opportunity to pursue their football dreams.”

“Nowadays, women's football is drawing increasing attention from the media and all walks of life. I want to try my best to help with the women's game in our country, I am seriously thinking of establishing a women's football academy in the future if I have the chance,” she added.

She scored nine times and drew the most attention during the processes that Myanmar reached the third round of Women's Olympic Football Tournament Asian qualifiers for the first time.

She was injured in the lead up to February's campaign in South Korea and had to watch as her side first lost 7-0 against the experienced hosts before falling to Viet Nam by a solitary goal to crash out.

Win Theingi Tun started playing football when she was 12. She came up through the ranks earning her first national team call in 2014. Earning 53 international goals, she is Myanmar’s all-time top scorer. – Kyaw Khin

Ex-Scotland captain Laidlaw heads to Japan after ‘wonderful’ World Cup

PARIS (France) — Former Scotland skipper Greig Laidlaw has joined NTT Communications Shining Arcs from Clermont, the Japanese club announced on Monday.

Laidlaw, 34, retired from Test duty after last year’s Rugby World Cup in Japan having been knocked out in the group stage by the hosts in the last match of the pool.

The scrum-half also played against the Cherry Blossoms in two Tests in 2016.

The length of Laidlaw’s deal was not revealed.

“Every time I visit Japan, I am welcomed with a wonderful hospitality and I look forward to living in this wonderful country,” he said.

“In addition to giving back to the team what I have learned and experienced, I hope to learn about the wonderful rugby culture of this wonderful country and to have various experiences,” he added.

Former Australia back-rower Liam Gill, who had spells with French clubs including Toulon and Lyon, has also joined the outfit based in Tokyo.

Last week New Zealand fly-half Beauden Barrett signed a one-year deal with Top League side Sunbury Sungoliath for a reported salary of ¥780,000 (S$973,000).

South Africa's World Cup winning hooker Malcolm Marx, England's George Kruis and Wales' Hadleigh Parkes are among other recent additions to Japan’s financially lucrative top flight.

The format of the competition is set to change from January 2022 with more clubs and a second and third tier to be introduced on top of the current 16-side league.

—AFP

‘We need to improve,’ admits Guardiola as Man City suffer deja vu defeat

Manuel Ancelotti's men made the 11th minute, Slaven Bilic’s side nearly levelled before Odion Ighalo’s deflected strike doubled Manchester United’s lead.

There were more opportunities for United as substitute Fred should have added to the tally before cathartic victory.

Manager Pep Guardiola admitted he needs to find an answer to City’s aggressive style of play.

“We played really well, but it was a little bit the resume of this season. We make one mistake, they punish us,” said Guardiola.

“We lost a lot of games and losing a lot of games you cannot compete to win Premier Leagues.

“We need to improve because it happened many times this season.”

Just four days ago City showed what they are capable of when at their best by thrashing newly-crowned champions Liverpool 4-0. —AFP

AFC’s CSR Committee organizes online CSR ambassador course

THE CSR ambassador course of Virtual Social Responsibility Summer School was conducted online yesterday.

Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and Aurora jointly organized the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme for the youths.

U Zaw Zaw, president of Myanmar Football Federation and vice president of ASEAN Football Federation (AFC) and Asian Football Confederation (AFC), in his capacity as the chairman of the CSR Committee, made an opening remark at the course.

Students aged 16 and 17 years old from Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen joined the course.

Youth ambassadors will be selected from the course to implement programmes for helping youths to reduce their stresses and anxieties amid coronavirus pandemic.

Due to restrictions and closing schools, youths are facing difficulties that they have never experienced. Therefore, the AFC’s CSR Committee implemented the programme. — Kyaw Khin